

Fairhope STEAM News

April 20-24

The Engineering Design Process

This is a series of steps that can be used as a guide to solve real world problems. The steps include ask, imagine, plan, create, improve, and share. This week talk and share with your student about the engineering design process.

Optional Weekly Family STEAM Challenge: Explore the Universe

- Download SkyView app (FREE) on a device
- Using the app explore all the stars, planets, and large satellites that orbit Earth. The app uses your location to show the actual night sky based on where you are standing.
- Find the Moon in the sky. Click on the Moon. Click the "i" button to learn more. How far away is the moon?
- Explore the Solar System. How many planets can you find?
- Find the International Space Station and Hubble Telescope.

Next, design and build a shock-absorbing system that will protect two "astronauts" when they land. Use the engineering design process to: (1) design and build a shock-absorbing system out of paper, straws, and mini-marshmallows; (2) attach their shock absorber to a cardboard platform; and (3) improve their design based on testing results.

Want to share your discoveries? You can share a photo to Twitter @SchoolFairhope, Facebook Fairhope Intermediate, or email your teacher. Use the hashtag #FairhopeSTEAM.