

Lincoln Elementary School holds STEM day

STEM stands for science, technology, engineering and math.



A group of students do some engineering and design during a STEM day event on Friday, Jan. 21, at Lincoln Elementary School in Jamestown. The event was put on by North Dakota's Gateway to Science of Bismarck. John M. Steiner / The Jamestown Sun

By [Masaki Ova](#)

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Fifth grader Summer Obenauer was trying to make a model of a closed-loop control system during STEM day Friday, Jan. 21, at Lincoln Elementary.

“I learned how to be an engineer and how to be creative,” she said.



Students at Lincoln Elementary School in Jamestown work together to construct a closed-loop control system Friday, Jan. 21, as part of North Dakota's Gateway to Science STEM day event. John M. Steiner / The Jamestown Sun

STEM stands for science, technology, engineering and math. North Dakota's Gateway to Science came to Lincoln Elementary School and set up a STEMzone, which is a carnival-style event with STEM stations that allow students to engage in hands-on learning experiences in science, technology, engineering and math, said Janet Rosario, programs director for North Dakota's Gateway to Science.

"It is also really about career exploration to see what the skills they enjoy doing, what jobs they can do too," she said. "They learn 21st century skills, creativity, teamwork, collaboration and communication."

The STEMzone included stations where students could draw machines, work on circuits, do brain teasers, and look at objects through microscopes and build structures, among others. Students also built air-powered vehicles with Life Savers mints, index paper and popsicle sticks.



A group of Lincoln Elementary students are lined up to view things under the power of a microscope during a STEM day science event Friday, Jan. 21. John M. Steiner / The Jamestown Sun

Rosario said STEM is in everything that people do, including the environment, health and technology. She said it is important for students to learn about STEM when they are young not only for their future careers but also to have the knowledge to make good decisions in the future.

“Also to give them the confidence to do STEM,” she said. “Not just kids, but some adults, they are intimidated by science and math. But if they start out young they can gain that confidence to do those things, to do STEM. They can explore careers that they may not have thought that they can do.”

Rosario said the Gateway to Science’s outreach is statewide. She said a new science center will be built in Bismarck, North Dakota, to provide more programming opportunities.

To get STEMzone to a school, visit <https://gatewaytoscience.org/> or call (701) 258-1975 and speak with Rosario.