

Date: Wednesday, August 9, 2017

Dear Family,

Today, your child is bringing home instructions for his or her first STEAM Family Project. STEAM stands for Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math, and these projects are a terrific way to connect critical higher level thinking processes between school and home. Projects vary to promote inductive (inventive) thinking skills that will result in a wide variety of end product designs, to deductive thinking skills that instruct students to create similar products using their choice of designs and materials. As students construct their creations, they are encouraged to plan, test, and improve designs to the best of their ability.

Project instructions are simple and require nothing more than items around your home, such as paper goods, materials from nature, and basic crafting supplies. Your child is permitted to design and construct their project on his or her own, or with the assistance of family members. If you choose to assist your child with his or her creation, here are some guided questions that will help stimulate higher level STEAM thinking:

- *What can your project be used for? What purpose does it serve?
- *What problem could your project solve?
- *How can you test your project to see how it works?
- *How can you improve your project to make it better?

I hope you and your child will enjoy constructing STEAM family projects together this year. Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Miller, STEAM Coach



STEAM Family project

Name: _____

Reflection Sheet for _____

What did you create?

What materials did you use?

Circle which intelligences or "smarts" that you used while designing and creating your project.

pictures/art, nature, music, self, people, logic/math and science, body, word

How does your project work?

How is your project useful? What problem does it solve?

What was most challenging about this project?

How could you improve your project?