



Overview of The Power of Discovery: STEM²

What is The Power of Discovery: STEM²?

The Power of Discovery – **STEM²** is an important new effort to build the power of schools and community-based organizations to expand learning opportunities in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) for young people in California. By building collaborative and effective partnerships between schools and after school organizations, and by mobilizing a broad coalition of community partners with STEM expertise and resources, **STEM²** will enhance school-based STEM instruction and expand out of school STEM learning opportunities.

To do so, **STEM²** has selected three Regional Partnerships to foster leadership, build effective alliances between after school providers and schools, and provide professional development and other supports that ensure the expansion of quality STEM learning opportunities. The Regional Partners will identify schools and after school agencies as potential participants, and recruit STEM partners such as science centers and museums in support of instructional efforts. The Regional Partners will also assess the readiness of potential participants and provide guidance, general training and other support for the development of STEM programs. Participating schools and agencies will also benefit from a virtual innovation center providing online access to additional resources.



This effort will increase the engagement of students in the hands on exploration and practice of science, technology, engineering and mathematics in ways that foster excitement, curiosity and interest in learning. Participating sites will complement the efforts of schools to explore the academic curriculum, and expand opportunities for students to participate in inquiry-driven, project-based STEM learning opportunities that foster student understanding of the Common Core and Next Generation Science Standards.

Regional Partners

Greater Bay Area: Alameda County Office of Education (ACOE), the Gateways East Bay STEM Network and the Tech Museum of Innovation

Sacramento/Northern California: Sacramento County Office of Education

Orange County/San Diego: OC STEM Initiative/ San Diego County Office of Education

Working together, after school providers, educators, community organizations and others can increase the availability of high quality STEM learning opportunities for thousands of students. To find out more please visit our website at <http://stem.afterschoolnetwork.org>

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