PCS edventures!™
Experts in Hands-On STEM Education

My Back-to-School STEAM Checklist

Use this checklist to prep your learning environment for a STEAM-ready school year.

Science Technology Engineering Arts Mathematics

HANDS-ON STEM EDUCATION

PCS

For over 30 years, PCS Edventures has inspired students to develop a passion for Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM), focusing our efforts on making learning and discovery a fun and interactive process for grades K-12.

- Classroom
- After-School
- Home Learning

Prepping STEAM Supplies

Think about what manipulatives, resources, routines and programs will help you make the most of hands-on, innovative learning.

What *single-source manipulatives*, or hands-on tools used across subjects, can you provide your learners?	
	Building Bricks
	Online Resources
	Recyclable Materials
	Craft Supplies
	Pattern Blocks
	Other:
	Other:

Think about where the supplies are located. Are they independently accessible to learners?			
	Yes		No

What storage containers work best in your learning environment?

Check out *The Many Uses of Building Bricks* for more tips and lesson ideas!

Establishing Routines

Consider various student grouping options to build optimal collaboration.

How will you group your learners?	
☐	Student Choice (Self-Selection)
☐	Random Assignment
☐	Academic Ability Level
☐	Interest-Based
☐	Cooperative (Role-Based)
☐	Other:

How will your learners be seated?				
	Desks		Clusters	Other:

Think about how you will facilitate building relationships among your learners. What STEAM activities are available to help them start to build relationships?

Where will learners store their unfinished projects?

Not sure how to group your learners? **Read *Student Grouping Strategies to Maximize Engagement* for the pros and cons of various options.**

Communicating with Families

Family support is invaluable. Consider how you can engage your learners' families to participate in fun, hands-on activities.

Are you comfortable sharing pictures of learners engaging in STEAM activities?			
	Yes		No

Are you willing to invite families in to watch or help with a STEAM activity?			
	Yes		No

What STEAM activities can you encourage families to try at home?

What online STEAM resources do families have free access to?

For more tips and resources, **check out** ***13 Tools Educators Use to Engage Students and their Families*****.**

Choosing STEAM Activities Relevant to Your Curriculum

Hands-on STEAM activities increase student understanding of complex concepts. Consider supplementing your curriculum with STEAM activities to help your learners.

What standards do you need to meet with your learners?

What concepts may you need to teach more deeply?

Do you have resources to supplement learning through enrichment or readiness skills?

Planning a full year of STEAM instruction? **Visit *A Year of STEAM* for all-inclusive Enrichment solutions.**

We have plenty more resources to help you get started!

Prepping STEAM Supplies	Establishing Routines	Communicating with Families	Choosing Relevant STEAM Activities
BrickLAB Tech	3 Back-to-School Icebreakers	BrickLAB STEAMventures	Fractured Folktale: Paul Bunyan (ELA)
BrickLAB Core	STEM Classroom Icebreakers	BUILD STEAMventures Activity Website	Geometric Marine Life (Math)
Earth Activity Cards Freebie	STEM for SEL Support	Home Learning with BrickLAB STEAMventures	A Peek Down the Tunnel (Art)
Celebration Activity Cards Freebie	7 Ways STEM Supports Neurodiversity	25 Days of STEM Freebie	Product Catalogs

For more information, visit: https://edventures.com/collections
or contact a STEM Program Specialist at (800) 429-3110

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