

STEAM NEWSLETTER

November 2022 ELP



STEAM at ELP is more than just fun with science; it supports the pre-kindergarten learning that happens at ELP every day! The best part is that kids are having so much fun, they connect learning with joy which leads to life-long learners excited about education.

That's a win-win!



STEAM SUPPORTS PRE-KINDERGARTEN GOALS

Here are some activities in our recent STEAM lessons that support learning goals and strengthen skills:

Fine Motor Skills

- Tracing numbers with dry erase light pens and identifying the numbers
- Painting squares with watercolors to reveal hidden number sentences
- Using small tools in sensory and water tables, and to melt dinosaur eggs, dig for dinosaur bones, and build dinosaurs
- Building volcanos with plaster mixture and manipulating oobleck and playdough to strengthen hands and fingers
- Using spray bottles for erosion, to melt ice, and create chemical reactions (fizzy chalk painting with baking soda and vinegar)

Why It's Important

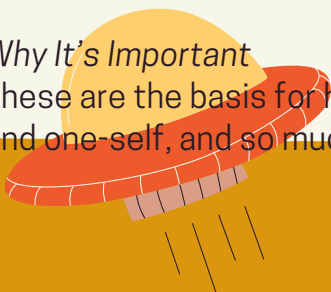
Developing fine motor skills is important not only for writing, but also for independence, self-care, eating, dressing, creativity, using technology, playing music, and more.

Character and Spirit Building

- Erupting emotions and self control
- Learning no problem is too big or small for God through story of David and Goliath

Why It's Important

These are the basis for healthy relationships, stress response skills, respect and valuing others and one-self, and so much more.



Dramatic Play

- Dinosaur cave
- Bank and store

Why It's Important

Dramatic play and role playing develop creativity, communication, social skills, and children's ability to look at the world and others from different perspectives. This leads to empathy, and a deeper understanding of the world around us.

Number Recognition

- Finding number called by teacher and running to it
- Identifying numbers around the room and tracing them with dry erase light pens
- Revealing and recognizing mystery numbers revealed by painting with watercolors
- Learning values of coins

Why It's Important

Recognizing numbers is the first step to fundamental math skills.

At Home...

Encourage pretend play by having props and costumes, and possibly a designated area. It doesn't have to be elaborate. Old boxes and clothes can work! Look for opportunities to point out numbers in everyday life - at the grocery store, while driving, and at restaurants. To work on fine motor skills, try playdough, puzzles, hole punching, cutting with scissors, stringing beads on pipe cleaners, drawing and painting, tearing and/or crumpling paper, or play connect the dots. The possibilities are almost endless!!



COMING UP!

Winter Break: December 16 - January 3

Last day of STEAM:
December 9 (Friday class)
December 12 (Monday class)

