

Our Centers

Central GYSTC

Mercer University

Chattahoochee-Flint GYSTC

Georgia Southwestern State University

Etowah GYSTC

Georgia Highlands College

Gordon GYSTC

Gordon State University

Magnolia Midlands GYSTC

East Georgia State College

Oconee River GYSTC

Northeast Georgia RESA

Southwest GYSTC

ABAC at Bainbridge

West GYSTC

University of West Georgia

GYSTC @ Augusta

Georgia Cancer Center – Augusta
University

GYSTC @ Gainesville

Lanier Technical College

GYSTC@ South Georgia

ABAC at Tifton

GYSTC State Office

Kennesaw State University

Note from the Director's Desk



Happy February Georgia Educators

Welcome to our February newsletter, for this month GYSTC has included a Simple STEM Activity that is an excellent STEM exploration to do with your students. You will find a summary and link for the activity below. On **Monday, February 21, 2022**, GYSTC will be demonstrating this month's Simple STEM Activity live on the [GYSTC Facebook Page](#).

Registration is now open for our upcoming Science Today classes for students, our professional learning opportunities for teachers, and all of our summer offerings. You may register by clicking the various links below. Please feel free to contact gystc@kennesaw.edu with questions.



Special Donation from Siemens

Siemens announced a donation of 300 Chromebooks to GYSTC as part of the company's laptop donation program launched earlier this year to address equity and bridge digital divide in schools.

A year of virtual learning has raised many challenges, particularly for students in geographic areas challenged by poverty. With few community resources and spotty or nonexistent broadband service, these students have fallen dangerously behind across all academic areas. The donation from Siemens will support GYSTC's distribution of Chromebooks to the most impacted students in underserved areas in Georgia.

Siemens has been a consistent partner to GYSTC by providing many resources to bolster STEM aptitude in the form of materials, technical assistance, cash donations and now, 300 Chromebooks. It is expected that the donation will allow students to review and brush up on science studies missed due to the pandemic.

This most recent donation aligns with Siemens' ongoing commitment to drive meaningful, measurable impact towards closing the opportunity gap in underserved communities.



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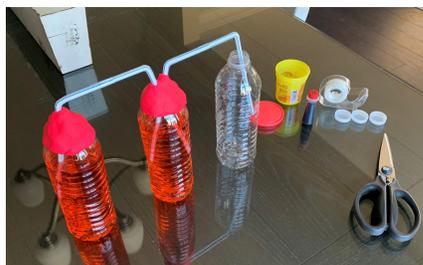


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February Simple STEM Activity



In honor of American Heart Month, this month's Simple STEM Activity will be about the human heart. The activity is entitled *You Gotta Have Heart*.

In this activity, your task is to create a working model of the human heart. The human heart is the key component of your cardiovascular system because it circulates blood throughout your body. Working together with your body's other main organ systems, the heart delivers oxygen and nutrients to your body while carrying away waste in your blood. The heart works as two pumps in one. The right side of your heart receives blood from the body and pumps it to the lungs to be oxygenated. The left side of the heart receives oxygenated blood from the lungs and pumps it out to the body. Blood only flows through the heart in one direction, so the heart's valves are critical for ensuring this one-way blood flow.

This activity is an excellent STEM exploration to do with your students. The link for the activity can be found [here](#).

Don't forget to join us on **Monday, February 21, 2022**, as we demonstrate this month's Simple STEM Activity live on the [GYSTC Facebook Page](#).

GYSTC Spotlight

This month, we are adding a new section to our newsletter called "GYSTC Spotlight". The GYSTC Spotlight will shine a light on one of our state or regional board members that dedicate their time to our organization. Since February includes special holidays like International Women and Girls in Science Day as well as National Engineers Week, we choose to spotlight our **State Board Chair Mrs. Kathleen Atkins**.

Mrs. Atkins graduated with her Bachelor's Degree in Aerospace Engineering from the University of Cincinnati and Master's Degree in Aerospace Engineering from Georgia Institute of Technology. She began her career as an engineer in a modeling and simulation group for Lockheed Martin Aeronautics Company. The simulation group coded the aircraft characteristics and basically played war games with computer models! Now, as a program manager on the C-130 program, she is responsible for ensuring that Lockheed meets all the objectives of their contracts with their customer as well as their company financial goals. She oversees all aspects from negotiating multi-million dollar contracts to building and delivering aircraft to ensuring that they provide the products and services that their customers need to operate their aircraft. Her career has provided the opportunity to travel around the world! She is currently working on programs with the French Air Force, supporting a major upgrade to their legacy C-130H aircraft and managing production of the new C-130J aircraft expanding their Hercules fleet to meet their current operational needs.

Share this [lesson](#) with your students so that they can be an aerospace engineer just like Mrs. Atkins!



GYSTC Gems



Our February "Gem" is thanks to Siemens. GYSTC selected Clay County to receive 73 of the Chromebooks for their middle school. Additionally, GYSTC developed middle school sessions that are designed to create a low-pressure environment where students can get additional guidance for lost learning in science in which they may be struggling. As with all GYSTC programs, the guided instruction offered aligns with Georgia Standards of Excellence.

Upcoming State Office Events

Student Programs

These **SCIENCE TODAY** classes will provide a standards-based lesson which will allow students to develop an understanding of the content and do a hands-on experiment. Consumable supplies will be provided for all students. The cost for an entire class is based upon class size. **Cost for each student is \$5.** To see our entire Science Today schedule, or to register, please visit the following links.

Science Today (K-5) Schedule:

- Tuesday, March 1, 2022 - "Sun Seekers" - Third Grade
- Wednesday, March 2, 2022 - "Eco-Maze-Ing" - Fourth Grade
- Friday, March 4, 2022 - "Magnificent Sound" - Fifth Grade
- Tuesday, March 15, 2022 - "Day and Night" - Kindergarten
- Wednesday, March 16, 2022 - "Marvelous Magnets" - First Grade
- Friday, March 18, 2022 - "Pollination: What's All the Buzz?" - Second Grade

Science Today (6-8) Schedule:

- Monday, March 14, 2022 - "Weather Station Component - Barometer" - Sixth Grade
- Monday, March 21, 2022 - "Birds of a Feather" - Seventh Grade
- Monday, March 28, 2022 - "Ballon Racers" - Eighth Grade



Teacher Programs

The **STEM Essentials Workshop** models a practical and hands-on approach to STEM instruction. Utilizing the 5E Instructional Model, these lessons are essential to any science classroom because they are engaging, affordable, and re-usable. Each lesson emphasizes the Georgia Standards of Excellence while also showing how to make 3D connections in ways that promote student passion for and understanding of STEM endeavors. Like your students, you will create, design, collaborate, and solve as you engage in relevant hands-on explorations. **Cost for each teacher is \$99.** To register, please visit the following [link](#).

STEM Essentials Workshop:

- Tuesday, February 22, 2022 - Virtual Session - 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
- Tuesday, March 29, 2022 - University of North Georgia - Blue Ridge Campus - 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Summer Programs

STEM Discovery Camp Facilitator Training:

The theme for this year's **STEM Discovery Camp** is "Rediscover Your World". GYSTC staff will present a **STEM Discovery Camp** facilitator guide for you to be able to have your own **STEM Discovery Camp** with your students. **Free to all, limited spots available. (Materials NOT included)**

- Thursday, May 5, 2022 - Gordon State College - 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Summer STEM Institute:

This hands-on and exploratory institute will engage teachers as learners as they make the key items of each exploration. Along the way, we will discuss key concepts, share ideas, and build our repertoire of interesting and engaging STEM learning lessons. **Cost per teacher is \$99 for a member system and \$199 for a non-member system.**

- June 7 - June 8, 2022 - Location TBA - 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Siemens STEM Day Facilitator Training:

Join one of our Free Virtual Siemens STEM Day Facilitator Trainings! Participate and learn to run your own Siemens STEM Day. GYSTC staff will present a training for you to be able to have your own Siemens STEM Day with your students. **Free to all, limited spots available. (Materials NOT included)**

- Thursday, March 10, 2022 - Virtual Session - 3:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
- Thursday, March 17, 2022 - Virtual Session - 3:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.