

## 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



## Summer is approaching, Georgia Educators

This school year is almost over! As you continue through your spring semester and move into summer, GYSTC is here to provide an array of instructional support activities and professional learning to enhance student learning and teacher preparedness.

For this month, GYSTC has included a Simple STEM Activity to do with your students to celebrate World Water Day. You will find a summary and link for the activity below. On **World Water Day, Tuesday, March 22, 2022**, join GYSTC as we demonstrate this month's Simple STEM Activity live on the [GYSTC Facebook Page](#).



## GYSTC Celebrates Phenomenal Science

This past month, GYSTC attended and presented at the Georgia Science Teachers Association Annual Conference. GYSTC Regional Coordinators and State Staff led several sessions to "Celebrate Phenomenal Science." Some of the presentations showcased included integrating science into 3rd-5th grade subjects, incorporating literacy into science, running your own solar classroom, helping students expand their understanding of science through writing and more.



In addition to their annual conference, GYSTC is also partnering with GSTA on adding additional resources to their Science [GSE Phenomena Bank](#). Anchoring learning in explaining phenomena supports student agency for wanting to build science and engineering knowledge.



[gystc.org](http://gystc.org)



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# March Simple STEM Activity

In honor of World Water Day on **Tuesday, March 22, 2022**, this month's Simple STEM Activity will be about the importance of watersheds and how they impact our environment. The activity is entitled *What's a Watershed*.

In this activity, your task is to learn the importance of our state's watersheds by modeling one. A watershed is an area of land that drains all the streams and rainfall to a common outlet such as the outflow of a reservoir, mouth of a bay, or any point along a stream channel. The word watershed is sometimes used interchangeably with drainage basin or catchment. The watershed consists of surface water--lakes, streams, reservoirs, and wetlands--and all the underlying groundwater. Watersheds are important because the streamflow and the water quality of a river are affected by things, human-induced or not, happening in the land area "above" the river-outflow point.

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 **Tuesday, March 22, 2022**, as we demonstrate this month's Simple STEM Activity live on the [GYSTC Facebook Page](#).



## GYSTC Spotlight

This month, in honor of National Doctor's Day, we are shining a light on one of our **State Board Members, Dr. Dana Neacsu**. Dr. Neacsu is Board Certified by the American Board of Internal Medicine. She completed her residency in Internal Medicine at Englewood Hospital and Medical Center, affiliated with the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai. She is a recipient of The Joseph Caltabiano Award for



Professionalism in Medicine. Early in her career, she was a teaching associate and instructed students from the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai. Later, she was an instructor within the medicine clinical track at the Emory University School of Medicine, teaching physicians' assistants. She was compelled to learn more about integrative medicine so she applied and was later accepted to the University of Arizona Integrative Medicine Fellowship, one of the oldest and most respected programs of its nature in the country. Currently, Dr. Neacsu is one of few Practitioners in Atlanta who completed the Kalish Institute Advanced Functional Medicine course, which now utilize his treatment protocol for treating various conditions including adrenal fatigue. She opened her own practice in Atlanta, Medical Creations Integrative Medicine, in order to better treat patients' root medical issues instead of just focusing on their symptoms. She believes that by integrating elements of healing, therapy, wellness, nutrition, stress reduction, and other practices, that patients will start to see real, lasting results and improvements to their health.

We are excited to share this [lesson](#) with your students so that they see what it is like to be a medical doctor just like Dr. Neacsu!

## GYSTC Gems

Our March "Gem" is a shoutout to the three wonderful Kennesaw State University student volunteers that helped pack over 300 kits and backpacks (most of which will be going to Twiggs County Middle School).

GYSTC is grateful to **Jamiya Farmer, Aaryele Sesberry, and Brenda Villa** for the donation of their time all of their hard work!



# 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, April 5, 2022 - "Day and Night" - Kindergarten
- Thursday, April 7, 2022 - "Marvelous Magnets" - First Grade
- Friday, April 8, 2022 - "Pollination: What's All the Buzz?" - Second Grade
- Tuesday, April 12, 2022 - "Hiding in Plain Sight" - Third Grade
- Thursday, April 14, 2022 - "Hear Ye! Hear Ye!" - Fourth Grade
- Friday, April 15, 2022 - "Physical or Chemical Change Putty" - Fifth Grade

### Science Today (6-8) Schedule:

- Monday, March 21, 2022 - "Birds of a Feather" - Seventh Grade
- Monday, March 28, 2022 - "Ballon Racers" - Eighth Grade
- Monday, April 4, 2022 - "Weather Station Component - Barometer" - Sixth 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, 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. (Class sets of 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.

### STEM Discovery Camp:

GYSTC's STEM Discovery Camp is an exciting four-day learning experience for bright-forward thinking elementary school (grades 3-5) students. The theme for this year's STEM Discovery Camp is "Rediscover Your World". Students will have the opportunity to meet new friends while engaging in challenging activities, workshops, and simulations in a friendly environment. The Discovery Tracks of Earth Science, Life Science, Physical Science, as well as Technology and Careers in STEM will be explored. **(Registration is limited to the first 30 students)**

- Monday, June 13, 2022 - Thursday, June 16, 2022 - Kennesaw State University - 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.