## **STEM Ideas**

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## Guidance

STEM stands for science, technology, engineering and mathematics. Carrying out STEM-based activities is a brilliant way to develop problem solving skills, encourage critical thinking and promote investigation. We have pulled together a list of suggested activities that you can choose from each day that can be carried out using items found around the home, such as shoeboxes, cardboard tubes and straws. Beneath each activity is a list of questions to prompt discussion and help your child to get the most out of this time.

Make a Money Box	Design a Marble Run	Build a Boat	Design a Roller Coaster
<ul> <li>Draw a plan of your money box before you begin.</li> </ul>	Map out your marble run before you begin.	<ul> <li>Draw a plan of your boat before you begin.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Draw a plan of your roller coaster before you begin.</li> </ul>
• What materials will you need?	How will you construct your marble run?	What materials will you need?	<ul> <li>What features would your roller coaster have?</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>What do you think the most difficult part will be?</li> </ul>	What features will your marble run have?	<ul> <li>How could you ensure that your boat can hold pennies?</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>How could you ensure that your roller coaster is safe?</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>What is the first task that you need to carry out?</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Is there more than one way to reach the end?</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>How could you make your boat waterproof?</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>How many passengers could your roller coaster carry?</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Did you stick to your original plan?</li> </ul>	Did you stick to your original	Did your original plan work?	What materials would you need
What tweaks or changes did you		<ul> <li>What tweaks or changes did you need to make?</li> </ul>	to build your roller coaster?
<ul><li>Need to make?</li><li>What improvements would you</li></ul>	How could you make your marble run easier?	<ul> <li>How could you adapt your boat to hold something heavier?</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>If you were to create a new ride what would you change about your original design?</li> </ul>
make next time?	How could you make your marble run harder?	to nota something heavier?	your original design:



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