

Hello, District 87 teachers!

In case you don't know me, my name is Emily Saddler and I am the STEAM in the Classroom Coordinator at University of Illinois Extension and 4-H McLean County. At Extension and 4-H, STEAM stands for Science, Technology, Engineering, Art/Agriculture and Math.

I wanted to take a minute to send you information for a few exciting opportunities that you and/or your students might find interesting. Below, you will see more information about:

- FREE Teacher workshops to help incorporate STEM in your classroom
- FREE youth workshops to develop STEM and leadership skills
- FREE resources to use in your classroom to promote STEAM
- **App Development Workshop Series** - Registration is open! The first meeting will be October 22nd, so register TODAY at go.illinois.edu/registerLMW!
 - 4-H and Illinois State University are teaming up to provide youth in 8th grade through 12th grade an opportunity to create an app that improves community wellness. Youth will be put into teams with ISU students to work through the phases of app creation – brainstorming, discovery, design, creation building and deployment.
- **STEAM in the Classroom Workshop Series** – 4 – 6 p.m. at the McLean Extension Office. Registration is OPEN at go.illinois.edu/registerLMW.
 - **Weather and Climate | October 23, 2018** Learn more about incorporating STEAM when studying weather and climate. Explore some of the kits and resources available to support lessons. Work time will be included in order to collaborate with other professionals.
 - **Experiential Learning Model | November 27, 2018** 4-H curriculum, workshops and long-term programs are all based on the Experiential Learning Model. This model can be implemented to increased youth engagement when including STEAM in lessons or activities.
 - **Soil and Plants | January 22, 2019** Soil, seed germination, plant growth, soil conservation -- all of these topics and more will be covered in this workshop. Explore the kits and resources available to support plant and soil activities or lessons.
 - **Plant and Animal Life Cycles | February 26, 2019** Compare, contrast and explore inter-dependency between plant and animal life cycles. This workshop will support lessons and activities done during Chick it Out in April.
 - **Junk Drawer and Maker Space | March 19, 2019** Engineering and creativity combine during this workshop. Learn more about how to engage youth to utilize critical thinking and problem solving skills through challenges. Explore the resources available to support you.
- **New Resource Catalog!** – Check out the FREE resources Extension offers for your classroom. STEAM, workshops, kits, books, DVD's, horticulture – use it all for FREE!
 - You can see the catalog online by visiting <https://web.extension.illinois.edu/lmw/downloads/76740.pdf>.
 - A hard copy of the catalog can be requested by emailing me at esaddler@illinois.edu or by calling the office at 309-663-8306.
- **Teen Teacher Info Night** - October 4, 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
 - Open to youth ages 13+
 - Meet current Teen teachers and see demonstrations by STEAM Team
 - Info night and all training will take place at Unity Community Center located at 632 Orlando Ave. in Normal. Training will begin in October.
 - This program supports teens in building their leadership, communication, and problem-solving skills while offering experiential learning opportunities for local youth.
 - Contact Laura Holland @ laurarh3@illinois.edu for more information.

Thank you for all you do for the youth in McLean County. Please let me know how I can help!

Emily Saddler, M. Ed.

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<https://web.extension.illinois.edu/lmw/steam/>

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