



Educator Guide

Twelve lesson plans for grades K–12

The *Dream Big* Educator Guide integrates engineering into the classroom curriculum. Inspired by the *Dream Big* film, each lesson plan focuses on two or more of the Next Generation Science Standards and the Engineering Design Process. Students learn to define a problem, gather information, plan, engineer a solution, test, refine, and evaluate. They will also explore crosscutting principles. Each activity will reference the NGSS standards, making it easy for teachers to match their curriculum needs.

Lesson 1: Kindergarten

Reach for the Skies

Investigate the force of gravity on buildings in natural disasters.

Topics: Natural hazards, forces and motion, weather, climate

Lesson 2: 1st Grade

Daylight in a Bottle

Harness solar energy to light a room.

Topics: Electromagnetic radiation, refraction, use recycled materials

Lesson 3: 2nd Grade

Surviving Storm Surge

Build a paper-based house to withstand a storm-surge.

Topics: History of earth, earth's materials and system, tides, weather

Lesson 4: 3rd Grade

Maglev Train

Design a magnetic train.

Topics: transportation, convert energy from one form to another, magnetic objects

Lesson 5: 4th Grade

Wind-powered LED

Design a wind turbine to power on an LED.

Topics: energy transferr, alternative energy sources

Lesson 6: 5th Grade

Take Out the Trash: Cleaning Our Rivers

Design a way to eliminate trash that threatens a river.

Topics: Relationships in an ecosystem, water filtration

Lesson 7: 6th Grade

Desert Island Desalination

Turn saltwater into fresh water through desalination.

Topics: Electromagnetic radiation, structures and properties of matter, develop a model

Lesson 8: 7th Grade

Building the Pyramids

Determine how Egyptians moved giant stones.

Topics: Team work, Forces and motion, ancient cultures and mythologies

Lesson 9: 8th Grade

Water Purification Device

Design a portable water purification device.

Topics: natural hazards, and natural resources, water filtration, the water cycle

Lesson 10: High School Chemistry

Making an Impact on Habitat

Create a safe way to neutralize the byproduct of a factory.

Topics: Engineering in the real world, runoff from pollution, runoff from mining, reduce impact of human civilization

Lesson 11: High School Life Sciences

Endangered Species

Engineer a method to support a local species and its future sustainability.

Topics: ecosystem dynamics, functioning, and resilience, biodiversity and humans, environmental niche and adaptive biology

Lesson 12: High School Physical Sciences

LED Holiday Card

Design a greeting card that illuminates two LED lights.

Topics: Convert mechanical energy to radiant energy with aesthetics, design, electromagnetic field, circuits, electricity

