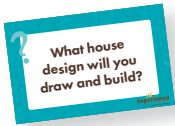















Habitats & Homes









WEEK 1 PLACES WE LIVE

STEAM STATION	YOUR SUPPLIES	BIG QUESTION AND INSPIRATION PHOTOS	TEACHER TIPS
LESSON 1 House Plan <small>MR 2 Spatial Awareness</small>	Graph paper Blocks Clipboards Pencils	 	Set out all of the supplies. Encourage the children to draw their house design, then use blocks to build it.
LESSON 2 Marshmallow Tower <small>SCI 3 Physical Science</small>	Marshmallows Toothpicks	 	Set out materials for the children to build a structure. Encourage the children to explore different ways to construct a tower that is stable as it gets taller. Consider using the materials to make triangles, then connect them in layers or levels.
LESSON 3 Ant Hotel <small>SCI 2 Natural & Earth Science</small>	Nature items: leaves, sticks Recycled containers	 	Set out nature items and dirt for the children to build their own ant hotel. Build outdoors or in recycled containers so that you can leave the hotels outside. Each day, check on the hotel to see if any insects have moved in.
LESSON 4 Floating Houses <small>SCI 3 Physical Science</small>	Craft sticks Tape Recycled containers Figurines Water table	 	Set out all of the materials and invite the children to build houseboats to put in a water table. Play with people or animal figurines by putting them in the boats.
LESSON 5 Sandcastles <small>MR 2 Spatial Awareness</small>	Ice cube trays Nature items: leaves, sticks, rocks Spray bottle Sand table Glue & index cards (optional)	 	Set out the supplies in a sand table. Wet sand with the spray bottle. Make bricks by pressing sand into ice cube trays. If you don't have a sand table, consider making sand cards by spreading glue on index cards and sprinkling with sand. When dry, use the cards to build castles.

WEEK 2 ROOMS

LESSON 6 Writing on Windows <small>LLD 7 Writing</small>	Mirror or window		Explain that when breath is warmer than the temperature of a mirror or window, fog will appear. Take turns breathing hot air on a window or mirror. Then draw designs in the fog.
LESSON 7 TV Show <small>SCI 4 Technology</small>	Box Scissors Puppets	 	Work together to cut a big hole on the sides of a box to make a TV. Use puppets to put on a show or peek through the box and pretend to be a TV star. Encourage the children to plan and perform TV shows.
LESSON 8 Kitchen Tools <small>PD 2 Fine Motor</small>	Kitchen tools Beans Sensory table Containers	 	Pour beans into a sensory table or bin. Set out the kitchen tools (e.g., tongs, funnel, spoons, spatulas, measuring cups, strainers) to explore picking up beans. Set out different containers for the children to drop the beans into.
LESSON 9 Bubble Tools <small>SED 4 Social Relationships</small>	Pie dish Liquid dish soap Pipecleaners		Encourage the children to make various shaped bubble wands with the pipecleaners. Then experiment with the wands and dish soap to see what type of bubbles the children can blow.
LESSON 10 Building Beds <small>MR 7 Logic & Reasoning</small>	Blocks Basket of fabric scraps Cotton fill Sewing needles	 	Set out a basket of fabric scraps in the block area. Encourage the children to build beds for figurines. If ready for more challenge, create a sewing area where the children can use the fabric (or felt), cotton and sewing needles to make mini pillows.

WEEK 3 CHORES

STEAM STATION	YOUR SUPPLIES	BIG QUESTION AND INSPIRATION PHOTOS	TEACHER TIPS
LESSON 11 Sweep It Clean <small>MR 7 Logic & Reasoning</small>	Masking tape Nature items: leaves, sticks, grasses, weeds Paper strips	 	Make a masking tape shape on the ground. Encourage the children to use the nature items and paper strips to create a broom or mop. Then experiment by sweeping up paper wads or other small objects into the shape.
LESSON 12 Spin Cycle <small>SCI 4 Technology</small>	Old CDs/DVDs Lids Bottle caps Markers Tape Paper		Encourage the children to create spinners by inserting a marker into the hole of old CDs or DVDs, then securing with tape. Explore spinning the markers on paper and discovering the designs.
LESSON 13 Constructing Pet Homes <small>PD 4 Personal Care</small>	Toy animal Blocks Paper Tape Markers Collage materials	 	Encourage the children to find a toy animal, then build a home out of blocks for it. Draw or create decorations for their pet homes with paper or other collage materials.
LESSON 14 Car Wash <small>PD 4 Personal Care</small>	Bucket Dish detergent Sponges Chalk Toy cars Water table (optional)	 	Set up this station outside or indoors in a water table. Wash a toy car or one that's been drawn with chalk. Explore sponges and soapy water.
LESSON 15 Balance Tray <small>MR 4 Measurement</small>	Trays Light items: plush toys, recycled food containers		Encourage the children to balance a tray on their heads and walk across the room. Add light items to the tray and invite them to balance it on a hand as they walk. How many steps can they take without spilling? Count items and numbers of steps taken each time.

WEEK 4 ANIMAL HOMES

LESSON 16 Constructing a Den <small>MR 2 Spatial Awareness</small>	Box Nature items Plush bear toy Paper Markers/crayons	 	In the block area, build a den for a toy bear using leaves, sticks, grasses and a cardboard box. If desired, build the den outside.
LESSON 17 Web Life <small>SCI 2 Natural & Earth Science</small>	Masking tape Pompoms, craft sticks, links (optional)	 	Create a masking tape web outside between branches in a tree. Check the web throughout the day to see what sticks to it. If desired, create a web in your room, then toss pompoms, craft sticks and links to see what sticks.
LESSON 18 Filling Holes <small>SCI 2 Natural & Earth Science</small>	Box Noodles (variety of sizes) Scissors	 	Make different-sized holes in the top of a box. Explore fitting noodles of various sizes into the holes. Explore how animals find homes inside holes.
LESSON 19 Nest Design <small>SCI 4 Technology</small>	Tweezers Nature items Paper shreds Toy eggs	 	Make a sensory bin of grasses, paper shreds, leaves and toy eggs. Encourage the children to use tweezers to pick up and build a nest similar to how birds use a beak. What other beak-like tools can we use to build a nest?
LESSON 20 Ant Village <small>SCI 2 Natural & Earth Science</small>	Sand Bin or sand table Small soufflé or paper cups Black beans	 	Fill a sand table or bin with sand. Put small cups upside-down in the sand. Make a hole on the bottom of each cup. Imagine the beans are ants and play in the sand making ant trails and homes.

Set-Up Directions

These open-ended STEAM stations invite children to investigate, problem-solve and create.

- Hang the Big Question and Inspiration Photos on the wall next to the place you set up the investigation.
- If desired, use labels to identify and organize materials children will use (and clean up) as they explore STEAM stations.

ROTATING YOUR STATIONS

- Introduce one new STEAM station daily. Leave that station set up all week. By the end of the week, children will have five stations to explore.



A master set of supply labels for STEAM and your environment, including blank labels for you to use with miscellaneous supplies, can now be found on Member Resources.

STEAM
STATIONS

STEAM stations integrate perfectly with the monthly Experience Preschool Curriculum kits for a comprehensive research-based early learning system. Learn more and start your research-based curriculum today.

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EARLY LEARNING




**What house
design will you
draw and build?**



**How can
you build
a tall apartment?**



**Can you build
an ant hotel?**



**Can you build
a houseboat?**



**Can you build
a sandcastle?**



**How can you
fog up mirrors?**



**How can you
build a TV?**



**How can you
use kitchen tools
to pick up items?**



**What shape
is a bubble?**



**How can you
build a bed?**



**Can you make
a broom?**



**What types
of objects spin?**



**Can you build
a pet home?**



**Can you wash
a car?**



**What can
you balance
on a tray?**



**Can you build
a den?**



**What can you
catch in a web?**



**What fits
in a hole?**



**Can you build
a nest?**



**Can you build
an ant village?**



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