

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Today at Discovery Education STEM Camp we focused on ***Urban Infrastructure and Erosion*** with activities designed to show students how human activity can cause erosion, and why this is damaging to both people and the environment. Throughout the day, students learned about the forces of erosion, and its relationship with urban infrastructure. Highlights from today include:

* Brainstorming ways to prevent erosion of hiking trails
* Exploring evidence of erosion in the world around us
* Learning about the careers of scientists who work for the Nature Conservancy

During the *Trail That Would Fail* activity students investigated the methods for reducing the amount of erosion on a steep hiking trail. Students used their engineering skills to develop cost-effective ways to minimize damage to the hiking trails caused by erosion. Ask your student the ideas that his/her group came up with, and how these ideas may be employed in real life.

Students continued their Engineering Challenge today by determining the level of erosion risk around their Dream School. Students also incorporated special design elements to minimize erosion around their school. Have your child explain what they have learned about causes of erosion, and how they worked to minimize erosion risk around their Dream School.

Continue to explore more about ***Erosion*** using these helpful links:

* Easy at-home Erosion project: <http://tinyurl.com/m34l3bw>
* Meet the Scientists at the Nature Conservancy: <http://www.natureworkseverywhere.org/scientists>

We look forward to seeing your child tomorrow as we explore water as an energy source.

Thank you,

Discovery Education STEM Camp