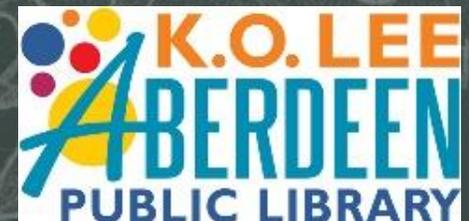


Library STEM Day Example

Collaboration between public library, school library and science center.



Organizations Involved

- K.O. Lee Aberdeen Public Library
 - Youth Services Librarian & staff
 - Library Director & Assistant Director
 - Part time staff (helped with kits the day of the event)
- Aberdeen Public School District
 - Superintendent
 - District Librarian
 - Library aides
 - 3rd Grade Teachers
- SD Discovery Center Staff

STEM Day Plan

When & Where

- Public librarians met with school admin & school district librarian
 - Decided on grade level participating (school librarian thought the 3rd grade would be a good test case because of their academic level and they still seem to have a bit of that childlike wonder)
 - Discussed who had funds for what part of the event.
- Public library had space to host & staffing
- Public library had budget to send the kits back and for supplies
- School admin Ok'd teachers using field trip funds for bussing.
- School librarian met her support staff and with 3rd grade teachers to determine which days worked the best. 3 days, 2 schools a day. Morning sessions 8:30-11:30am. Afternoon sessions 12:00-3:00pm.

STEM Kits

- Public Library requested list of kits available from SD Discovery Center
- School librarian & Public librarian picked 12 kits for 3rd grade age group.
- School librarian took the list of 12 kits to the teachers to pick the kits they wanted to potentially use in their classrooms.
- Public librarian ordered the kits selected and had them delivered a week in advance to familiarize the staff with the kits and make sure supplies were available.

Prep

- Kits arrived at the public library
- Public librarians opened kits, made sure all components were included, made a list of items to purchase for the STEM day. (it was a few things like seedling plants for the terrarium kit)
- Set kits up so staff members who were going to help could familiarize themselves with the activities.
- Picked the activities in each kit that students could do in about 20-25 minutes.
- Library director decided to order in lunch for the staff who were helping with the kits because we had a 30 minute turn over with the schools. This was a GREAT idea and was so appreciated by the school librarians and public staff.
- Library director also created a "teachers lounge" for the visiting 3rd grade teachers to get coffee, tea or water and a snack. It was an appreciation gift to the teachers from the public library for helping make this happen. Great opportunity for a local coffee shop to sponsor the food and beverage.

STEM Day

- Like clockwork kids arrived at 8:20am.
- Teachers had already put them in groups of 6-8 students and they would stay in those groups throughout the field trip.
- The kits were numbered according to the groups. Group 1 went to kit #1 and so on.
- Each kit had 1 sometimes 2 library staff teaching part of the unit. It began promptly at 8:30 and was finished at 8:55. The kids moved to the next kit.
- Most of the kits were all hands on but a few had things kids could take with them.
- The teachers took all the papers from the kits that had observation questions and things like that.
- After the STEM day was finished (remember it was actually 3 STEM days) The school and public librarian completed a survey for the Discovery Center. Public library staff cleaned up the area and put the kits back together and called for them to be picked up.