



MAKE A DIFFERENCE WITH {STEMWORKS}

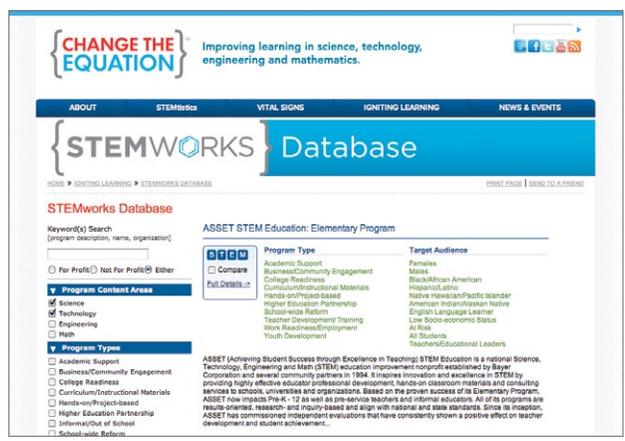
Each year, U.S. companies spend close to a billion dollars on programs to boost school-aged children’s learning in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM).

But what difference are those investments actually making? Change the Equation’s free online tool, STEMworks, empowers funders to optimize the impact of their STEM investments and positively affect the lives of young people in grades P-12. A searchable, user-friendly database of in-school and out-of-school STEM learning programs that have been independently evaluated against a rigorous rubric, STEMworks enables funders to find proven programs that meet their own philanthropic priorities.

At a time when thousands of STEM programs claim dramatic outcomes for young people, STEMworks is the place to find information you can trust.

QUALITY AND IMPACT

Every STEM program included in STEMworks has met Change the Equation’s rigorous Design Principles for Effective STEM Philanthropy. Created in conjunction with leaders in corporate social responsibility, these Principles embody the best research on what works in STEM learning. The Principles set a high bar by requiring programs to demonstrate success in areas such as capacity to meet a critical need, sustainability, scalability, partnerships, and rigorous evaluation. In addition, programs must offer challenging STEM content, incorporate hands-on STEM practices, inspire interest in STEM, and address the needs of youth, such as girls and students of color, who are less likely to pursue STEM fields.



STEMworks Database Homepage

“There is no shortage of STEM programs that make grand claims about their impact. STEMworks identifies programs that have the evidence to back up their claims.”

—Paula Collins, Vice President of Government Relations, Texas Instruments

INDEPENDENT EVALUATION

A team of independent experts has carefully reviewed and selected STEMworks programs from a broad pool of applicants. Using a detailed evaluation rubric, reviewers chose only those programs with concrete evidence that they meet the Design Principles. Not all STEM programs applied to STEMworks in its first iteration, but those that did and were admitted meet a high bar for excellence and rigor.

RELIABLE INFORMATION

STEMworks offers rich descriptions of every program, including its goals, geographic reach, strengths, and impact. Program descriptions also include an analysis of how they stack up against each of the Design Principles. Visitors to STEMworks can rest assured that each description is supported by evidence.

FLEXIBILITY AND CUSTOMIZATION

The variety of programs in STEMworks allows funders to identify programs that meet their specific philanthropic interests and priorities.

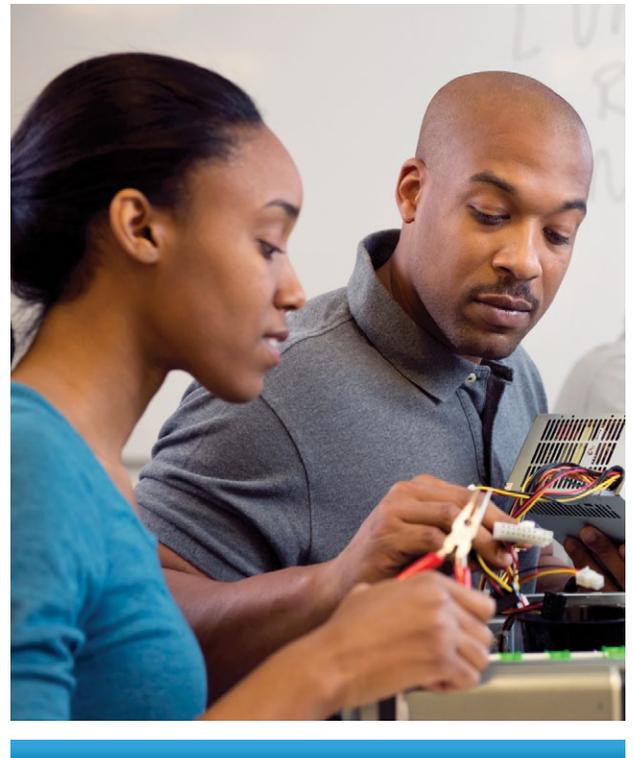
Search the database by program type, target audience, STEM content area, grade level, and geographic location, to find effective programs that address your philanthropic goals.

“The rigor and objectivity of STEMworks makes it much more than just a database. The thorough review process and unbiased program descriptions put STEMworks in a class of its own. It’s an important resource for funders, as well as those who want to implement impactful STEM programs or learn what elements are essential to developing strong programs.”

—Tracy Bame, President, Freeport McMoRan Copper & Gold Foundation

“The principles behind STEMworks have given STEM leaders in Iowa a vital touchstone for finding and jointly supporting the programs that are most likely to change the odds for Iowa’s young people.”

—Jeffrey Weld, Ph.D., Executive Director,
Iowa Governor’s STEM Advisory Council



WANT TO LEARN MORE?

To learn more about the STEMworks selection process or to find programs that interest you, visit STEMworks at <http://changetheequation.org/improving-philanthropy/stemworks> or contact Change the Equation at 202.626.5740.

