

Free STEM teaching tools, hands-on events, career videos, and networking opportunities.
Invite friends and colleagues to **subscribe--text "Collaboratory" to 22828.**



Our mission is to improve STEM education, increase STEM workforce preparation and build community connections.

I'd like to extend a warm welcome to our two newest members! The REACH Museum and the Othello School District bring unique capabilities, talents and resources that support our efforts. Do you think your organization might like to engage in the work of the Collaboratory? Visit our [web site](#) to learn more or contact me directly. -- [Jeff Estes](#) (PNNL), Collaboratory Director



Collaboratory projects were launched using "seed grants" from Battelle and leveraged by in-kind contributions of Collaboratory members as well as external grants.



Watch for new releases!



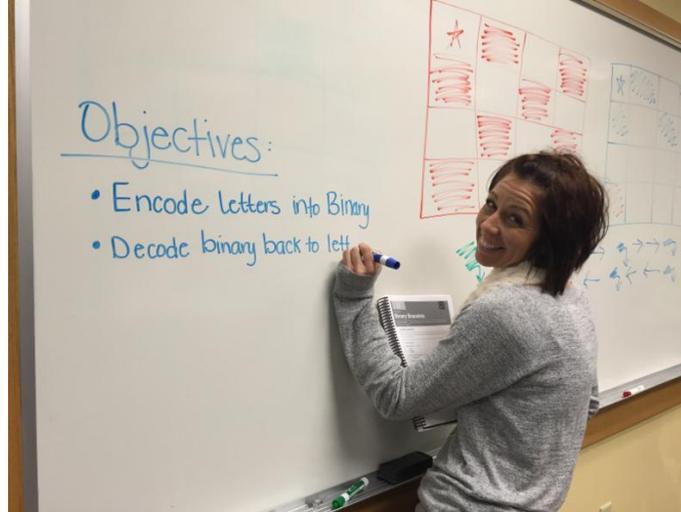
More and more often we come across suspicious surveys on social media. To start a dialogue with youngsters about how to protect their digital information, watch this new video we created. The video creates a scenario of three friends who fill out one of those suspicious surveys and the consequences that ensue.

[>> More Tools By Us](#)



Computing
the Future

May 6 deadline!



Is your district interested in computer science professional learning opportunities for your middle school science and mathematics (algebra) teachers? Along with ESD 123, Code.org and Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, we are working to provide such opportunities to middle school teachers in the Mid-Columbia. This is a great example of an integrated STEM opportunity, connecting computer science with math and science instruction. Please contact [Ann Wright-Mockler](#) or [Georgia Boatman](#) by May 3 to indicate your district's interest and learn about next steps.



Save the date
May 11!



Have you ever wondered where the fabric that makes up your clothes comes from? Join us for a Family Engineering event co-hosted with the Richland Public Library on Wednesday, May 11 from 6:15-8pm. You'll love the Opener Activities with a few new surprises and a story-based design challenge. Families are encouraged to participate together. Students K-8 would find the activities most interesting, but all ages are

welcome. Registration for the event will be on [Eventbrite](#). Open to the public. Contact [Frannie Smith](#), Project Lead.

Announcing NEW PROJECTS *for 2016*



Makerspace

The Makerspace project integrates the disciplines of STEM into a physical workspace, allowing patrons (i.e., parents and children) to explore and be innovative with a variety of materials. In spring 2016, Makerspace intends to have sites open at Captain Gray and McClintock STEM Elementary Schools in Pasco. In the 2016-17 school year, sites will be added at Curie STEM Elementary, the Pasco Boys & Girls Club and the Pasco Branch of the Mid-Columbia Library. Makerspace will provide opportunities, both during the day and in the evening, to engage in hands-on activities aligned with the way scientists and engineers uncover knowledge and solve problems. Contact [Josette Mendoza](#) or [Megan Nelson](#) for more information.



STEM-It

STEM-IT Now builds on prior research projects conducted by ESD #123, PNNL, and the SE Washington LASER Alliance. It will serve as a model of effective integrated STEM professional learning for elementary teachers in alignment with the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS). Through work with PNNL scientists, teachers will deepen their STEM content knowledge and their understanding of the nature of science. Throughout the school year, working with STEM education experts from the ESD and PNNL, teachers will also learn how to connect science and engineering practices, cross-cutting concepts and core ideas to create powerful learning experiences for their students. This summer the first cohort of 21 teachers will begin a year-long effort to design, pilot test and disseminate STEM curriculum enhancements across the region. Contact [Georgia Boatman](#) or [Peggy Willcuts](#) for information about upcoming opportunities.



Who Are We?

15 STEM education organizations have joined forces in the Mid-Columbia region of eastern Washington to improve STEM education for all. Learn more [about us](#). Advocate for STEM education with family, friends and colleagues. [What is STEM?](#)

[Video \(2 mins\)](#)

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