

STEM Nation Award action plan

Name of setting	Sunflower Family Nurture Centre
SEED / CS number	CS2003017099

Staff involved	Key stakeholders
<p>Original STEM Champions (19-20) Shirley Bremner (Senior EYO) Vicki Elder (EYO) Katrina Jackson (Senior EYO)</p> <p>New STEM champions (20-21) Yvonne Dunsire (EYO – Sunflower FNC) Laura Muller (EYO – Sunflower Annex) Kellie Cousar (EYO – Sunflower Annex)</p> <p>Morag Steele(Headteacher)</p> <p>All Staff involved in project</p> <p>Year 1 Locality Early Years Nursery colleagues</p> <p>Year 2 Locality Primary 1 colleagues</p>	<p>Locality Children and Families</p> <p>Business/Industry Partners</p> <p>Education Partners – locality ELC settings and Primary Schools</p>

Our current strengths
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff are highly committed and work hard to ensure children’s experiences are rich, relevant, fun and motivating. • STEM experiences are embedded in the life of the setting – from our youngest babies attending STEM related family groups to our older learners who are independently exploring and using their STEM skills to solve problems, e.g. one of our pre-school children designing and making a shelf for the playroom - he was not happy there was nowhere to display his woodwork creations! • Staff take on leadership roles, there is a collective responsibility. • Professional Learning is high on the agenda – a full programme of learning activities to support staff is set each year, ensuring development needs are met. We work closely with our partners to support us to plan and deliver staff learning sessions, e.g. Karen Doherty, Science Development Officer. • Highly skilled planning for learning takes place which ensures children’s interests are developed and supported. Staff use their STEM skills to move the learning forward in a well-timed, appropriate way. No opportunity is missed. • Families are involved in their child’s STEM learning. This takes many forms - Sharing our learning on Social Media, use of STEM Bags through our Melgund Market and Family Learning opportunities which support parents to learn alongside their child, e.g. at the beach/in the forest or in the local community. We welcome parents into the setting to support

their child's STEM journey, e.g. one mum supported her son to use the woodwork tools to make a puppet theatre.

- Our children use their STEM skills to support their local community, e.g. working alongside the local care home residents to develop their garden area. They made a bench out of pallets and then supported the residents to paint this.
- We are working hard to increase the number of partners we have supporting us on our STEM journey.

Start date	Progress review date	Completion date
12 th August 2019	June 2020	June 2021

Successful outcomes <i>What impact do we want to achieve?</i>	Evidence and evaluation <i>How will we gather evidence of impact?</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All staff will feel confident and highly skilled when planning for STEM related experiences. • Year 1 - We will have worked closely with 3 locality nurseries to upskill staff and support them on their STEM journey. • Year 2 – We will begin to support P1 teachers in the locality to enrich STEM experiences and ensure a smooth transition from Nursery to P1. • Our children will continue to be excited, motivated learners. We will continue to monitor closely the interest levels of children across different aspects of STEM and ensure that both girls and boys are appropriately supported to be actively engaged in their STEM learning. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Self evaluation processes are in place and allow us to evaluate the work of the setting on an ongoing basis. • We will continue to gather the views of our children, families and partners. • Room observations support our evaluations of child motivation and engagement in STEM learning. • We work closely with our education partners to ensure that any collaborative activities are having a direct positive impact on the child's learning and progress.
Challenges	Solutions <i>How can we overcome these challenges?</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensuring staffing is in place to allow Professional learning opportunities to take place. • Aug 2020 – The Covid19 pandemic has meant we have had to put new procedures in place. Staffing continues to be a challenge. We are determined to continue to provide high quality, rich STEM experiences in a Covid19 safe way. We are using creative ways to ensure this happens. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We work within a solution focused culture. We have had to be extremely creative in how we do things. • We have used our STEM funding to ensure we have high quality staffing in place to allow some flexibility for STEM professional learning to take place. • We are making good use of virtual tools to support our children's learning and communication with our parents. • We have adapted how we carry out our enterprising experiences for our children to ensure this year's learners do not miss out on the wide range of opportunities to develop their STEM skills, e.g. our Melgund Market now takes place outdoors and our Café de Flores is a take-away service.

Resources and staff development needs *What will we need to support this?*

- We applied and were successful in our bid for STEM funding. This is supporting the professional learning of staff within Sunflower FNC and across the locality.
- We make good use of expertise that is available to us – we have worked closely with the Science Development Officer for Fife and have also made good use of PL opportunities available nationally.
- We work closely with our local partners who provide expertise and resources as required, for example, Purvis continue to be involved in our children's STEM learning and support us by providing real life STEM experiences for our learners. They also provide us with materials required for our learning areas.
- Robertsons Construction are currently building our new setting. They have supported us by planning to provide joiners to further upskill staff in woodwork. Unfortunately this is still on hold as a result of COVID19.
- The move to 1140hours has meant we have welcomed many new staff into Sunflower Family Nurture Centre. The new Sunflower Annex is also now operating. The children and staff for this new centre are currently operating out of Sunflower until the new build opens in the new year. We are using our STEM champions to ensure that ALL staff have access to a highly skilled STEM lead who can support them on the job to develop their skills.

Sharing learning and supporting others

How will we share our learning with others in our learning community / authority / region / country?

- We have worked hard to build a network of STEM champions within Sunflower. This work has been supported by our Science Development Officer.
- The 2 year STEM funding has allowed us to further develop the skills of all staff within Sunflower and develop projects which support staff within our locality.
- Year 1 – Sunflower Champions were released one day per week to work alongside Early Years Officers in their own Nursery setting. Using this approach has allowed the learning that has taken place to be real, relevant and timely. We have supported 3 nursery settings in this way. Our STEM champions have also delivered Professional Learning sessions in parallel with this 'on the job' training.
- Year 2 – We have identified 2 Primary Schools that we will be working closely with this term on Woodwork in the Primary 1 classroom. Through transition meetings with all our feeder schools, we have identified 2 individual children who attend different schools who have found the transition into school extremely challenging this year. Alongside the Primary 1 staff we have identified that Woodwork in the ELC was an area that would engage and motivate these children. This project will allow a Sunflower champion to attend the school one day per week to upskill the Primary 1 teachers and work alongside the children. The 2 schools and Sunflower will use an online Christmas Fayre as a stimulus for the woodwork project between October and Christmas. From January to Easter the aim will be to integrate woodwork into the Primary 1 environment and ensure it is responsive to individual children's needs.

RACI Who is Responsible, Accountable, Consulted and Informed?

Breakdown of tasks	Staff and stakeholders	By when?
<i>e.g. Set up calendar of meetings for STEM working group.</i>	<i>Anne Example – Principal Teacher (R & A) Working group members (R, A, C) All staff (I)</i>	<i>August 2021</i>
YEAR 1		
Meeting with all locality ELC settings and Management teams to gauge interest in professional learning project.	Morag Steele (HT Sunflower FNC) Shirley Bremner (Senior EYO) Katrina Jackson (Senior EYO) Vickie Elder (EYO) Locality ELC representatives	September 2019
Plan and deliver INSET Day training to all staff on 'supporting learning in woodwork' and Early Level Science.	Karen Doherty (Science Development Officer) Shirley Bremner (Senior EYO) Katrina Jackson (Senior EYO) Vickie Elder (EYO)	October 2019
On the job professional learning for staff – STEM ambassadors supporting staff on the floor and 3 ELC schools within the locality. Ensuring high quality, rich STEM experiences.	Shirley Bremner (Senior EYO) Katrina Jackson (Senior EYO) Vickie Elder (EYO) St Kenneth's RCPS ELC Lochgelly West PS ELC Cowdenbeath PS ELC	Ongoing till 27 th Feb 2020
ELC exchange programme with 3 locality ELC settings. Staff to swap settings for a session to see STEM in action at Sunflower and in locality settings THIS HAS NOT TAKEN PLACE DUE TO COVID 19 LOCKDOWN	Shirley Bremner (Senior EYO) Katrina Jackson (Senior EYO) Vickie Elder (EYO) St Kenneth's RCPS ELC Lochgelly West PS ELC Cowdenbeath PS ELC	4 th March – 26 th March 2020
STEM Family Learning to support STEM learning in the home, 'STEM and communicate' groups set up/evaluated. Use of Forest/Beach/Local community.	All ELC staff to support these groups. (Incorporating Communication High 5)	Oct 19- March 20
Twilight STEM training for locality 10/2/20 21/4/20 – This date did not take place due to COVID 19	Shirley Bremner (Senior EYO) Katrina Jackson (Senior EYO) Vickie Elder (EYO) St Kenneth's RCPS ELC Lochgelly West PS ELC Cowdenbeath PS ELC	Feb 20 – March 20

Develop partnership working with local business – Purvis and Robertson Construction. Track the progress of our new build Nursery – Staff Professional Learning to be provided by Robertsons.	All staff to be involved in professional learning opportunities supported by Robertsons Construction Currently on Hold due to Covid19	Ongoing By April 2021
YEAR 2		
Consider current STEM experiences on offer and how these can continue to be provided in a Covid safe way	Morag Steele (HT) Shirley Bremner (Senior EYO)	Ongoing
Consider the Professional Learning plan for Primary 1 locality schools and if/how this can go ahead in light of Covid19	Morag Steele (HT) Shirley Bremner (Senior EYO)	By September 2020
Set up transition meetings with feeder primary schools. Consider the challenges of transition during lockdown. What can we learn? How could STEM learning support our Primary 1 children?	Morag Steele (HT) Shirley Bremner (Senior EYO) Mardie Templeman (Principal Teacher – Transition lead) Leadership Teams/Primary 1 teachers – locality schools	By October 2020
Set up and employ extra staffing to support Professional Learning STEM project.	Morag Steele (HT)	In place by Oct 2020
Train up extra Sunflower STEM champions to add flexibility in the system - ensure project can go ahead even with the staffing challenges we face as a result of Covid19	Original STEM champions Shirley Bremner (Senior EYO) Katrina Jackson (Senior EYO) Vickie Elder (EYO) New STEM champions Yvonne Dunsire (EYO – Sunflower FNC)) Laura Muller (EYO – Sunflower Annex) Kellie Cousar (EYO – Sunflower Annex)	By November 2020
Ongoing weekly support sessions for P1 settings. One day per week to support woodwork Christmas project.	Original STEM champions Shirley Bremner (Senior EYO) Katrina Jackson (Senior EYO) Vickie Elder (EYO) New STEM champions Yvonne Dunsire (EYO – Sunflower FNC)) Laura Muller (EYO – Sunflower Annex) Kellie Cousar (EYO – Sunflower Annex)	Nov20 – Dec 20
Sunflower FNC STEM Training. To take place on the floor with the children. Christmas project used to upskill new Sunflower staff	Original STEM champions Shirley Bremner (Senior EYO) Katrina Jackson (Senior EYO) Vickie Elder (EYO)	By Dec 2020

	<p>New STEM champions Yvonne Dunsire (EYO – Sunflower FNC)) Laura Muller (EYO – Sunflower Annex) Kellie Cousar (EYO – Sunflower Annex)</p> <p>All Staff to be fully upskilled in supporting woodwork in the ELC by Dec 2020.</p>	
<p>Parental Engagement Through 'Wall of Wishes' seek parental views on the ongoing use of STEM bags. Use this information to plan Term 3 approach.</p>	<p>Morag Steele (HT) Shirley Bremner (Senior EYO)</p> <p>All staff will take turns to support the 'wall of wishes' outside Sunflower FNC.</p>	<p>By Dec 2020</p>