



WHY DAY OF DESIGN?

We know your school year is already filling up with lesson planning, test prep, staff meetings, parent teacher conferences, and more. It can be hard to find the time and resources to create real-world learning experiences that bring STEM to life in your classroom while reaching diverse learners. But you know that these experiences are critical for developing the skills your students will need to thrive in future careers and life.

National Day of Design helps meet this need. By downloading our free, standards-aligned curriculum and teacher guide at www.dayofdesign.com, and spending one class period allowing your students to embark on this year's mission, you will help them to not only build real-world relevant skills, but also connect them to a nationwide community of problem-solvers and trailblazers like themselves.

Following our 2017 launch, STEMconnector's Day of Design is back with a new mission—Food Rescuers: STEM Innovations to Reduce Food Waste. This year's National Day of Design will take place November 8th, 2018, coinciding with National STEM/STEAM Day. On this day, we ask that you share photos, videos, quotes, and stories of your students participating in the Mission by using #DayofDesign2018 and tagging @STEMconnector.

We can't wait to share all of your hard work with our networks!



THE MISSION

Day of Design Missions encourage students to create like an innovator by employing critical thinking, teamwork, and an entrepreneurial mindset while innovating a solution to the problem. In the **Food Rescuers Design Mission**, students will wrestle with a challenge that impacts their daily lives and their communities: food waste. They will use interdisciplinary skills in various sciences, English, technology and the fundamentals of engineering to design a new invention that will reduce food waste for their school's cafeteria, reminding them that each of us has a role to play in solving complex global challenges at the local level. Teams can tackle this challenge using a wide-range of materials and technology from everyday materials available in the classroom to design software to 3D printed components. The focus is on the ideas and approaches as opposed to the end products themselves.



THROUGH THIS MISSION, STUDENTS WILL:

- Acquire deep understanding of the challenges posed by food waste and how they can solve it using STEM knowledge and their own creative energy.
- Build and apply foundational and advanced STEM knowledge and skills, cutting across many disciplines from biology to math to computer science and engineering.
- Practice the skills that prepare them for college and career success, such as problem-solving, critical thinking, teamwork, communication, and more.
- Grow their appreciation for their role as active members of their school and broader community.

This year's mission aligns to Common Core and Next Generation Science Standards so it can easily be implemented into the classroom. Materials are catered to different grade levels and allows for various levels of participation from a simple 45 minute lesson to a more extensive lesson plan that can span across the semester.

For more information contact: DayofDesign@STEMconnector.com

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