STEM AT A DISTANCE!

STEM² Academy, the first school in the nation to provide a STEM curriculum to students with social and learning differences, and our new homeschool academic program, The Learning Center, are taking on STEM learning at a distance. Check out what our resilient teachers and students have been up to during distance learning!

THE FUTURE IS NOW!
While not all of the college acceptances are in, we’re thrilled with what we have so far. Seniors have been accepted to UC Berkeley, UC San Diego, UC Davis, and a host of Cal States as well as two-year colleges. We acknowledge their and their teachers’ hard work, and we wish them every success!

OF MICROBES AND MEN
Welcome Thermus thermophiles HB8, the identified microbe that our high school Bioinformatics class is working on. They’re annotating the microbe’s genes in conjunction with the National Institute of Health and Seattle Pacific University. That research has led them to a deeper appreciation of how the annotation of the genes of coronavirus is one of the steps necessary to finding a vaccine or a cure.

PUZZLES AND PROBLEMS
Rube Goldberg’s grand-daughter has challenged all students to construct a Rube Goldberg device at home, video it, and post the video for all to see. So if you hear the sounds of balls rolling, and wooden blocks falling in your house, tread lightly! Our students are at work! They’re also solving coding puzzles—they have a certain amount of time to solve the puzzle, competing against their classmates.

THE WRITTEN WORD
Whether reading Lord of the Flies in middle school, or Julius Caesar in high school, Zoom reading sessions are an opportunity to explore the thematic elements of the text, explore character motivations, as well as articulate a point of view—all essential aspects of literary analysis.

REACHING FOR THE STARS
What did the Hubble Telescope see on your birthday? Using the NASA interactive website, students looked up what Hubble saw on their birthday, and presented to the class in a Zoom video chat. Discussions after involve the concepts of distance and time, size and location, astronomy and cosmology.

I, ROBOT
FIRST Robotics Competition has closed for the season due to the pandemic, but prior to the closing both STEM Valley and STEM West competed in regionals in San Diego and in El Segundo. Both were tough competitions, and while our teams weren’t winners in any category, they made lots of friends, formed alliances, and learned tips and tricks from competitors and compatriots alike.

LEARNING CENTER SCIENCE
Students in The Help Group Learning Center have been hard at work on their Science Fair experiments! Bedrooms and kitchens, living rooms and garages have been converted into labs. Fizzes and crackles, color changes and more than one ‘Bang!’ have echoed in student homes. Home-schooling has never been so much fun!

STEM³ Academy
Valley Glen | Irvine | Culver City
Contact Dr. Ellis Crasnow:
888.943.1816 | ecrasnow@thehelpgroup.org
www.STEM3Academy.org

The Help Group
Culver City | Sherman Oaks East | Sherman Oaks West
Valley Glen | Van Nuys | Irvine
www.thehelpgroup.org or 877.943.5747

The Learning Center
Irvine
Contact Dr. Lisa Reid:
949.835.3988 | ireid@thehelpgroup.org
www.THGLearningCenter.org