

# STEAM Education

## at LifeConnections Children's Learning Center



At **Bright Horizons®**, STEAM (science, technology, engineering, art, and math) learning begins in the preschool program, where teachers create learning experiences that spark creativity, problem solving, and critical thinking. These activities encourage creative thinking and problem-solving, are open-ended, use hands-on, age-appropriate materials, and incorporate multiple content areas.

Our STEAM program is guided by **Mr. John**, who brings twenty-five years of experience in early childhood education, receiving a Master's of Science in education. As a child development specialist, adjunct professor and consultant he has presented workshops for NAEYC, CAEYC, The California STEM Symposium, along with in-service trainings for parents, teachers, and staff in public and private schools.



Through our *World at Their Fingertips®* curriculum, STEAM education is incorporated in a child's daily experiences through many integrated learning opportunities in the classroom. STEAM includes the following disciplines:

### Science

Teachers carefully plan experiences that develop children's scientific inquiry skills and nurture their natural curiosity.

**Example:** Using magnetic wands to test the magnetism of various materials gives children opportunities to ask questions, observe, and experiment.

### Technology

Students think about how to use everyday objects to find the answer to problems they are trying to solve.

**Example:** Investigating objects on a light box or light table encourages an interest in how things work and sparks innovation.

### Engineering

Through construction and building challenges in the classroom, children begin to learn about the principles of engineering design.

**Example:** Working to build a marble ramp with materials such as PVC pipes and blocks invites collaboration and problem-solving.

### Art

Teachers nurture children's own artistic abilities and help them appreciate art in the broader world by engaging in diverse creative experiences with a range of interesting materials. **Example:** Mixing colors using eyedroppers gives children opportunities to experiment with color, observe the changes and experiment.

### Mathematics

Teachers create intentional and spontaneous learning experiences that build math and reasoning skills so children can solve problems and use mathematics in real and meaningful ways.

**Example:** Sorting items, such as seashells or blocks, by size, pattern, or color builds foundations in logical thinking.

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