the Daily STEM

STEM+Space+Politics

Have you ever seen a shooting star? Chances are, that wasn't actually a star. Most likely you saw a meteor, a small bit of rock from an asteroid. An asteroid is a rock that orbits the Sun, and some are big enough to cause damage if they strike a planet.

Scientists track asteroids, and based on their mathematical calculations, they know that some have a small chance of hitting the Earth. But what can be done if they know an asteroid is coming? Should people be evacuated? Who would be in charge of evacuating people and who should make that decision?

What if it were possible to deflect an asteroid out of the way? How could you prevent an asteroid from hitting the Earth?

To learn more about asteroids, meteors, and comets, check out: **go.nasa.gov/2oC3M4d**

To read more about scientists tracking asteroids, head to: **yhoo.it/2WoeH5h**

STEM Book

Maker Lab by Jack Challoner has "28 Super cool" projects to create using household items, and plenty of great questions to get you thinking "how" and "why" things work!

Mystery Photo

What's under the microscope? (answer next week)

Last week's answer: a potato

STEM in Food

Popcorn isn't just food, it's fun science! Each kernel of popcorn has a drop of water trapped inside, and when it's heated it turns to steam. When the shell can't hold the pressure, it explodes and becomes what we know as popcorn.

Find activities, recipes, and even videos of the moment popcorn pops at **popcorn.org**

STEM in the News

Do you like to listen to music while doing your homework?
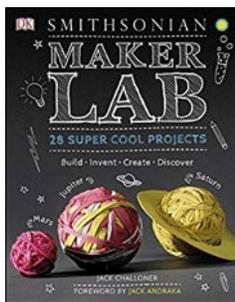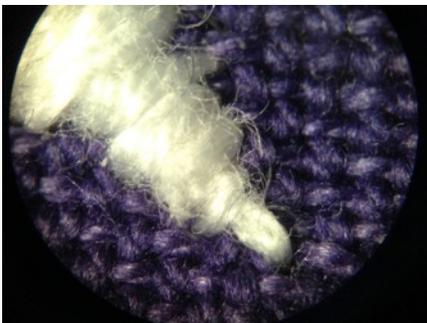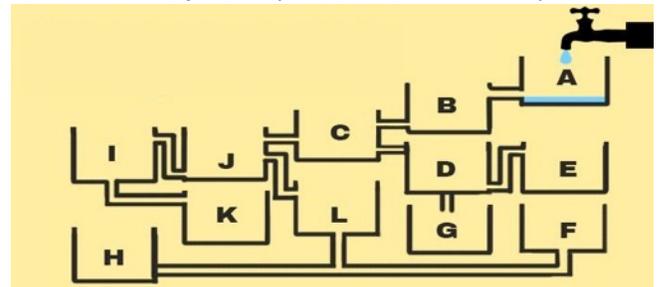
If so, maybe next time you should listen to music without any words. Researchers are looking at what connection music has to intelligence. They found that people with higher test scores prefer instrumental music. Does that mean that if you listen to jazz, classical, or electronica music you'll be smarter?

To read more: **nyp.st/2X3NPVb**

The Puzzle

Look at the diagram and determine which tank will fill up first (answer next week)

Last week's answer: an echo

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