# The Daily STEM

Volume 2 Issue 29

April 26, 2020

## STEM in the News

Do you ever feel distracted by noises? Have you ever heard of a "white-noise" machine? Many people use them to help them focus or concentrate. For instance, you might have a hard time falling asleep while camping in the woods if you live in a city. Being able to listen to sounds that are similar to city sounds (traffic, air conditioners, people talking) can help you rest. There

are currently lots of people working at home, both for jobs and school. One advertising company decided to make an "office noise" website called <a href="mailto:imisstheoffice.eu">imisstheoffice.eu</a> to help people feel like they're in an office while working at home. You can hear people mumbling,



computer keyboards clicking, water coolers gurgling, and even a ping-pong game. What kind of sounds would you put in a "classroom noise" machine?

#### How it's Made

There's a good chance you're reading this issue of The Daily STEM on a laptop. Did you ever



wonder how they're made? How can they fit all the important things inside that small case?

Watch how laptops are made: bit.ly/2yMnjIy

#### The Puzzle

Suppose you have the letters S T O P...How many ways can you rearrange those 4 letters **and** how many of those combinations are words?



Last week's answer: The parking space was 87 (you had to turn the image upside down)

## STEM + Pancakes

When was the last time you ate some pancakes? They're a pretty common meal, and they're easy to make. In fact, people have been eating pancakes around the world for thousands of years. Different countries have



different types of pancakes, including "Crepes, potato latkes, Irish boxty, Russian blini, Welsh crampog, Indian poori, Hungarian palacsinta, and Dutch pannenkoeken." But did you ever wonder why pancakes are usually round? It has to do with gravity. Gravity is the force that pulls objects (like pancakes) towards other objects (like the Earth). When you pour the batter, Earth's gravity pulls the "blob" of liquid towards the center of the earth equally. The pan stops the pancake batter from going down, but that causes it to spread out equally in all directions, making a circle. Can you make other shapes of pancakes?

To learn more about why: <a href="mailto:bit.ly/3cPOe5b">bit.ly/3cPOe5b</a>
To learn more about pancakes: <a href="mailto:bit.ly/2yH7Dqi">bit.ly/2yH7Dqi</a>

### STEM Challenge

You don't need expensive equipment to make STEM. Paper is a simple item found in every home that can be used to make art and learn! The website <u>cutoutfoldup.com</u> has many easy and complicated things to make from paper. Did you know a circle can be folded to make an equilateral triangle <u>bit.ly/3bLjm5S</u>? Or that you

can tie 2 strips of paper into a hexagon bit.ly/2y3x1GH? Get some paper and find an idea to try for yourself!



## **Mystery Photos**

What's under the microscope? (answer in next issue)

Last issue's answer: A screw, a scrabble tile, & scissors





