

# The Daily STEM

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## STEM in the News

What's the best way to build a house? A new company named ICON created a giant 3d-printer that can print a small house in about 24 hours. They recently printed 6

homes in Austin for people dealing with homelessness. Because they're made with concrete they can be built quickly without any waste.

They also are very well insulated, which makes it easier to keep them cool in summer or warm in winter.

Their next project will be printing some homes in Mexico. What else could be 3d-printed? How else could you make houses quickly?

Learn more: [bit.ly/2ZaMJeI](https://bit.ly/2ZaMJeI)



## STEM + Screens

Did you ever wonder how much time you spend looking at a screen in a day?

Researchers asked 2000 British adults about their screen

use and found some big numbers. They found the average adult used a screen for 13 hours each day. That's 4,866 hours each year! One bad part of all that screen use is the effect on eyes. It's important to take breaks and look away from screens. Do you have any ideas for reducing screen time? See what you learn by keeping track of screen time in your home for a week!

Learn more: [bit.ly/2Teubpt](https://bit.ly/2Teubpt)



## How It's Made

Did you ever think about how wooden kitchen tools are made? Special machines like routers are used to cut, shape, and smooth wooden spoons and forks.

Learn how: [bit.ly/2X5HoW](https://bit.ly/2X5HoW)



## STEM Challenge

What's the most important part of a meal? Is it making sure it's healthy? What if the most important part was to make food look amazing? Michael Zee has been taking pictures of breakfasts for years.

And every breakfast is symmetrical. Just like a butterfly looks the same when it folds in half, Michael's breakfasts look the same. Well, almost the same.

"It just shows how you can take the everyday and make it beautiful," says Kevin System, co-founder of Instagram. Try making a symmetrical snack or meal.

See some more examples at [symmetrybreakfast.com](https://symmetrybreakfast.com)



## The Puzzle

Engineers in a laboratory designed a robot that could assemble toys from parts over and over without making a mistake. When it was time to demonstrate the robot, they packed up the toy parts in a box and brought the box and robot to the public demonstration. When the robot was given the box of parts, it was unable to put the toy together. Why?

Last week's answer: When  $1=3$  and  $2=9$  and  $3=27$ , then  $4=81$ ...it's multiplication...one 3 makes 3,  $3 \times 3$  makes 9,  $3 \times 3 \times 3$  makes 27, and  $3 \times 3 \times 3 \times 3$  makes 81

## Mystery Photo

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

Last issue's answer:  
A paint brush, a milk cap ring,  
a number on an LCD screen

