

# The Daily STEM

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## STEM in the News

On February 18, 2021, the Perseverance Rover landed on Mars. It is the 5th rover to land successfully on the red planet. Diana Trujillo is one of the NASA scientists who have worked on the robotic arm on Perseverance. They will use it to take pictures and drill for samples in the ground. Diana moved to the US from Columbia

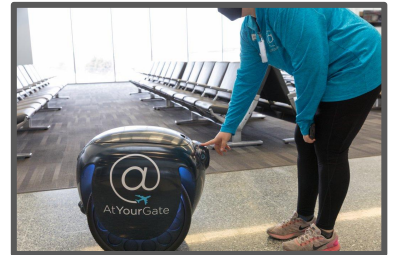
when she was 17. She learned English and worked cleaning houses to pay for her college education. "It is more about what your enthusiasm, your passion, and if you are determined to do what you want to do in your life, you will find a way."

Learn more about Diana: [go.nasa.gov/3c6XJhH](https://go.nasa.gov/3c6XJhH) Learn about Perseverance: [mars.nasa.gov/mars2020](https://mars.nasa.gov/mars2020)



## STEM + Airports

Have you ever been to an airport? They are usually filled with lots of people all hurrying to get to their plane. One robotics company has designed a robot that is being tested at Philadelphia International Airport. The small robot, called Gita (the Italian word for "short trip"), can deliver up to 40 pounds anywhere in the airport. It uses GPS to follow an employee. It also uses sensors to make sure it doesn't bump into people. When it arrives, the customer can push a button to access their food or package inside. The company, Piaggio Fast Forward, is only testing the Gita for now. Could you imagine other uses for the robot at an airport? Learn more: [bit.ly/3eewjsR](https://bit.ly/3eewjsR)



## STEM Challenge

Did you ever think of how many types of life there are on Earth? Biodiversity is the combination of the words "biological" and "diversity" and it's a way to describe the variety of life on land, in the air, and in the oceans. Do you have an idea to help save or fix the plants or animals in your town? Maybe it's designing a robot to collect trash from ponds or growing plants that attract pollinators. If you're in 5-9th grade, you can even enter your idea in EarthEcho's STEM Challenge to help protect or restore biodiversity in your community. Learn more: [ourechochallenge.org](https://ourechochallenge.org) or see last year's winning ideas: [bit.ly/3taa7ED](https://bit.ly/3taa7ED)



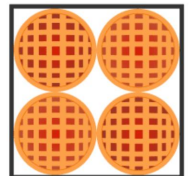
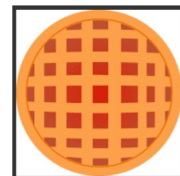
## How it's Made

Have you ever used a highlighter? Color helps our minds notice things better, especially on a page of words. Did you ever wonder how they're made? Robotics, air, heat, and conveyor belts allow us to have our favorite highlighter colors. Watch how they're made: [youtu.be/L7QG1WoUE7A](https://youtu.be/L7QG1WoUE7A)



## The Puzzle

March 14th is "Pi Day" Which square contains the most pie? (via [brilliant.org](https://brilliant.org))



Last issue's answer: "Try to understand" and "For once in my life"

## Mystery Photos

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

Last issue's answer: An envelope

