# The Daily STEM

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#### STEM in the News

Have you ever seen a monarch butterfly? They're the zig-zagging butterflies with orange and black wings.

Each year they fly south to California and Mexico, a place they've never been before, and keep warm for the winter. They cover the trees and feed on nectar, then start migrating north again. For the past few decades, their numbers have



been decreasing. Each year, the Xerces Society conducts an official count of the western monarch for three weeks in November and three weeks around the first of the year. Researchers were worried because last

year they only counted 2,000 butterflies, but counts already have topped 50,000 this year! Learn more about the monarchs (including some great videos) bit.ly/3lg0FrD and

nbcnews.to/3lzw6mT



#### The Puzzle

There are 2 kids in a family, a girl and a boy. Two years ago, the girl was three times as old as the boy. Three years from now, the girl will be twice as old as the boy. How old are they now?

Decode the answers using Braille...

### STEM Challenge

Have you ever wanted to be an artist, but didn't know where to start? Victor Nunes is a Brazilian artist who

has a clever way of turning everyday items into art. From rubber bands to pen caps to batteries, he draws pictures that include the objects. Find an object and see if you can turn it into something!



## STEM Career: Soap Maker

Did you ever wonder how the soap you use every day is made? Lots of people are learning to make soap on their own instead of buying soap from a store. Soap makers use all different kinds of ingredients, colors, and fragrances to make beautiful, sudsy soaps. But if

you want to make and sell homemade products like soap. it's a lot of work and a lot of things to think about. Soap makers must test their product to



ensure it keeps its quality for as long as a customer has it. They also have to decide on who to market their soaps to and what types of soaps to focus on. Soap makers even have to consider how to create logos, websites, packaging, and promotion to make sure people learn about their products. If you think it would be an interesting business to start, or just a fun hobby, learn more at bit.ly/3riK2oQ & bit.ly/3lgwsyF

## **Mystery Photos**

Can you identify the mystery items under the microscope?



Decode the answers using Braille...



