

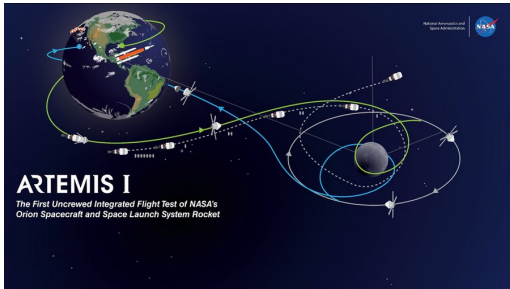
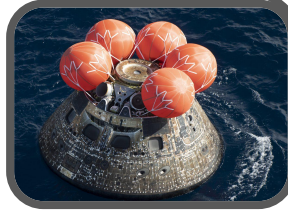
The Daily STEM

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STEM in the News

At 5:54 pm EST on December 14, 1972, Astronauts Gene Cernan and Harrison Schmitt lifted off from the moon after spending 75 hours exploring. Now 50 years later, walking on the moon is once again a reality. The Artemis 1 mission launched on November 16, circled the moon, and splashed down in the ocean on December 11. The 25 day mission will help scientists and engineers understand the new SLS rocket and Orion capsule. They will continue to study the Orion capsule to see how well the heat shield and capsule survived in the extreme temperatures of space. Even though there were no astronauts on board, there were [experiments](#) to study seeds, yeast, fungi, and algae in space. Learn more about the mission blogs.nasa.gov/artemis and all about Artemis nasa.gov/specials/artemis



STEM Career: Software Developer

Did you do the Hour of Code this year? There are so many careers that use those coding skills in our world. People who create games and apps are called Software Developers. They write and test code that helps people do things like order clothes online, get money at the bank, or play the latest version of your favorite game. Others write programs that protect computers from viruses or keep track of data for big businesses. If you want to be good at working with code, it's good to work on your problem solving, teamwork, and motivation skills. Finding the problem in a program can take time and perseverance. The demand for these types of jobs will continue to grow as more people use technology in new ways. If you like coding and working with computers, there's much more to learn about these careers: bit.ly/2MYBPmN and bit.ly/2Ni33o3 or watch some computer science career videos at code.org/careers-with-cs



What Does a Software Developer Do?



The Puzzle

How many squares are on a standard 8 by 8 chessboard? (hint: it's not 64)

Decode the answer using Braille:



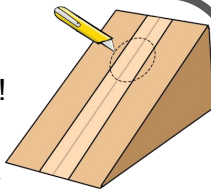
STEM Challenge

Holiday time means cardboard box time! Don't just throw boxes away, turn them into games to play with family or friends.

Bean Bag Toss: Cut a box along the diagonal, trace and cut out a hole, and use some beanbags, rolled up socks, or crumpled up wrapping paper

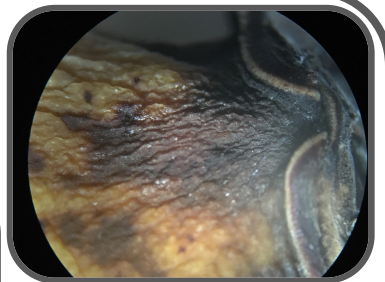
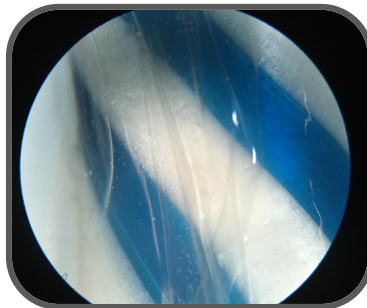
Darts: Cut a cardboard circle, cover it with Velcro or tape, divide it into sections, and throw Velcro or tape balls at it.

Find the complete instructions at bit.ly/2LWSepp or invent your own creations from boxes!



Mystery Photos

Can you identify the mystery items under the microscope?



Decode using Braille:

