

The Daily STEM

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STEM in the News

Did you ever build something with LEGO blocks? Did you ever wonder what they are made of? LEGO has made most of their blocks from “a high-quality plastic called ABS that provides the unique connective grip, high gloss, and the color stability our LEGO bricks are known for.” Recently though, LEGO has been trying to make their blocks from a recycled plastic called rPET. A 1-liter plastic water bottle could provide enough plastic for ten 2x4 blocks. After two years of prototypes and testing, LEGO announced they haven’t found a good way to make their blocks from recycled plastic.



They found that the new machinery required to make the blocks would take more energy than the recycled plastic would save. They will continue to make plant-shaped blocks from a plastic made of sugarcane, which is a little more flexible than the regular LEGOs. What would be important qualities to think about when making new LEGOs?

Learn more: bit.ly/46cbBly and cbsn.ws/3tqv8CV

The Puzzle(s)

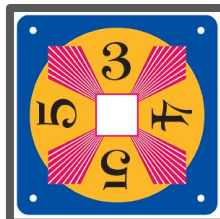
Suppose you were at the beach, and a baby bird fell down a deep hole, so deep that no one could reach it. If the bird can’t fly, what would be a simple solution to help the bird get out?

Decode the answer using $z=a, y=b, x=c, w=d$

Pvvk klfirmt z orggov hzmw rm gsv slov. Gsv yriw droo pvvk xornyrm lmg l gsv hvggormt hzmw.

STEM Challenge

Have you ever played the ‘24 Game’? The object of the game is to make the number 24 from the 4 numbers on the card. You can add, subtract, multiply, or divide, but you must use each number once. It’s a great way to practice your math skills and think creatively. You can even try it while on a trip, just look for signs with four numbers! Learn more at 24game.com



STEM Career: Meteorologist

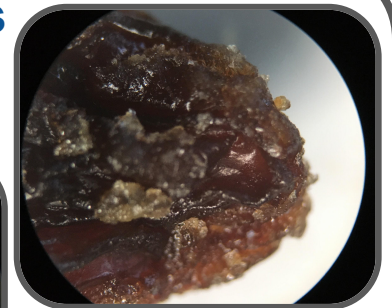
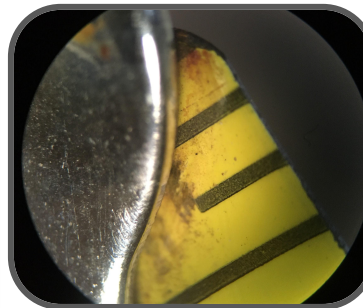
Do you like looking at different types of weather? A **Meteorologist** is someone who studies the atmosphere and the weather that happens in the troposphere, the lowest level of the atmosphere. Some meteorologists work on TV, talking about the upcoming weather forecast in your area. Others do research or teach about weather and climate. And as technology improves, more meteorologists are working to predict weather with computer simulations. Many meteorologist jobs are working for government organizations or companies that depend on weather for success in business. Farming, fishing, shipping, insurance, and flying all depend on accurate weather predictions. To get a meteorology job, you’ll need to study math, science, geography, and even coding in school. You’ll also need a college degree that will be filled with math and science classes. It’s also important to practice communication skills to help you share your ideas and research with others. If you think this sounds like an interesting career, learn more:

bit.ly/3rxPDu2 or bit.ly/3PWkLNI



Mystery Photos

Can you identify the mystery items under the microscope?



Decode the answer using $z=a, y=b, x=c, w=d$
izhrm gzkv nvzhfiv
nlerv uron

