

Making Space for Story-Based Tinkering to Scaffold Early

Informal Engineering Learning

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Project Description

Through exhibit design and facilitation, we address whether and how encouraging family storytelling can advance engineering learning and spatial thinking during and after tinkering experiences.

Key Achievements

- 4 home-based and 11 museum-based programs iterating on ways that storytelling and tinkering can combine to support engineering learning and spatial thinking
- Research evidence for the power of stories in enhancing informal STEM-related learning and remembering.
- Broad dissemination, including products on informalscience.org

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Audience & Settings

Audience: Elementary School Children (6-10) | Learning Researchers | Museum/ISE Professionals | Parents/Caregivers | Pre-K Children (0-5)

Disciplinary areas: Education and learning science | Engineering Learning

environments: Exhibitions | Museum and Science Center Exhibits | Public Programs | Making and Tinkering Programs | Museum and Science Center Programs

Access and Inclusion

Oral storytelling and tinkering activities can connect with families' everyday practices to support broadening participation in STEM.



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QR Code and Link to Slide Presentation: [AISL mini poster media](#)

