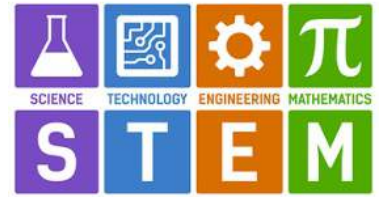


## STEM LEARNING FOR GIRLS – Developing an early interest...

**STEM** is an acronym for science, technology, engineering, and maths. In 2016, the Secretary of State for Education and Minister for Women and Equalities, Nicky Morgan MP, said that not enough girls study computing or coding, or STEM subjects, and too few continue into technology careers.



We live in a world where we're told that girls can do anything that boys can do, but when it comes to choosing a career, there's still a stark gender divide. According to the latest figures, **only 12 per cent of the workforce in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) industries is female**. Last year, only 4228 girls applied to study engineering at university, compared to 28,020 boys.



### Ignite the Spark from a Young Age!

As **STEM** industries consider how to combat a future skills shortage, experts believe that the key to encouraging girls to develop an interest in STEM is to catch them early.

With a little guidance from us, we can enhance children's opportunities to engage in **STEM** learning and develop their critical thinking skills from as young as preschool age. In reality, preschoolers spontaneously engage in **STEM** activities indoors and out on a regular basis both at home and at nursery. At Click IT! we ensure that our curriculum includes as much **STEM** learning as possible where boys and girls are encouraged to learn and discover how things work and to solve problems. We also offer coding activities to children as young as 3 years old!

There are lots of ways that you can build on your child's natural curiosity by developing their interest in science, technology, engineering and maths. Just visit our website for more ideas of how you can help your child.

[www.clickit-kids.co.uk/helpingyourchild](http://www.clickit-kids.co.uk/helpingyourchild)

**STEM next term...Microscopes,  
Space and Science Themes!**



## What you can do at home to help your child...

- **Get out and about.** Visits to places like science museums are a great way to get hands-on with STEM.
- **TV and internet resources.** Programmes such as CBeebies' *Nina and the Neurons* where Nina and her young experimenters discover the amazing ways that things can change and react.
- **Make the most of technology.** Encourage your daughter to use the computer or tablet not just for games but also for learning to code through free apps like Scratch Jr. (<http://www.scratchjr.org/>) and apps such as The Rocket Cupcake – see below.
- **Learn through play.** STEM-related toys have traditionally been biased towards boys, such as Meccano and Lego, but new ranges such as **GoldieBlox** are designed especially to encourage girls to develop an interest in STEM. See below.

***The possibilities for STEM education are endless. Children love to experiment, combine new substances, build, knock down, collect, sort, and have fun while learning. You are probably having your child do STEM activities at home and didn't know it. Look for additional opportunities to build STEM activities in your daily routine.***

**VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE STEM IDEAS FOR BOYS AND GIRLS**



### **The Rocket Cupcake Co. by GoldieBlox**

Attention, future coders! Goldie and her friends can't remember whose birthday it is... The obvious solution is to deliver cupcakes to EVERYONE in Bloxtown! The Rocket Cupcake Co. is for ages 4 and up, and teaches coding concepts that engineers of all ages can be proud of. Learning while fulfilling missions and having fun— that's what birthday dreams are made of! Iphone/ipad.



### **GoldieBlox and the Spinning Machine £56.00 [www.amazon.co.uk](http://www.amazon.co.uk)**

In this award-winning debut story, Goldie builds a spinning machine to help her dog, Nacho, chase his tail. Soon all her friends want in on the action. Help Goldie build a belt drive machine to spin everybody! A book series plus construction set starring Goldie, the girl inventor. Builds spatial skills, engineering principles, and confidence in problem-solving. Comes equipped with 16 design ideas and unlimited building possibilities. Just one of a range available from Interplay. Age 4+