

Dear children,

This is your last month in First Class so from now until the end of June we will be assigning some fun activities. This is STEM Week in Scoil Mochua. Many of you will know that STEM stands for **S**cience, **T**echnology, **E**ngineering and **M**aths. We have picked out some activities which we hope you will enjoy doing. We would love to see some photos of you completing these activities, if it suits your parents to email them to us. We have highlighted the school work we would like to see in green.

As usual, we want you to know that we understand that many of you are in busy homes - some parents are working, others are taking care of elderly relations and small children and some parents are doing all of this and much more. For this reason, we have compiled a list of **optional** STEM activities. You can do as many of the activities as you wish but we accept that some children may not be able to do any. Just do your best. Try to keep up your reading too.

Please remember to tidy away your school books, school library books, school readers etc as you will need to bring them back into school after the summer break.

Next week we will be telling you all about Scoil Mochua's first ever Virtual Activity and Sports Week so that is something else to look forward to.

As always, we remind you to remember the important advice about hand-washing, coughing and social distancing so that everyone stays well.

Keep up the good work,

Take care,

Ms Bolton, Ms Corscadden and Ms Ryan

First Class STEM Week

Week 12	<u>Please note: All these activities are optional. Pick and choose the activity or activities you would like to do.</u>	
Maths	Mental Maths https://www.topmarks.co.uk/	Pages 68 + 69 Some children may wish to continue using their Mental Maths book which is fine. Some children might like to play the maths games that can be found on this website. There are plenty of Maths challenges to keep them busy.
SPHE	This week we are focusing on water safety. Here is the link for the online lesson book for first and second class. https://online.flowpaper.com/7efd0784/PAWS2ENGLISHWEB/#page=1 Here is the link for the interactive activities. http://paws.edco.ie/first-and-second-classes/ Children should design a poster to show one of the rules they have learned about water safety at home, at the pool, at the river or at the beach.	
English	Reading	Read a book from home or on-line The Jolly Phonics Readers have now been made available as e-readers for free for a limited time on Android and Apple devices: https://www.jollylearning.co.uk/jolly-phonics-e-readers-now-available/

Weigh It Up!

Invite pupils to construct a homemade coat-hanger balance (see image for example) - ensure both sides are balanced.

Pupils place an item (e.g. a toy, an apple or a book) in one side of the balance. Next, using a chosen non-standard unit of measurement (e.g. marbles), pupils estimate and measure the weight of the item.

Encourage your pupils to change the non-standard unit of measurement and repeat the task.

- How many marbles do you think this apple weighs?
- How will we find out how many marbles it weighs? What will the balance look like?
- How many twistables do you think the apple weighs?
- Did you need more/less twistables than marbles? Why?



PDST Measures Manual p.138
PDST Tomhais Lámhleabhar an Mhúinteora lch.157

Sp Adobe Spark

Benchmark Browsing

The purpose of this activity is to provide pupils with experiences of creating a benchmark of weight. Pupils will need a known weight of 1 kg to give the 'feel' of a kilogramme. Pupils will then sort various household items into three categories: Less than 1 kg, 1 kg and More than 1 kg.

This activity could be extended using $\frac{1}{2}$ kg and $\frac{1}{4}$ kg as the benchmarks. Estimation is the focus of this activity and pupils may wish to follow-up using digital scales to check their estimations.



PDST Measures Manual p.141
PDST Tomhais Lámhleabhar an Mhúinteora lch.161

Materials Mission

Invite pupils to gather a stone, a wooden spoon, a leaf and a coin. Using the suggested template at the link below, encourage your pupils to make observations based on the colour, shape and texture of the materials. To extend this activity further, pupils can make comparisons between the materials noting any similarities and differences.



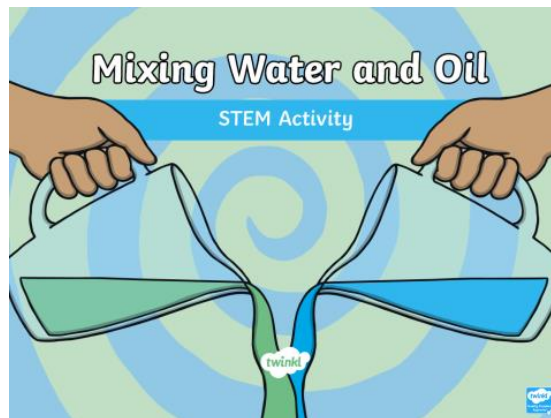
Mystery Material

Building on from investigating properties and characteristics of materials, this activity will present a description of a material for pupils to identify. The key focus is on the description of the mystery material using the language explored in the Materials Mission.

Example: You will find me in the kitchen/utility room, I am heavy, I am a cuboid shape and have a circular-shaped door, I am made from plastic and metal, what am I? Pupils should be encouraged to explain their prediction and offer their own mystery material.

Sp Adobe Spark

Mixing water and oil: making marbled paper



Please see power point on our class website page.

Chalk Walk Photoshoot

Design a set for a photoshoot using chalk or else using things you find around your home.



Giant Marble Maze

Make a giant maze with toilet roll cores. Change the challenge by going through different coloured tunnels in different orders.



Stone Xs and Os

Create your own game of x:
and os using stones.



Bottle Toss

Use the top of an old bottle and make a tin foil ball. Attach together with a string (stick layer of tissue over tin foil with PVA glue) and try to score some points.



Fort Building

Make a pillow fort!



Planting Fun

Use an empty egg shell to plant seeds from an apple, orange or tomato!



Puppet Making

Make puppets and a puppet theatre using items from your home!
Sock puppets are easy peazy!



Instrument Making

Make a shaker with rice and a bottle or elastic band guitars!



Nature Pictures

Collect some items from nature and use them to make a picture



Floating and Sinking

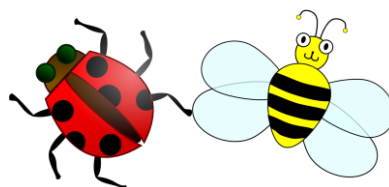
Fill a basin or sink or bath with water and experiment to see what floats and sinks.



Google a recipe and bake something!




Go on a Mini Beast Hunt (see template below).



My Bug Hunt

Go outside and find these minibeasts. Can you find two minibeasts that aren't on our list?

Bug name	Bug picture	Bug habitat (their home)
Butterfly		
Snail		
		
Ladybug		
	