

# STEM News - March & April

## TK STEM Class

### Upcoming Events

Volunteer to help in the Garden  
1<sup>st</sup> Week of each Month  
Earth Day, April 22, we will have many activities for your children. We will compost, have relay races, art, and the middle school will go to the beach to pick up trash.

### A Peek at Our Weeks

**This month we will go to the garden with Mrs. Felix and learn about good bugs. We will have hands on STEM activities to celebrate St Patrick's day and Easter.**

### **PLTW News** Dow and Project Lead The Way Partner to Grow STEM Skills in Key Dow Communities

**WASHINGTON, D.C. (February 24, 2015)** – To kick off national Engineers Week, The Dow Chemical Company (NYSE:DOW) and Project Lead The Way (PLTW) announced a significant partnership to increase K-12 students' access to high-quality science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) education programs. Through a \$400,000 commitment, Dow will fund PLTW programs in 17 schools in Indiana, Louisiana, Michigan, and Pennsylvania. These 17 schools enroll more than 14,000 students, and about half of these students are minority students.

Dow's support of PLTW furthers the Company's commitment to building the workforce of tomorrow in the communities where its employees live and work. Through PLTW's hands-on, activity-based K-12 programs, students become engaged in STEM fields while developing critical thinking, problem solving, and collaboration skills – skills identified as crucial by today's employers.

"STEM-based careers fuel innovation at Dow. We are proud to partner with Project Lead The Way to bring curriculum into our communities' classrooms that will support teachers by giving them the tools they need to teach STEM subjects, and get students excited about pursuing STEM careers," said Rob Vallentine, director of Corporate Citizenship at Dow. "The students of today represent the future of this country's economic prosperity, and Dow is committed to supporting the STEM workforce of tomorrow in our communities."

The U.S. Department of Commerce estimates 1.2 million unfilled STEM jobs by 2018 as a result of a lack of qualified, trained workers. Coincidentally, STEM jobs are expected to grow by 17 percent, nearly double the rate of jobs in other sectors. Expanding access to STEM education for underrepresented minority students is also of great interest as only 10 percent of U.S. scientists and engineers come from underrepresented minority groups.

"The United States is facing a significant skills gap, and Dow is taking action to fill that gap. They are leading by example," said PLTW President and CEO Dr. Vince Bertram. "Not only are they creating skilled jobs in our economy, but they are helping to develop the workforce to fill those jobs. We are grateful for Dow's support of Project Lead The Way, which is giving students across the country access to high-quality educational opportunities."





