



THE RISING STARS! CHALLENGE

Early learners (preschool—2nd grade) are naturally curious and can adapt well to learn new STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics) concepts. By appealing to their natural curiosity and creativity through a fun, hands-on learning environment, our Rising Stars! Challenge allows early learners to experience a range of invaluable concepts simply and effectively. Each year, volunteer educators and industry experts develop a new Rising Stars! for Early Learners Challenge. They focus on creating play-based curricula that allow kids to be creative, learn simple building and construction, become comfortable working in teams, and learn how to speak in front of an audience. The Challenge is noncompetitive, which helps ease pressure and lets kids play and experiment with their solutions.

“DI is truly making a difference in the lives of kids. It’s helping develop them into amazing adults who have a great ability to think critically, use their imagination, and work together.”
– Tracy Hakenjos, Parent and Team Manager

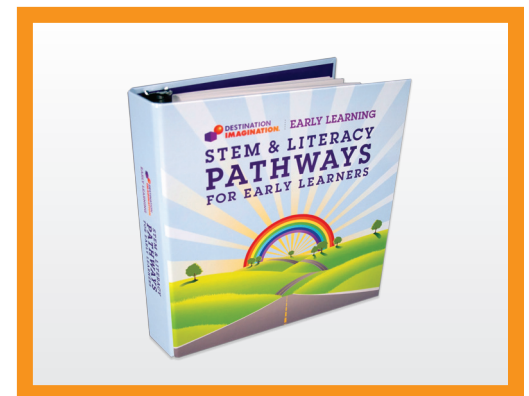
“DI provides opportunities for our children to think, take risks and work together to solve common problems that will get them to rule the world.”

– Raymond Simon,
Educator and
Former Deputy
Secretary, United
States Department of
Education

STEM & LITERACY PATHWAYS

Designed for 3-6 year olds

Destination Imagination has developed a unique approach to support educational readiness in STEM and literacy concepts. While these areas of education are not historically associated with education at the pre-k and kindergarten grade levels, a philosophical shift in the U.S. is leading states to begin including STEM content in early childhood learning standards. To support this shift, DI created STEM and Literacy Pathways for Early Learners to provide teachers with resources to meaningfully engage students in creative learning while building STEM and literacy skills. The activities, transitions and feedback loop questions can be linked to fulfillment of all key Common Core domains.



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