

A FOUNDATION FOR DISCOVERY

The Solana Beach Schools Foundation provides funding for Discovery Labs offering curriculum in science, technology, research, engineering, arts, math (STREAM) and physical education.



solanabeachkids.org

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What is STREAM?

STREAM stands for science, technology, research, engineering, arts, and math. The Solana Beach School District provides hands-on instruction in these subjects to encourage natural curiosity, well-rounded skills, and the pursuit of related professions. The U.S. Department of Commerce estimates that the number of jobs in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) will grow 17% by 2018—to 1.2 million jobs, but the market won't have enough qualified workers to fill them.

Solana Beach Schools Foundation funds Discovery Labs with an innovative STREAM curriculum in:

- **Science**, providing lab experiences using next-generation science standards and Project Lead the Way (PLTW) curriculum to support inquiry-based and Design Thinking instruction. This instruction helps students identify problems; research, generate, test, and refine ideas; and communicate findings.

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- **Technology**, including computer coding, video editing, multimedia presentation, and graphic design. This instruction enables students to create content, publish work, and connect globally while practicing digital citizenship. Currently, Solana Beach Schools Foundation funding provides a high ratio of iPads, computers, and software.
- **Research**, using Standards for the 21st-Century Learner to guide instruction that helps students ethically gain, share, apply, and create knowledge, draw conclusions, and make informed decisions.
- **Engineering**, using PLTW and other curricula to help students apply knowledge, identify problems, find unique solutions, and lead their own learning. Depending on the grade, students learn about robotics and automation, stability and motion, structure and function, properties of matter, and a variety of other related topics.
- **Arts**, including the basic elements of art such as color, line, shape, form, and texture, and the mediums and contributions from masters of art. The curriculum also uses technology to teach digital arts and photography.
- **Math**, supplementing the math concepts that students are learning in the classroom. This interdisciplinary approach encourages Critical Thinking and focus on fewer topics; Coherence: Linking topics and thinking across grades; and Rigor: Pursuing conceptual understanding, procedural skills, fluency, and application.

Solana Beach Schools Foundation also funds Physical Education, emphasizing fitness, specialized skills, and sport activities. These activities closely align with California Department of Education PE standards, and depending on the grade, may include soccer, softball, hockey, basketball, football, fitness testing, volleyball, and recreational games.

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