



Coalition launches online resource for learning at home

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With school buildings closed across the region until the end of the academic year, a coalition has come together to launch an online hub for family-friendly learning in science, technology, engineering, arts, and math (STEAM) for Northern New Mexico.

The [STEAM Hub of Northern NM website](#) offers a range of selected resources to help parents, students and teachers in STEAM learning at home, providing categorized links and activities from local partners such as [STEM Santa Fe](#) and [Twirl](#) play and discovery space in Taos, and from national organizations such as Khan Academy, PBS and NASA.

Adapting Rapidly

In recent months, the Laboratory, the [LANL Foundation](#) and other partners have been involved in the regional initiative to launch a Northern New Mexico STEAM Coalition to coordinate and support STEAM education and workforce development in Northern New Mexico.

"When the initial kick-off meeting in early April had to be postponed due to the COVID-19 public health emergency, the team instead went to work to prepare this online resource for families and schools to support STEAM learning at home," says Jennifer Case Navarez, director of the [Community Learning Network](#) (CLN), one of the organizations involved in the collaboration.

The website project has been stewarded by the CLN and the LANL Foundation, with support from the Laboratory's Community Partnerships Office, and Elizabeth Eppley, the CLN's Americorps VISTA student through the North Central New Mexico Economic Development Department.

"Many of us have young children at home, and this is a great place to go for a range of inspiring and educational activities and ideas," says Janelle Vigil-Maestas from the Laboratory.

Teachers' and parents' resources

The parents' area includes a parents' guide to STEM from national organization [STEMx](#), a multi-state STEM education network run by Battelle, one of the three nonprofit partners that make up Laboratory operator Triad (the others being the Texas A&M University System and the University of California). As part of the Laboratory's

involvement, education specialists have compiled a growing list of resources for stay-at-home learning.

A special section for teachers includes guides on creating video lessons, tools for online teaching and information on how to facilitate learning for students without access to technology.

"Special thanks also goes to LANL Major Subcontractor's Consortium, New Mexico Gas and Electric, Verizon, the National Science Foundation, Samueli Foundation, STEMx Network, the STEM Learning Ecosystem, Internet Society, Internet Society New Mexico Chapter, and the New Mexico TechWorks project, as well as the State of New Mexico Department of Information Technology and the Homework Gap committee, for their continued support and advocacy for Internet access, STEM and STEAM online learning, and website development during these challenging times," says Case Navarez.

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