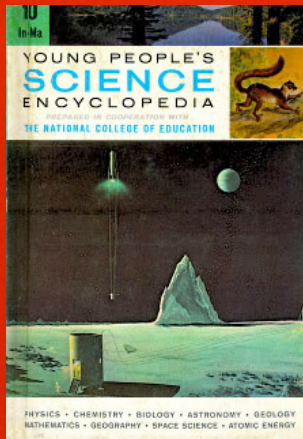


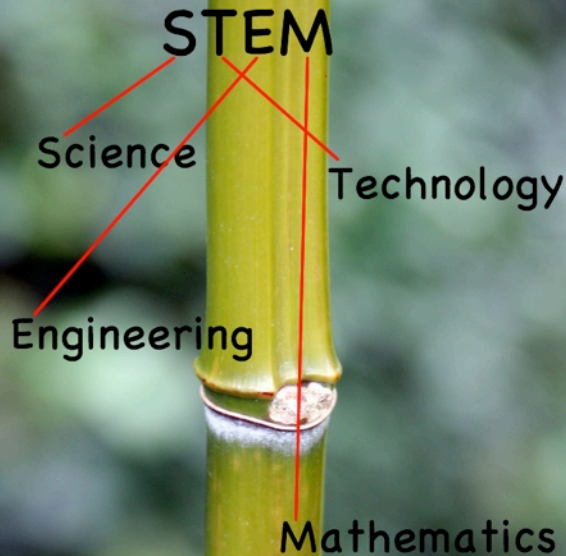


STEM

WHAT IS STEM?



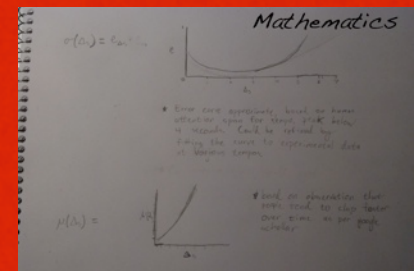
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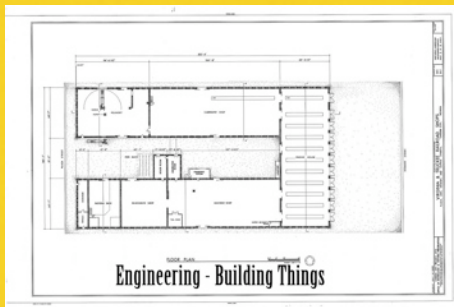
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Why is STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) important? Here are some facts you may not know about STEM in Washington state.

- Did you know that WA state is a national leader for innovation, entrepreneurship, research, and high-tech industries ranking second in the nation for innovation, and first for creation of new software companies.
- Did you know that WA ranks fourth in the country in technology-based corporations.
- Yet WA ranks 46th in the nation in terms of the likelihood of a student being enrolled in college by age 19.
- And less than half of high school students have even completed the necessary credits to apply to a WA state four-year college. Lack of math courses is the biggest barrier to college for most students: only 21 percent of students had the needed math credits compared to 64 percent in English.

WHAT DOES ALL THIS MEAN? THAT EVEN THOUGH THERE ARE MANY STEM OPPORTUNITIES IN OUR STATE, OUR STUDENTS AREN'T THE BEST PREPARED TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THEM. OUR STUDENTS SHOULD TAKE ADVANTAGE OF AS MUCH STEM PREPARATION AS THEY CAN!

Facts courtesy of WA STEM

<http://washingtonstem.org/>

