

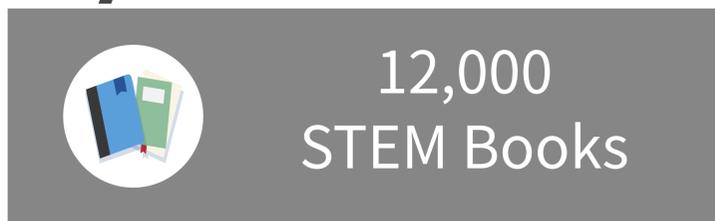


# Wayne RESA Lit Lab Pop-Ups: Supporting Grade 3 Summer Literacy through STEM

## What are the STEM Lit Lab Pop-Ups?

With support from the Literacy Learning Network, the MiSTEM Network, the COSA Collaborative, and Wayne RESA consultants, our first blended Lit Lab Pop-Up series was held this summer. Wayne County incoming third graders participated in an enriching experience that fused STEM, maker, literacy, and art activities each week. By partnering with the Nutty Scientists of Southeastern Michigan and the Detroit Institute of Arts, students were provided individual STEM kits, opportunities for artistic connection and expression related to eight engaging books, and planned time for writing in their Lit Lab Notebooks. With their new magnifying glasses, these curious third graders explored the natural world around them and jotted down their observations. As Mellissa Wilson, lead Lit Lab Pop-Up consultant, explains, we can "strengthen the collective impact through connections that advance student learning and achievement by eliciting support of families, educators, and community partners."

## Lit Lab Pop-Ups by the Numbers

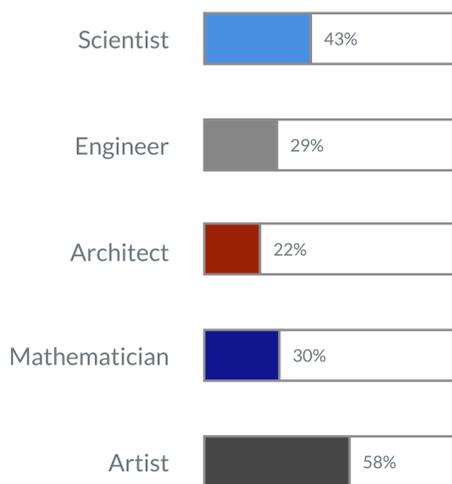


*"Please do Lit Lab[s] again! The students, families, and parents LOVED it!"*  
*(Lit Lab Coordinator)*

*"...I think everything that was set up from RESA was amazing. The books were engaging and interesting and the STEM activities were awesome."*  
*(Lit Lab Coordinator, Wayne-Westland Community School District)*

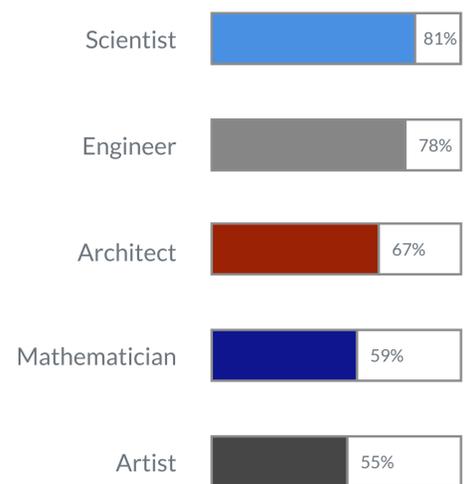
## Perception of STEM Professions

STEM Profession Interest



Lit Lab Pop-Ups intentionally focused on building student identities specific to STEM careers. When prompted "*I would like to be...*," students responded positively, indicating that these authentic learning experiences could influence future goals. In addition, when prompted "*[insert profession] make a difference in the world,*" students overwhelmingly demonstrated the importance of these roles in their lives.

STEM Profession Value



## Future Implications

# 0.425

Cohen's *d* (Effect Size)

According to baseline pilot data, one district, with the largest mean participation rate of 18.57 sessions, demonstrated a 3.4% growth on benchmark assessments. This improvement was statistically significant ( $p < 0.01$ ) with a 0.425 effect size.

Planning for future Lit Lab Pop-Ups will encourage increased opportunities for students to engage in STEM-related reading, writing, and making as a new approach to summer learning.

## Growing Students' Motivation and Engagement

Student and Lit Lab Coordinator survey responses reported positive student attitudes and self-beliefs in the following areas:

- Reading informational texts
- Reading literature
- Writing in a variety of genres
- STEM-related design challenges
- Receiving and giving peer feedback
- Creatively solving problems

