



OPERATION SMART

Operation SMART programming utilizes E.E.E.F
(Equity, Exploration, Empowerment, and Fun).

Our program believes in cultivating and sustaining girls' interest in STEM and developing girls' enthusiasm and skills; through hands-on/mind-on activities, girls explore, ask questions, persist, and solve problems.



- ✔ **Exploration:** Emphasize looking, listening, asking, and investigating rather than studying written rules or memorizing facts; encourage risk-taking and hypothesis checking.
- ✔ **Equity:** Actively recruit, engage, and support individuals from groups that have traditionally been excluded from STEM careers (such as girls, minorities, and young people with disabilities); help them to overcome limiting stereotypes and lowered expectations; provide resources and role models that are inclusive of these groups.
- ✔ **Empowerment:** Foster confidence; provide the tools, resources, and support necessary for independent discovery and achievement; and introduce community resources for support and advocacy (for example, in education and career planning).
- ✔ **Fun:** Bring out the joy and pleasure of the STEM experience; favor hands-on activities and interactive experiences over passive lectures or pen-and-paper assignments; project the passion and enjoyment you get from your field.