

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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TIES LAUNCHES STEM@HOME INITIATIVE FOR PARENTS

Free Webinar “Cabin Fever” Gives Tools To Pry Children From Their Screens

COLUMBUS, OH. March 17, 2020 – In response to far-reaching social distancing guidelines and school closings as a result of COVID-19, The STEM Learning EcosystemsSM Community of Practice (SLECoP), a global network of STEM leaders, have collaborated to release **STEM@Home**[™], a new series of [free tools](#) intended to help families maintain learning for their children while school and out-of-school activities are suspended.

STEM Learning Ecosystems is the ideal platform to create **STEM@Home** as it was developed in 2015 on the on the fundamental, evidence-based belief that learning happens everywhere, not just in traditional classrooms. Therefore, the 89 global Communities of Practice are made up of partners representing K-12 public and private education, business and industry, after-school providers, non-profits, STEM-rich institutions, government and philanthropy.

March 19, 2020 Free Webinar: Cabin Fever | 1:00 – 2:00 p.m. ET (GMT -5)

The first webinar, presented by Bedtime Math, will give families tool to help pry children away from their screens. Founder Laura Overdeck will lead the webinar, which will offer practical approaches for getting kids away from their video games and televisions sets. Bedtime Math has assembled a suite of grab-and-go activities that families can do at.

➔ Register for this free webinar [here](https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/6314383533736912651) (https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/6314383533736912651)

“It’s times like this when the power and the value of the STEM Learning Ecosystems Community of Practice becomes very visible. Over the last few days, we’ve heard from so many parents and educators who have questions and are looking for resources. And we’ve heard from even more of you who have ideas and information to share,” said Marc Siciliano, managing partner of TIES, global STEM education consultants.

[TIES](#), the operator and co-founder of the [STEM Learning Ecosystems](#), is compiling resources that include a series of webinars, workshops and a curated list of practical at-home STEM activities geared for students of all ages. While **STEM@Home**[™] grows, TIES is also planning additional virtual gatherings and resource sharing to keep the SLECoP growing and vibrant.

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“The need for the STEM Learning Ecosystem and everything that the 89 global Community of Practices can offer in terms of resource sharing has probably never been greater. And TIES is honored to be in a position to be leading this initiative,” said Jan Morrison, founder of TIES and co-founder of the STEM Ecosystems initiative.

The December 2018 Federal five-year strategic plan, *Charting A Course for Success: America’s Strategy for STEM Education*, identified STEM ecosystems as the number one strategy for improving STEM literacy, ensuring a strong workforce and global competitiveness for all, and an important means to support diversity, equity, and inclusion in a thriving STEM workforce.

About STEM Learning EcosystemsSM

The STEM Learning Ecosystems initiative cultivates and supports existing and developing STEM ecosystems that work to improve access to high-quality STEM learning for all students. There are currently 89 Communities of Practice who convene twice a year for peer-to-peer professional learning and to share information and expertise. The initiative, launched in September 2015 by the STEM Funders Network, empowers communities to bring together unlikely local partners and create systemic change to ensure more students, particularly underserved and underrepresented students, develop the STEM knowledge and skills they need to learn and thrive in today’s workforce.

www.stemecosystems.org

About TIES – Teaching Institute for Excellence in STEM

TIES is a global consulting firm dedicated to making STEM accessible to everyone, especially underserved and underrepresented learners. They do this by connecting stakeholders — educators, funders, community organizations, businesses and government agencies — who, through collaborative partnerships, create meaningful and gainful STEM learning experiences. TIES designed and continues to lead the SLECoP, which was created in 2015 with the support of the STEM Funders Network. TIES has a team of consultants that provide strategic planning support and guides design, training and implementation across all services. www.tiesteach.org

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