

DESTINATION

STEM

Information for educators

Research Placements & Experiences

**Empowering students
through immersive STEM
opportunities**

Free, high-impact & easy
for teachers to share.

Support students to
experience first-hand how
STEM subjects translate
into exciting careers and
world-changing research.

Take a look 

All photos are real-life
students on placement

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96% of students said that their placement helped them to build transferable skills

What is it?

Imagine your students stepping out of the classroom and into a real research lab, museum archives, or field worksite—working alongside professionals who live and breathe STEM every day.

That's exactly what we're offering!



Each summer, year 12 (or equivalent) students take part in immersive, hands-on experiences within UK workplaces.

It's completely free, simple to promote, and fully supported from start to finish.

We handle everything, from finding placements to providing all the resources and support—so you can focus on encouraging the right students to apply.

This is a genuine chance for your students to see where STEM can take them. To test their skills, grow their confidence and bring their curriculum to life through real-world projects.

Since 2020, STEM Learning has supported over 4,000 students through this programme.

By working with leading employers and researchers across the UK, we're helping young people take their first step toward a future in STEM that feels exciting, achievable and purposeful.

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96% of participants would recommend the programme to other students.

The essentials

- Placements take place after Year 12 (or S5 in Scot/Y13 in NI) during July and August – perfectly timed for your students to step out of the classroom and into STEM in action
- Each placement runs for 1 or 2 weeks, book-ended with short preparation and reflection activities
- Students take on a meaningful, independent project with expert supervision or explore the nuts and bolts of a STEM sector of interest – real people, real jobs, real insights
- It's completely free to take part with travel costs and expenses covered by a bursary
- Students do need to meet certain eligibility criteria – so please make sure to read the full details before recommending to your students 

“ I got to see how science is used in the real world and learn about so many new career options that I never knew existed. ”



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What happens when

Autumn Applications open for students around October/November. Ensure your students check their eligibility before applying

Spring Applications close and successful applicants apply for their preferred placements

Summer Students begin work on their pre-placement independent study assignments and attend an induction event before placements begin in July/August

Powerful student impact

- Students who take part typically see nearly a one-grade improvement in their STEM A Levels
- They explore pathways into university, apprenticeships and careers they may never have considered before
- Collaboration, creativity, problem-solving and resilience are consistently developed across all participants
- Students can celebrate their learnings and achievement by showcasing their work via a Gold CREST Award or at the Big Bang Competition

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90% of students say they want to go on to study for a STEM or STEM-related degree

Developing future ready skills

Through our immersive STEM Research Placements & Experiences, we support your school to achieve the **Gatsby benchmarks**:

2. Learning from careers and labour-market information
4. Linking curriculum learning to careers
5. Encounters with employers and employees
6. Experiences of workplaces



Your students will also develop the eight essential skills defined in the **Skills Builder Universal Framework**:

- **Listening & Speaking:** through discussions, presentations and feedback
- **Problem-Solving & Creativity:** by tackling real research questions and generating ideas
- **Planning & Adapting:** by setting goals, organising work and responding to change
- **Leadership & Teamwork:** by collaborating with peers and professionals, taking initiative and reflecting on outcomes



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“ Due to the placement, I now have a better understanding of what kind of environment I'd operate/work best in. I also better understand what field of work I would like to enter after my degree. This placement was a great help! ”



***Real students
Real impact***



For more information

Visit [our website](#) 

Or if you have any questions email us at: students@stem.org.uk

***Help your students find
their destination in STEM***

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