

# Young STEM Leaders at home

Did you do any cooking or baking today? Did you drive a car, pay for something at the shops or take a selfie? How about painting your nails, watching TV or lighting a candle? STEM is all around us - and sometimes we don't even realise it.

This is one of the key principles of the Young STEM Leader Programme (YSLP). By completing the award at any level, it is hoped that Young STEM Leaders (YSLs) can share examples of STEM where it may not be obvious, widening the context for others within their learning community. As well as allowing YSLs to develop important leadership, communication and employability skills, working towards a YSLP Award will also motivate young people to progress their STEM studies and perhaps eventually embark on a career in STEM.

## TRY THIS

- 1) Set a 60-second timer.
- 2) When the timer starts, find an object in your home that:
  - Is linked to STEM;
  - Needed STEM skills or techniques to create it;
  - Is used in a STEM career.
- 3) Note down all the links to STEM from the object, from its design and manufacture to how it is used by you and others.

You won't need to look far to find exciting stories and information about how STEM is relevant to all of our lives.



## Completing the award remotely

Since lockdown in March, over 150 YSLs have completed the award at SCQF Level 6 - the highest level of the programme - with all or part of the award done from home. In completing the award, every STEM leader delivered an activity, event or interaction to others - and this can be possible (and sometimes even more engaging) remotely! Many YSLs had already delivered their activities, events or interactions in their centres and generated the rest of their remaining evidence at home.

The YSLP is very flexible to suit the needs and requirements of your centre, whether you are continuing with remote, blended or face-to-face learning, there are still countless opportunities for YSLs to inspire, lead and enthuse their peers in STEM.

## Moving towards the next academic year

There are now five levels of the programme available to young people across Scotland, and we already have more than 400 delivering centres in 30 local authorities participating in YSLP.



Young STEM Leaders from Monifeith High School in Angus were involved in 3D printing face shields for NHS Tayside.

If you'd like to become a trained Tutor Assessor and deliver the programme in your school, youth group or community group, register for training at [www.youngstemleader.scot/events](http://www.youngstemleader.scot/events) or get in touch at [youngstemleader@sserc.scot](mailto:youngstemleader@sserc.scot) <<



Young STEM Leaders from Notre Dame High School in Inverclyde proudly showing off their SCQF Level 6 certificates.