



the new children's museum™

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SDG&E and The New Children's Museum Partner for Earth Month Activity

At-home STEAM learning for underserved youth

April 15, 2021 - The New Children's Museum and [San Diego Gas & Electric \(SDG&E\)](#) have partnered to create STEAM-based learning kits and workshops for 9 social service organizations in San Diego through their pARTners in Creativity access program. STEAM stands for Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Mathematics. The kits will be used to promote hands-on exploration for youth in these areas. The arts-based children's museum refocused their efforts during the pandemic to bring art and creativity out into the community through online programming and arts-based learning kits. SDG&E financial support has helped to enable the creation of 1,800 STEAM Kits and virtual workshops for families in celebration of Earth Month this April.

The partnership between The New Children's Museum and SDG&E spans more than a decade and includes a wide range of programming support.

"We've been longtime supporters of the work of The New Children's Museum to inspire and cultivate curiosity in San Diego's youth," said Pedro Villegas, SDG&E's director of community relations. "But this year, the Museum's STEAM Kits are especially important to help address the learning loss suffered by many of our youth due to the pandemic. The Museum's approach is creative and greatly needed, and we are glad to support it."

The Museum's arts education team has created four different STEAM Kits centered around the theme *Celebrating Our Planet*, emphasizing the use of recycled materials to create art while learning about the natural world around us. The kits challenge students to create and design using concepts from science, technology, engineering, art and mathematics (STEAM). Each includes standards-based lesson plans, links to video tutorials and the art supplies needed to complete the activities. The projects are inspired by the open-making challenges featured in the Museum's makerspace, [The Rosso Family Foundation Innovators LAB](#). The kits are:

- Grades K-2: *Bug Build* and *Geo Gardens*
- Grades 3-6: *Earth-Inspired Marble Maze* and *Plarn Weaving*

"STEAM learning is a key part of our efforts to engage children to think critically and utilize problem solving skills," said Amy Gray, Senior Arts Education Manager at the Museum. "We are so grateful for our long partnership with SDG&E, which makes it possible for us to reach more children with STEAM concepts and programming."

The Museum will be hosting two free virtual workshops on Zoom for the families who have received the kits. The workshops will take place on April 17 and May 15, both at 10am PST. The STEAM Kits are also available for purchase on the Museum's [online store](#).

PARTners in Creativity Recipients of STEAM Kits

Autism Tree Project Foundation
Barrio Logan College Institute
Ronald McDonald House Charities
San Diego Center for Children
Support the Enlisted Project
Vista Hill
Voices for Children
Words Alive
United Service Organization

About The New Children's Museum

The New Children's Museum (opened 2008) is a new model of children's museum whose mission is to stimulate imagination, creativity and critical thinking in children and families through inventive and engaging experiences with contemporary art. Located downtown, the Museum collaborates with contemporary artists to design and create art installations and educational programs for children. The Museum brings families together in a rich educational environment that fosters creativity — blending the best elements of children's museums, contemporary art museums and community resources. The Museum has been closed due to the pandemic since March 16, 2020 and has been providing virtual experiences and creative activities online ever since. The Museum will be reopening to the public on May 21, with special members only days beginning May 7. To learn more, visit thinkplaycreate.org or follow them on [Facebook](#) or [Instagram](#).

About SDG&E

SDG&E is an innovative San Diego-based energy company that provides clean, safe and reliable energy to better the lives of the people it serves in San Diego and southern Orange counties. The company is committed to creating a sustainable future by providing around 45 percent of its electricity from renewable sources; modernizing natural gas infrastructure; accelerating the adoption of electric vehicles; supporting numerous non-profit partners; and, investing in innovative technologies to ensure the reliable operation of the region's infrastructure for generations to come. SDG&E is a subsidiary of Sempra Energy (NYSE: SRE). For more information, visit SDGNews.com or connect with SDG&E on Twitter ([@SDGE](#)), Instagram ([@SDGE](#)) and [Facebook](#).