

# ST. LOUIS AMERICAN NEWSPAPER IN EDUCATION

The St. Louis American's award winning NIE program provides newspapers and resources to more than 8,000 teachers and students each week throughout the school year, at no charge.

Questions or comments? Contact Cathy Sewell  
csewell@stlamerican.com or 314-289-5422

# STEM

science, technology, engineering, and math

## CLASSROOM SPOTLIGHT

### Barrington Elementary School 5th grade teacher Paris Bouchard

shows students Lauryn Becton, Ethan Shim, Raymond Like and Delaney Bell use Legos to do an experiment they got from the newspaper's NIE page.

Photo by Wiley Price /  
St. Louis American

Teachers, if you are using the St. Louis American's NIE program and would like to nominate your class for a Classroom Spotlight, please email: [nie@stlamerican.com](mailto:nie@stlamerican.com).



## SCIENCE STARS

### African American Chemical Engineer and STEM Educator Tokiwa Smith



SCIENCE, ENGINEERING AND MATHEMATICS LINK  
"UNVEILING POTENTIAL THROUGH EXPOSURE"



Tokiwa Smith grew up in Florida. She graduated from Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University with a bachelor's degree in Chemical Engineering. She taught in Atlanta public schools, Georgia State University, Atlanta, and Spelman College. She has over 12 years' experience working with STEM education.

Smith founded a group to expose urban youth to STEM called Science, Engineering, and Mathematics Link, Org. ([semsuccess.org](http://semsuccess.org)). She is also the CEO of Kemet Educational Services, which specializes in STEM educational activities. She writes for HBCU Lifestyle, which is a website for Historically Black Colleges and Universities. She is the Oakland contributor for the blog [www.blackgivesback.com](http://www.blackgivesback.com) which focuses on African Americans who give back to their community. Her personal blog, entitled the Science Socialite can be found at [www.thesciencesocialite.wordpress.com](http://www.thesciencesocialite.wordpress.com). Finally, she is also a member of the Coalition for the Public Understanding of Science (CoPUS).

In 2013, she appeared on *Ebony* Magazine's Top 10 Twitter Tweep to Follow. In 2014, she wrote the book "A Guide to Hosting STEM Events." She also appeared on NPR's Women Digital Thinkers Tweet for a Day.

To read an interview with Smith about her experience in STEM, visit: <https://blogs.scientificamerican.com/urban-scientist/tokiwa-t-smith-exposing-an-encouraging-urban-youth-in-science-and-math/>.

**Learning Standards:** I can read about a person who has made contributions in the fields of science, engineering, technology, and mathematics.



## SCIENCE CORNER

### Social Media Safety



While the COVID-19 virus has many adults working from home, and many students e-learning their lessons, it is even more important to follow these guidelines.

First, set limits. Use your computer or device in a central location where your parents can see what you are doing. This will keep you accountable. As a family, set a limit to screen time—phones, TV, and computers. Adults and kids should follow this rule. Save time for reading, exercise, homework, clubs, family activities, etc.

Second, keep all information private. Do not

give out your first and last name, location, phone number, or address. If any site asks for this information, tell your parents. Do not tell this information to any friends you make online. As an added precaution, add your parent as a "friend" so they can see your interactions.

Finally, remember to use your manners. What you say and do online can be hurtful to others. Treat others the way you want to be treated.

**Learning Standards:** I can read a nonfiction article for main idea and supporting details. I can make text-to-self connections.



## SCIENCE INVESTIGATION

### Tie-Dyed Milk

In this experiment using simple ingredients, you will observe milk as it takes on a tie-dyed appearance. This experiment uses surface tension.

#### Materials Needed:

- A Shallow Dish (such as a pie pan)
- Milk (for this experiment it works best if the milk is room temperature)
- Food coloring (4 different colors is a good combination)
- Liquid dish soap
- Toothpick

#### Process:

1. Pour the room temperature milk ½ inch deep in the shallow dish.
2. Put one small drop of each color of food coloring in the dish, spreading the colors out as wide as possible.
3. Place one drop of liquid dish soap in the center of the bowl.
4. You may want to dip a toothpick in the dish soap so that



a small drop of soap remains on the end of the toothpick, then touch the drop to the surface of the milk.

5. Observe what happens.

**Think of the following questions:** What happens to the food coloring when you first put it in the milk? Why do you think that happened?

What happens when you add the drop of soap? What direction does the food color move when you first add the drop of soap? What direction does the food color move after the experiment has been running for a while? How long does the movement last? Does it slowly fade or stop suddenly? What happens if you add another drop of soap after the colors have stopped moving?

**Learning Standards:** I can follow sequential directions to complete an

## MATH CONNECTION

### FAMILY GAME NIGHT

Try these fun math games with your family at home.

#### Race for \$1

In this game, you will practice your money skills. You will need 30 pennies, 10 nickels, 20 dimes, 1 quarter, a dollar, 2 dice and 2 players. The youngest person will go first. Roll both dice. Add the sum. Take that number of pennies. Once you have 5 pennies, trade for a nickel. Once you have 10 cents, trade for a dime. Players will continue taking turns rolling the dice. The first person to reach \$1 wins!

#### Place Value Race

In this game, you will practice place value skills. You will need a deck of cards and 2 or more players. The object of the game is to collect all the cards. First, remove all cards from the decks that are not numbers. If two people are playing, divide the cards evenly between them. Each player turns over a card at the same time. Player 1 represents the 10s place and Player 2 represents the 1s place. The first player to say the number represented, gets to keep

both cards. For example, player 1 turns over a 6 and player 2 turns over a 3, the first person to say "63" gets to keep both cards. If you have 3 players, you will have the 100s, 10s, and 1s place represented.

#### Salute

In this game, you will need a deck of cards (only the cards with numbers) and 3 players. You will have Player A, Player B, and a Judge. Divide the cards evenly between Player A and Player B. Player A and Player B will sit facing each other, will draw a card, and will place it on their forehead. The judge will state the sum of these two numbers out loud. The first player to guess their number wins both cards. Keep playing until one of the players has won all of the cards.

**Learning Standards:** I can add, subtract, multiply, and divide to solve a problem. I can identify place value.

## DID YOU KNOW?

There are 330,000,000 active monthly Twitter users and 145,000,000 active daily users.

4,900 people are employed by Twitter

An average of 500 Million tweets are sent per day; which is approximately 5,787 tweets per second.

## MAP CORNER

Enjoy these activities that help you get to know your St. Louis American newspaper.

#### Activities —

**I Want That:** Look through the items for sale in the newspaper advertisements. Choose an item you would like to have. Write a paragraph persuading your parents to buy the item for you. Make sure you include the point you want to prove, three or more supporting details, and a concluding statement.



**Thinking Out Loud:** Identify and explain the message conveyed in a news story by sharing your thoughts. Read the story aloud. Pause occasionally to take turns sharing what

you are thinking with your family. Your thoughts can be in the form of a question, comment, or feeling about what is being read.

**Learning Standards:** I can use the newspaper to locate information. I can write for a specific purpose and audience. I can make text-to-self connections.

This special Newspaper In Education initiative is made possible, and delivered to classrooms, through The St. Louis American Foundation and its NIE Corporate Partners:

