

THE ROCK

EXPOSURE • GROUNDED • UNPLUGGED

NEWS

APRIL 2017



ROCKit

During the last week of March we concluded our first afterschool STEM classes, Science+ and Code [Music & Sound]. Each class met once a week which enabled kids to explore a different topic.

In Science+, students performed experiments using readily available materials and explored topics such as density, force, friction, buoyancy, mixtures, and more. Measuring tools like rulers, scales, and tape measures were always on hand and students were encouraged to figure out problems on their own. They also practiced recording & reporting their results from experiments using charts & graphs.

A couple students are pictured that designed and built their own inventions during the last 2 classes (Milena & Mallorie – "Schedule Clock for a Young Child"; Domanic – "Smartphone case").

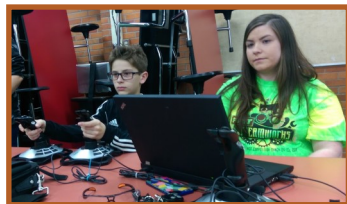
Code [Music & Sound] is a Google CS First coding club. Students used a visual programming language called Scratch to create their own projects by dragging-and-dropping commands together. During the Music & Sound theme, students created movie sound tracks, dance parties, DJ tracks (and more) by adding animations, music, and the underlying logic to put it all together.

Students who participated received an extra snack and 3 extra Rock Bucks each time to spend at the Rock Buck store!

Special thanks to our super volunteers, Kim Streeter & Tina Rhoton, who helped lead our Science+ classes!

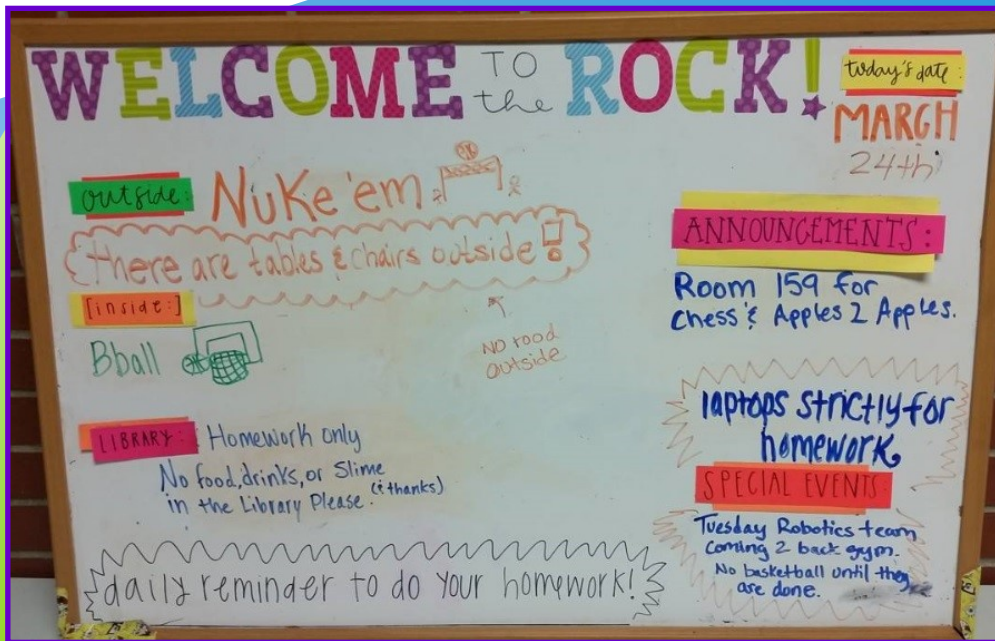
Our STEM-centric organization last month was Dow High's "The Charge" FIRST Robotics team. The impressive group of High School students visited each after school site to talk about FIRST (Robotic) Competitions, the effort required to build a robot, and some of the roles each person plays on the team. Students also witnessed the robot in action and gave their hand at controlling it!

A big "Thank You" to The Charge team!



The ROCK's mission is to build hope and resilience in youth based on a foundation of acceptance, support, and respect that results in positive life choices.

Our vision is that all youth have the opportunity to live their potential.



An afternoon in the life of NMS Students

Afterschool Professional Appreciation Week

April 24-28, 2017

What is Afterschool Professionals Appreciation Week?

Afterschool Professionals Appreciation Week is a time, each April, when we recognize and appreciate those who work with youth during out-of-school hours. It is a joint effort including community partners, afterschool programs, youth and child care workers, families and individuals. The week is marked by celebrations and public relations efforts to encourage people to thank afterschool professionals who make a difference in the lives of young people in their communities.

Who is an AfterSchool Professional?

An Afterschool Professional is someone who works with children and youth in diverse school and community-based settings to provide a wide variety of extended learning opportunities and care during out-of-school hours. Currently, there's an estimated 850,000 afterschool professionals in the US.

Why is it important to recognize Afterschool Professionals?

An estimated 10.2 million children participate in afterschool programs each year. Today, afterschool programs are viewed as much more than just childcare. They are widely credited as the way to provide enhanced education in STEM, Literacy, The Arts, Social Emotional Learning, Health & Wellness, and more. With that demand comes increased responsibility, education/professional development requirements, and support from the community.

If you have a moment, stop by one of our afterschool locations and talk with the staff members. Encourage them, and tell them how much you appreciate what they are doing with our Midland area teens.

LEVEL UP

THE JOB CHALLENGE

Everyone has to start their career somewhere.
CEO, manager, senior app developer, chief graphic designer...
it all begins now, with small steps, and persistence.

Businesses, both large and small, are all looking for
talented individuals with demonstrated experience and skills.

Available to all Midland Area High School Students
@ The Greater Midland Community Center

April 12—May 31, 2017 → Wednesdays → 3:30-5:30pm

Register with Tyler → <http://www.therock4yd.org/levelup> → tyler@therock4yd.org

LevelUP will equip you with the skills you'll need to find, get, and keep a job by maintaining a resume, exploring career paths, participating in interviews, interacting with guest speakers, and more.

PLAY THE GAME: During the game you'll earn a virtual paycheck that you will use to pay bills, taxes, and unexpected expenses, easily accessible from the LevelUP app. Participate in the game each week to earn your paycheck. Earn the most money at the end of the game and receive a BONUS Gift Card.

Each student who completes the course will:

- Be guaranteed an interview at a Midland business
 - Receive a gift card
 - Earn a Digital Badge

STAFF CONNECTIONS

Team leads have their phones on them at all times during the program and check emails frequently. Feel free to contact them with any questions or concerns, or just to let them know you are on your way.



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Summer is Just Around the Corner!

It's never too early to start planning

The only remedy to a Michigan winter is to make this summer THE BEST ever. Summer is coming...we promise. It's time to start thinking about what you would like your pre-teen or teen participating in. Take a look and see what The ROCK is offering this summer.

SUMMER CAMPS

June 19-22 Zombie Camp

THE ZOMBIES ARE BACK!!! We need help to save Midland from the outbreak. This week teens will learn many different skills to take on zombies. We will work together as a team to protect not only the people of our town but learn how to take care of the land. Archery lessons, nerf battles and MORE! Are you ready to be a defender?

June 26-29 Pokémon Camp

It's time to hunt Pokémon. We will create our own Pokémon characters, make pokéballs and challenge teens in Pokémon trivia. Get ready for all the challenges that you'll encounter.

July 10-13 Cooking Camp

Are you ready to be a Teen Chef? We will be in the kitchen learning to create some fantastic dishes. Guest chefs will come and share with us plus we will visit a few chefs in their own kitchens in Midland. We will create a cookbook for teens to take home to share with family and friends!

July 17-20 Mad Scientist Camp

Are you mad about science? This week we will be put on our lab coats as we try different hands on experiments. You will be exposed to radioactive fun!

July 25-27 (Camp starts on Tuesday this week) Around the World Camp (\$50)

Have you ever wanted to travel the world? This week we will try food and play games from different countries. Guest speakers will come and share about their home country. Let's check out Google Earth and travel this big planet.

July 31-August 3 Treasure Seekers (Bring a bike and helmet)

This week we will head out on bikes and do some geocaching, spend time on the rail trail, learn about navigational techniques and search for treasures that are hidden all over Midland.

August 7-10 Space Camp

This week will be out of this world as we train to be astronauts and travel to outer space. Join us as we explore space science, launch rockets, and learn more about the planets in our galaxy.

All Camps are for 6-12th grade students

Monday—Thursdays 8am-6pm (Except Around the World Camp)

Cost is \$65 per week (Unless otherwise indicated)

Breakfast, lunch and snacks are included

Registration required (form online at www.therock4yd.org)

SUMMER EXCURSIONS

July 28 Binder Park Zoo Overnight Adventure (\$100)

Have you ever wanted to go on an African safari? Join us as we spend the night in Wild Africa at Binder Park Zoo. Not only will it be an excellent nocturnal adventure, we will get to visit the animals again the next day!

August 14-16 Camping Trip (\$130)

LET'S GO CAMPING!!!! We will go to Lazy Turtle Ranch in Sanford for 3 days and 2 nights. We will fish, kayake, swim, practice archery, build shelters, enjoy campfires and much... much... more!

For more info on camps or excursions contact Lacey at 989-835-2542 or lacey@therock4yd.org

UPCOMING EVENTS



ROLLER SKATING

WHO: 6-12 grade students

WHERE: Roll Arena—Midland

2909 Bay City Rd

WHEN: Friday, April 21 7:30-10pm

PRICE: \$5 admission/\$4 skate rental

(Or bring your own skates)

Email lacey@therock4yd.org for more information



HOMEWORK HELP

WHO: Teens

WHERE: Grounded Locations

WHEN: Everyday Afterschool

PRICE: FREE

Students can join The ROCK tutors afterschool to get help with homework!

Parents and teachers, email

rock4ydhomeworkhelp@gmail.com

with the name and location of your student if you'd like to contact our tutors!



GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY 2 MOVIE

WHO: 6-12 grade students

WHERE: NCG—Midland 6540 Cinema Dr.

WHEN: Saturday, May 6, 9:00am

PRICE: \$5 movie ticket

(Must register and pay in advance)

Need extra \$\$ for concessions

Play trivia with us before the movie & win prizes

Email lacey@therock4yd.org for more information & to register



LEAD

Leadership Exploration and Development

WHO: High School students

WHERE: ROCK Homework Room, (GMCC basement)

WHEN: Thursdays 3:30-4:30pm

Develop skills, gain opportunities, plan events and parties, & apply your leadership abilities!

Email Tyler@therock4yd.org for more information



GEMS (Girls Experiencing Mentoring)

WHO: Middle & High School Girls

WHERE: ROCK Homework Room, GMCC basement

WHEN: Thursdays 4:00-5:00pm

Come hang out with a group of awesome girls as we do fun projects, talk about relevant issues, and support each other through those crazy teen years!

It's YOUR Move...

Coming up in April:

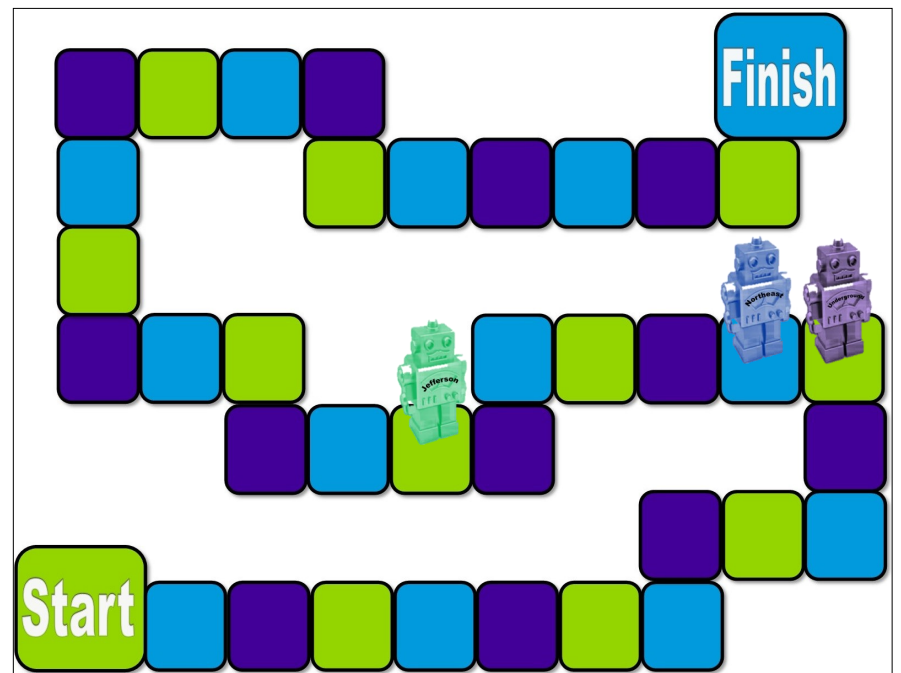
APRIL – KROGER COMMUNITY REWARDS:

If you shop at Kroger, pick up a Community Rewards card then go online to <https://www.kroger.com/account/enrollCommunityRewardsNow> and pick "Reaching Our Community Kids" as your charity. OR, if you don't shop Kroger that often, you can always give The ROCK's phone number (989-835-2542) at the checkout and make your donation that way. The ROCK receives a percentage of everything you buy! April is also the time to renew your Kroger Community Rewards card if you already have one. So be sure to renew during this time.

**Bring a receipt showing a donation was made to The ROCK to the after school location your teen attends. The location with the most receipts (just receipts, not the dollar amount) wins "It's YOUR Move" for the month of April.

MAY – RESTAURANT FUNDRAISER: Let's end the 2016-2017 school year by having dinner together. Watch for details on this fundraiser.

Kroger community rewards



March 2017 Pop Can Drive Results will be announced after Spring Break

TYLER'S JOKE OF THE MONTH



If you ever get cold, just stand in the corner of a room for a while. They're normally around 90 degrees.

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