



## Welcome to GEMS

Welcome to the first official GEMS [Girls Excelling in Math and Science] newsletter issue! Thank you for being a part of the GEMS network. We are excited to be able to connect with you via this new method.

Our newsletters will inform you, as GEMS educators, of new projects, lesson plans, answers to some FAQs we get via our Facebook group, and new and exciting STEM research that has been published. The newsletter is also space for you to participate in the continued development and growth of GEMS by joining focus groups, curriculum development, and many research initiatives at Purdue University.

## What's new?

GEMS moved to Purdue University's College of Education in 2018. Since that time, many opportunities have arisen, including extensive research proposals, GEMS Day with over 100 girls, and web site redesign.

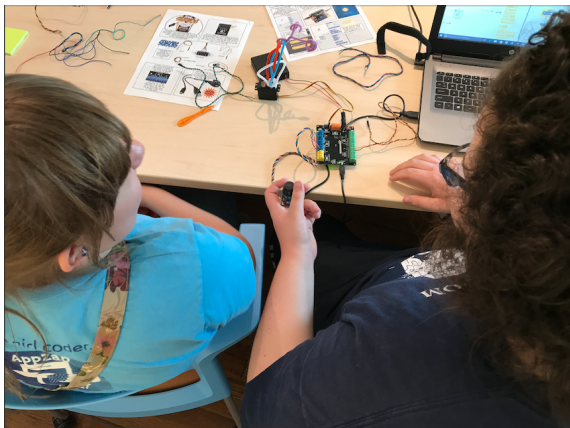
We also have established a [fund to support](#) the long-term growth of GEMS clubs, and hope that you will share this with your supporters.

### INSTRUCTORS/PARENTS FAQ

#### How can I find a GEMS club for my daughter/friend/myself?

Start with the GEMS [location page](#) on the website. Zoom in on the area you are

looking for. If you can't find a club, or you need more information, please contact us at [gems@purdue.edu](mailto:gems@purdue.edu) and we will help you.



## INSTRUCTOR/PARENT FAQ

### **There is no GEMS club listed in my area. How can I start one?**

You can start one or help your school start one. Start by downloading the GEMS [handbook from the website](#) and read it through. *Or take the Handbook to your school and discuss it with the principal.* If you need more information than is in the Handbook, please contact us at [gems@purdue.edu](mailto:gems@purdue.edu) and we will help. And please [register your club](#) on the GEMS site.



## NEW ACTIVITY

# STRAWBERRY DNA-EXTRACTION

## CONCEPT

Deoxyribonucleic acid, or DNA, is a molecule that contains the instructions an organism needs to develop, live and reproduce. These instructions are found inside every cell, and are passed down from parents to their children.

## EXTRA INFO

Strawberries are soft and easy to pulverize. Strawberries have large genomes; they are octoploid, which means they have eight of each type of chromosome in each cell. Thus, strawberries are an exceptional fruit to use in DNA extraction labs.

#### DID YOU KNOW?

DNA contains all the information needed to build your body. Did you know that your DNA determines things such as your eye color, hair color, height, and even the size of your nose?

ACCESS FULL LESSON PLAN

#### SOCIAL MEDIA LAUNCH

#### We are now on INSTAGRAM

Go follow us [@GEMS.stem](https://www.instagram.com/GEMS.stem) on instagram! This new and exciting social media launch is meant for the official sharing of fun news and updates in a more interactive manner for the girls in your clubs. Don't forget to use the hashtag

**#GEMSstemCLUB** whenever posting!



## CALL FOR CREATIVE CONTRIBUTIONS

Have some cool pictures and want your club to be the next one featured in our newsletter? Send in your pictures for a chance to be featured next!

Send your submission



College of Education

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## GEMS--Girls Excelling in Math and Science

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have an active GEMS club.

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