

Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM)

at Crittenden Middle School

6158 Jefferson Ave. • Newport News, VA 23605



What is the STEM Magnet Program?

The STEM Magnet Program at Crittenden Middle School empowers students to explore their potential by developing future-ready skills in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM). Our students maintain academic excellence while becoming innovative problem solvers and leaders, prepared to make meaningful contributions to society.

What makes the STEM Magnet Program distinctive?

STEM Magnet students benefit from a curriculum that fosters curiosity, critical thinking, and collaboration through hands-on, real-world applications. Key features include:

- **Innovative Instruction** - Core subjects taught by dedicated STEM-focused teachers who encourage students to apply engineering design, design thinking, and computational thinking in solving real-world problems. This approach aligns with the Virginia Standards of Learning and integrates STEM careers, preparing students for future opportunities.
- **Professional Partnerships** - Through field experiences and in-school career connections, students learn from local STEM professionals and organizations including Newport News Shipbuilding, Virginia Space Grant Consortium, and Jefferson Lab.
- **Advanced Technology** - Students have access to cutting-edge tools like 3D printers, rapid prototyping technology, programmable robots, and virtual reality. These resources are integrated into specialized courses, some of which are unique to Crittenden Middle School.
- **Enrichment Opportunities** - By participating in STEM clubs, competitive robotics, invention conventions, and science and engineering fairs, students deepen their experience and build resilience, adaptability, and a passion for continuous learning.



Who is eligible?

All rising sixth, seventh, and eighth-grade students with a strong interest in STEM are welcome to apply. Rising 6th-grade magnet students from Deer Park, Newsome Park, and Discovery STEM Academy are given priority for enrollment. If applications exceed available spaces, students will be selected through a lottery process.



What is required of STEM magnet students?

Students in the STEM Magnet Program are expected to:

- Sign and adhere to the Crittenden Magnet Contract.
- Participate in the annual Science and Engineering Fair.
- Submit a project to the school-based STEM EXPO by the 8th grade.
- Enroll in at least two STEM elective courses.
- Participate in a STEM, STEAM, or computer science club each year.
- Maintain high standards in academics, attendance, and behavior.

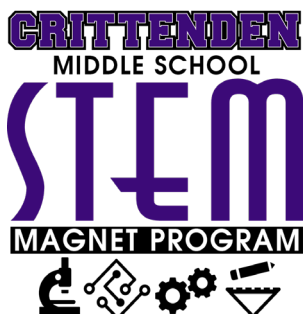
Enrichment Opportunities Beyond the Classroom:

STEM Clubs: Girls Who Code, Drone Club, Robotics Club, Master Gardeners Club, Cooking with Science.

Community Programs: After-school STEM initiatives with community partners.

Regional & Division-wide STEM Impact: Student opportunities for leadership and active participation in impactful STEM events, including the regional FIRST Lego League (FLL) Tournament and the Division-wide Secondary Engineering Design Challenge.

The STEM program at Crittenden Middle School builds upon itself each year, guiding students from foundational skills to advanced, real-world applications, in alignment with NNPS's commitment to preparing students to be *college, career, and citizen-ready*.



NEWPORT NEWS



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STEM Magnet Program Progression: Building Future Innovators

Grade Level	Core STEM Experience	Focus Areas & Competitions	Community & Career Engagement
6	Introduction to iSTEM	STEM Fair Year 1: Establishing Essential STEM Foundations 6th Grade STEM Design Challenge: Engaging students in hands-on problem solving	Specialized Instruction: Integrating Emerging Technologies with Social Studies and Science STEM Town Hall: Creating a vibrant STEM community and culture Field Experiences: Unique explorations tailored for 6th graders
7	Deepening STEM Skills	STEM Fair Year 2: Advancing Foundational Skills 7th Grade STEM Design Competition: Applying STEM knowledge to more complex challenges	Specialized Instruction: Advanced use of Emerging Technologies, with a focus on Math STEM Town Hall: Strengthening the STEM community Field Experiences: Expanding into new STEM fields
8	Mastering STEM Concepts	STEM Fair Year 3: Culminating in a Showcase of Innovation 8th Grade STEM Design Challenge: Showcasing mastery in STEM and leadership	Specialized Instruction: Focus on Science through advanced technologies STEM Town Hall: Leading discussions within the STEM community Field Experiences: Capstone experiences with career connections

Note: Students must take iSTEM in either their 7th or 8th grade year.

How to Apply:

Interested students must submit a Magnet School Application by the December deadline. Applications are available online at www.nnschools.org/magnet. For assistance, contact the NNPS Magnet Office at (757) 283-7850 ext. 10206.

Transportation is provided for all magnet program students residing in Newport News.

How can I find additional information?

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Learn more about Newport News Public Schools at www.nnschools.org



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