

## Tips for Caregivers

Wondering how you can help your kids? Read the tips below to learn about the benefits of making things, how to support your child, and ways to involve the family.

### Encourage Making

Help your child become a Maker! Makers like to create things by hand, learn from other people, and share the things they make. They follow the steps in the engineering design process. By creating and improving their own projects, your child will learn problem-solving skills that will help them succeed in school and in life. They will:

- Explore real-world problems
- Consider different solutions rather than one “right” answer
- Use their creativity and imagination
- Learn to keep trying when things don’t go as planned



*Kids follow the steps in the engineering design process as they create their own designs.*

## How to Support Your Child

There are many ways to help your children, even if you don't have a background in engineering or science!

### Talk to your child about their ideas or what they made

How does it work?

Does it work the way you expected?

How can you make it better?

Who is it for? How would they use it?

### Encourage your child to keep trying

- Help break down difficult tasks into smaller parts
- Compliment your child's efforts or remind them of past successes
- Take a break and come back to it later

## Ways to Involve the Family

Everyone can create engineering design projects!



- Work side-by-side with your child—try making something!
- Give younger children some materials and let them build
- Challenge older kids to make something to help younger ones



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This material is based upon work supported by the National Science Foundation under Grant No. 1811457. Any opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this material are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the National Science Foundation.