



Fun that changes the future

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
February 6, 2018

Brick Scholars to Teach Girls Design Thinking with LEGO Robotics, Coding, and Creative Thinking at ECU/NC State Collaborative

Girls ages 9-14 in Eastern North Carolina will have the opportunity to learn Design Thinking as they code, create, and collaborate in an innovative and challenging STEAM course at the ECU/NC State Collaborative, housed in the Gateway Technology Center on the North Carolina Wesleyan College campus. Girls will build and program LEGO robots using introductory coding in this three-week course. Girls will use the Design Thinking process while they collaborate to create their own project for the final class, choosing from a menu of topics to explore and discover. Projects include building a space rover, a prosthetic arm, and a free-choice exploration project.

Core News Facts

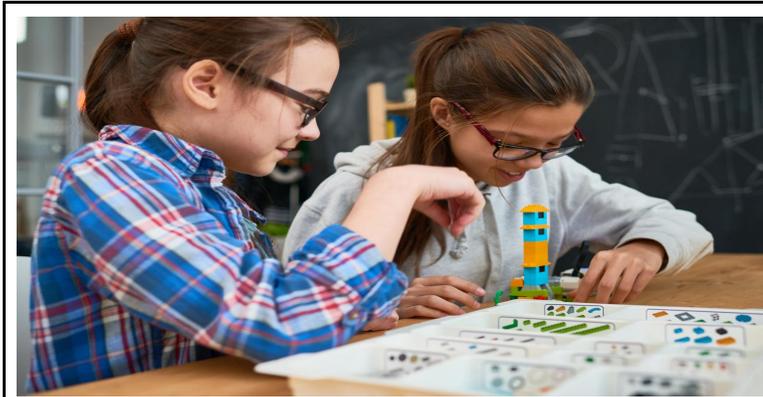
- Brick Scholars will host a three-week robotics and coding course for girls ages 9-14 March 2, 9, and 16 at the ECU/NC State Collaborative. Classes are held at the Gateway Technology Center at North Carolina Wesleyan College located at 3400 N. Wesleyan Blvd in Rocky Mount, NC.
- The name of this event is GC3: Girls Who Code, Create, and Collaborate.
- Girls will use introductory coding to build and program LEGO robots.
- Students will use Design Thinking throughout this course. Design thinking empowers students to create innovative solutions to complex, real-world problems.
- All Brick Scholars programs integrate the 4 Cs (Creativity, Critical Thinking, Collaboration, Communication).
- The course begins on March 2 and ends March 16. Each class runs from 4:30-6:00 pm.
- A follow-up course will be offered April 13, 20, and 27.
- Megan Oteri is the founder and CEO of Brick Scholars, a company that creates opportunities for people of all ages to brick and learn by providing mobile STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math) labs that travel to schools, businesses, and organizations and use STEM products to bring project-based and standards-based learning into classrooms.
- Megan Oteri was selected from a pool of applicants as an EDEX Educator, which is a yearlong cohort-based training in design thinking for K-12 teachers.
- Organizations, Schools, or Businesses can host Brick Scholars' events and programs. Brick Scholars will bring all necessary materials and programming. Visit our website and view our [events tab](#) for menu of offerings.
- Brick Scholars also offers LEGO SERIOUS PLAY, an innovative business and 3D ideating tool.
- Brick Scholars social media: [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [YouTube](#)
- Bricks Scholars will be offering professional development courses in LEGO® SERIOUS PLAY® throughout the spring of 2018 at the ECU/NC State Collaborative. Teachers will receive Continuing Education Units.

Contact Information

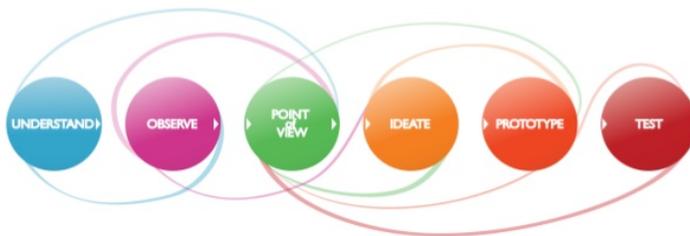
Megan Oteri brickscholars.com megan@brickscholars.com 252.230.6865	Melissa Whitley ecu-ncstate.com/about-us/ melissa_whitley@ncsu.edu 252.446.2585
---	--



Fun that changes the future

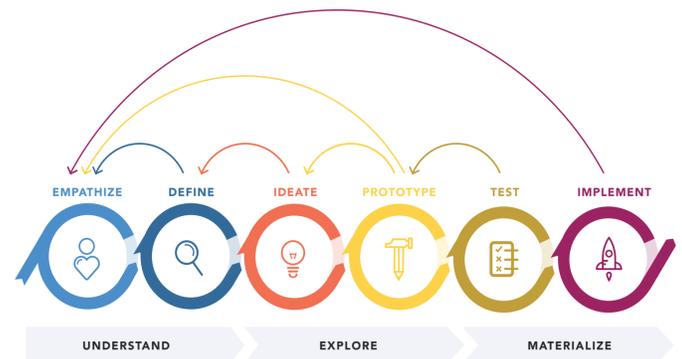


d.School Stanford, 2009



Hasso Plattner, Christoph Meinel, Ulrich Weinberg: Design Thinking - Innovation lernen, Ideenwelten öffnen mi-Wirtschaftsverlag, München, 2009
https://dschool.stanford.edu/groups/k12/wiki/17cff/Steps_in_a_Design_Thinking_Process.html

Image Source: Design Thinking 101 NNGROUP.com



Quotes and more info about EDEX Educators and Design Thinking:

“Design thinking is both a mindset and toolkit for creative problem solving.”

-- Sonja McKay, Creator of EDEX Educators and Recipient of the Career Award for Science and Mathematics Teachers offered through the Burroughs Wellcome Fund

EDEX Educators is a yearlong cohort-based training in design thinking for K-12 teachers. In 2017-2018, a cohort of fifteen educators from across North Carolina are learning from design thinking experts, practicing using design thinking tools, collaborating in hands-on activities, and developing lesson ideas. As a capstone experience, each EDEX educator will develop a project that applies design thinking as a tool to improve teaching and learning.



Fun that changes the future

The idea for EDEx was launched from Sonja McKay's Career Award for Science and Mathematics Teachers offered through the Burroughs Wellcome Fund.

"Design Thinking is a mindset. Design thinking is about believing we can make a difference, and having an intentional process in order to get to new, relevant solutions that create positive impact. Design Thinking gives you faith in your creative abilities and a process for transforming difficult challenges into opportunities for design."

-- IDEO Design Thinking for Educators Toolkit