

The background of the entire page is a photograph of a young child with blonde hair, wearing a black patterned shirt, looking through a large black magnifying glass. The child's face is partially visible through the lens. In the background, another child in a blue shirt with a rainbow graphic is standing near a building. The scene is outdoors with greenery and a clear sky.

AWIM® Preschool Exploration Series

Fun, Hands-On PreK STEM Explorations

AWIM PreK exposes children to basic earth and space science, physical and life science, and engineering concepts through play and discovery. | sae.org/prek

Program Highlights

Each AWIM PreK classroom kit includes materials for hands-on STEM explorations, STEM-inspired children's books, a teacher's manual, and science notebooks for children.

- **Aligns** with preschool curriculum models including HighScope, Reggio Emilia, and Montessori
- **Builds** on children's natural interest in play and scientific curiosity to make sense of their world
- **Integrates** children's books and uses science as a context for language and literacy development
- **Draws** on major theories of child development
- **Extends** explorations with home connections and classroom activities

AWIM Preschool Explorations Framework

Each hands-on STEM activity includes three phases focused on inquiry skills and practices:



“My daughter [4 years old] is learning about people and animals and she is communicating better, using bigger words. She is noticing that animals communicate in different ways. My baby is digging in the garden and taking care of snails. I love that she is having such great experiences in school.”

— Pilot Test Parents/Families



We Explore Weather

Students are introduced to basic earth and space science concepts and have multiple opportunities to use their senses to:

- **Explore** weather patterns and relationships by observing, measuring, and recording data about the sky, rain, wind, and temperature
- **Read** a book about a girl who gets dressed to be prepared for any kind of weather
- **Create** a classroom Big Book of Weather



We Explore Living Things

Students are introduced to key life science concepts and have opportunities to observe and make connections as they:

- **Explore** similarities and differences between living things and investigate how different plants and animals thrive
- **Read** a story about a girl who proves her pet tree is a living thing just like her friends' animal pets
- **Create** a temporary indoor home for a small animal or insect and a classroom Living Things Mural



We Explore Homes and Habitats

Students are introduced to key life science concepts and have multiple opportunities to reflect as they:

- **Explore** different living things and the indoor and outdoor environments that meet their basic needs
- **Read** a story about different animals making a case for why their home is the best
- **Create** a space for a visiting pet and its owner and an indoor habitat for a minibeast (worm, snail, spider, insect)



We Explore Building

Students are introduced to key physical science and engineering concepts and have multiple opportunities to collaborate and reflect as they:

- **Explore** physical properties and characteristics of a variety of building materials and structures
- **Read** a story about a family that builds a comfortable home for bats
- **Create** drawings, models, towers, bridges, and other structures and share new knowledge at an Engineering Open House for their families



Weather | Living Things | Homes and Habitats | Buildings

“ The unit guides were detailed and easy to understand. I liked how it summarized key science concepts in a way that someone who is not familiar with STEM would understand and be able to implement into the classroom. ”

— Pilot Test Teacher

This program is
supported by:



**Want to learn more or bring AWIM®
Preschool Explorations to your classroom?**

Contact Elizabeth.Simon@sae.org