

Letter One

Dear Parents,

In the STEM Stories program today, your child read a book called *Two Bobbies: A True Story of Hurricane Katrina Friendship and Survival* by Kirby Larson. This book is a true story about a cat and a dog who help each other find safety and companionship in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. Ask your child to tell you about how the animals helped each other in this book!

During the next session, the students will take on the role of engineers, designing a way for people to get to safety on a zip line. They will think about the best way to transport the most people across a zip line to safety. Ask your child to share the ideas he or she brainstormed about their prototype today, and talk about the steps they plan to take to build their model during the next session.

Thank you for sharing your child with us for this exciting program!

Letter Two

Dear Parents,

In the STEM Stories program today, your child worked with his or her team to start designing a prototype.. As a team, worked together to draw out design ideas. After receiving design “approval,” teams began building a prototype of their design. Ask your child to share the ideas his or her team brainstormed about their design today, and talk about how they worked as a team to build a prototype!

During the next session, teams will test their design. After testing, groups will discuss what went well and how they could improve their design.

Thank you for sharing your child with us for this exciting program!

Letter Three

Dear Parents,

In the STEM Stories program today, your child worked with his or her team to test the design they built last session. The teams watched all of the designs be tested, and applauded for each design. At the end of the session, teams reflected on what they liked about their design and how they may change or improve it. Ask your child how his or her finished design stood up to the test, and what they learned during this lesson!

Thank you for sharing your child with us for this exciting program!