



For Immediate Release:

CONTACT: Rachel Carpenter
Education Manager
309-319-5700
rcarpenter@normal.org

Children's Discovery Museum, State Farm distribute free STEAM activity kits for families

Normal, IL – April 9, 2020 – The Children's Discovery Museum in Uptown Normal might be closed, but its staff members are still serving their mission to Inspire the Love of Learning through the Power of Play.

With support from State Farm's annual grant for STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) education, the Museum is building take-home kits for families to use during the shelter-at-home order that has closed schools across the state. Museum staff will deliver 1,000 kits to be distributed at Unit 5's free lunch sites and at the Boys and Girls Club in Bloomington.

Each kit will include multiple playful STEAM activities and supplies for families to do them together. Families receiving meal assistance at the Boys and Girls Club on April 10 will can pick up the first batch of kits and the Unit 5 kits can be picked up during the week of April 13 meal service.

"We want to support families and schools with fun and playful science activities that will supplement and support the current school curriculum," said CDM Education Manager Rachel Carpenter.

"We're using some of the funding through our Innovation Institute grant we received in January of 2020. State Farm has graciously allowed us to find unique ways to utilize these funds to serve families," Carpenter added. "This flexibility along with the generous support from the Town of Normal and the Children's Discovery Museum Foundation will keep the Power of Play in our kids' curriculum."

During the shutdown, the Museum is also offering free resources on its website www.childrengdiscoverymuseum.net. Families can find a Daily Dose of Play that includes playful learning activities for different ages, video challenges led by CDM Education staff, and a dozen links to help enhance e-learning.

##

About the Children's Discovery Museum The mission of the Children's Discovery Museum is to inspire the love of learning through the power of play. The Children's Discovery Museum Foundation exists to support the mission and vision of the Museum through raising funds and awareness in the community at l. To learn more visit ChildrensDiscoveryMuseum.net, Like us on Facebook, follow @DiscoveryMuseum on Twitter, and follow @cdmnormal on Instagram. #CDMPowerofPlay