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Happy Engineers Week!

Engineers inspire wonder and make a world of difference! That's why every February we celebrate Engineers Week.



What will you be doing to celebrate?

If you can, attend a STEM* event! Here are three ways to find one:

1. Go to TheConnectory.org. Type in your zip code. Choose "Engineering" as your area of interest, then hit search.
2. Do you have a Science Museum or Science Center nearby? Check out their website for events in February.
3. Contact your local SWE Section. Ask them if they are having a STEM Outreach event sometime soon. You can find your local SWE Section using this [map](#). It may be a college SWE section or a professional SWE section, but it doesn't matter which one because they all run awesome events!

If you can't get to a science center or STEM event this month, here are some things you can do at home to celebrate Engineers Week. Engineers are creative, so you can be, too! Try the engineering challenge below in this newsletter, or find a different challenge at [DesignSquadNation](#) or [Curiosity Machine](#). Engineers are curious, so what have you been wondering about? If you wonder how engineers help the environment or improve medical care, you can find out on the [EngineerGirl website](#).

Engineers love to learn, so you could read a book with an engineering theme. Try out these books: "Rosie Revere, Engineer", "Girls Think of Everything: Stories of Ingenious Inventions by Women", "Transformed: How Everyday Things Are Made", or any of the Goldie Blox books. Check out your local library to find these and other books about engineering.

And, if you know an engineer, thank her or him for helping make a positive impact on the world!

*STEM = Science, Technology, Engineering, Math

Mechanical Engineering

Mechanical Engineers deal with anything that moves. That includes cars, planes, prosthetic hands, printers, sensors, wind turbines, robots, toys, and more!

Mechanical Engineers work in all areas of manufacturing industries. They can work in production operations, maintenance, management, as well as research and development.



If you're interested in things that move and enjoy taking mechanical objects apart to see how they work, then it sounds like you'd be interested in Mechanical Engineering.

[Read more about it on the EngineerGirl-Engineering Careers Page.](#)

Meet a Mechanical Engineer

Diana Hopkins is the Drilling Strategy Manager in Caterpillar's Oil & Gas Business in Houston, Texas. Her journey in engineering began at the University of



Michigan where she earned a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering in 2004. After graduation she started her career at Caterpillar as an engineer testing diesel and gas engines. Over the last 13 years, her engineering experience has helped her move to various roles in technical marketing, product strategy and account management.



In her current role, Diana's day-to-day activities include working with customers who use Caterpillar engines that provide power to drill wells for oil and gas. She likes the challenges of working with her team and customers to find innovative ways to help lower the cost of drilling a well.

Diana also enjoys traveling to drilling sites to see how Caterpillar engines are put to work and to learn how Caterpillar can make products that are simpler, more environmentally friendly, and easier to use. She has traveled to China, Russia, Kazakhstan, and Canada to work with global customers.

Diana believes that her solid technical foundation in Mechanical Engineering has helped her in meeting customer needs and delivering the power needed to extract oil and gas from the ground and bring it to your homes and gas stations.

Keeping up with SWENext DesignLab

Are you excited for the upcoming [SWENext DesignLab](#) season? Registration for all the hands-on engineering events is now open! Click on the city buttons below to register.



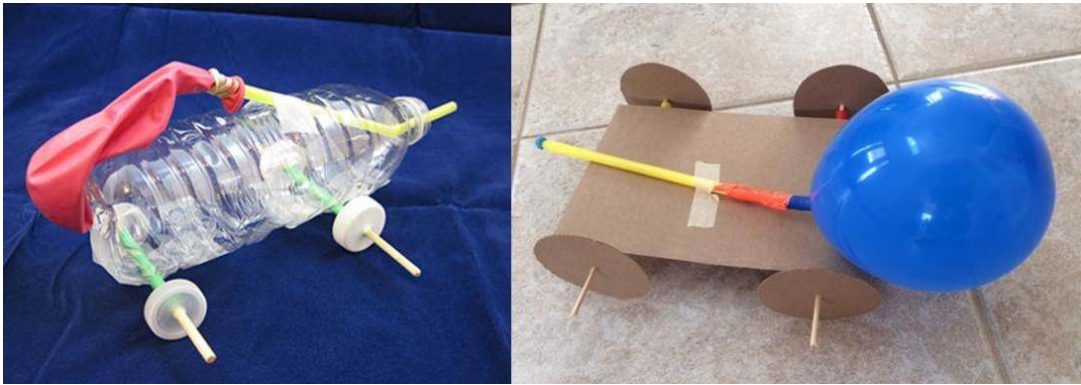
Phoenix, Arizona - February 24

Milwaukee, Wisconsin - March 10

Portland, Oregon - April 7

Providence, Rhode Island - April 21

SWENext Engineering Challenge with a chance to win a freebie



Mechanical Engineers help design and build the transportation we use to get around our cities and towns. When you ride in anything from a car to an airplane, you're traveling in something a Mechanical Engineer helped create.

This month, we're challenging you to design and build a car. Instead of being powered by gasoline, your car will be powered by air from a balloon. [Click here to learn what you need for this challenge and step-by-step instructions.](#)

Have fun designing cars as a Mechanical Engineer! And don't forget to send us a picture of your car and tell us how far it traveled! Each month, a lucky winner will be selected from the submissions to win a SWENext freebie. Don't miss the chance! All it takes is a few minutes and a great picture. Please email your entry to swenext@swe.org by February 28.



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