Dear educators,

We at the One8 Foundation, and our program Mass STEM Hub, are very excited to welcome you to the STEM Week Challenge with ST Math. Given the challenges our communities have faced over the last year, it is more important than ever to nurture the next generation of creative problem-solvers and design thinkers. At the same time, we recognize that educators have more on their plates than ever before and face significant uncertainty headed into the 2020-21 school year. In response, we have designed the STEM Week Challenge training, activities, and projects to be highly flexible while providing a relevant applied learning educational experience that will be engaging for your students, whether delivered virtually, in-person, or somewhere in between.

ST Math has been busy developing a STEM Week experience for you and your students that is not only standards-aligned, tailored to elementary school students, and employs their signature conceptual learning methods, but is also informed by real-world context and industry expertise.

We are proud to partner with the New England Aquarium who has and continues to dedicate expertise, time, and resources to make the elementary school STEM Week Challenge a meaningful experience for educators and students across the Commonwealth. Students will apply what they learn to tackle real-world problems facing the New England Aquarium today.

In the STEM Week Challenge for grades K-5, the New England Aquarium asks elementary school students to help promote math learning and meaningful connections. Based on the math games of ST Math, students will build creative problem solving skills by designing and developing their own math game - one that drives math knowledge and takes inspiration from the engaging and informative experiences found at the New England Aquarium. In addition to partnership with ST Math and the New England Aquarium, we are also thrilled to have the Massachusetts STEM Advisory Council as a sponsor of this work.

Thank you for joining us for the STEM Week Challenge. Classrooms will not look like they did last fall, but the endeavor to provide the highest quality, most engaging learning experiences for students remains the same. We hope that the STEM Week Challenge will be a meaningful learning opportunity for your students, and a positive teaching experience for you. If you have any questions, our team can be reached at stemweek@mass-stemhub.org.

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