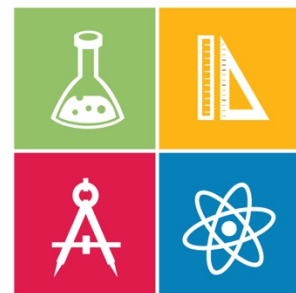




destination exploration

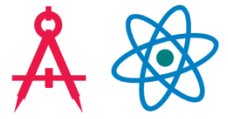


ANNUAL REPORT 2020-21





DESTINATION EXPLORATION 2020



Vision

For the University of Lethbridge to be a leader of youth STEM programs in Southern Alberta. To provide STEM leaning opportunities and personal growth experiences for its youth and the youth within its immediate and surrounding communities.

This includes youth-minorities, Indigenous youth, students with learning disabilities, and underprivileged children, thus providing every child the opportunity to reach their potential.

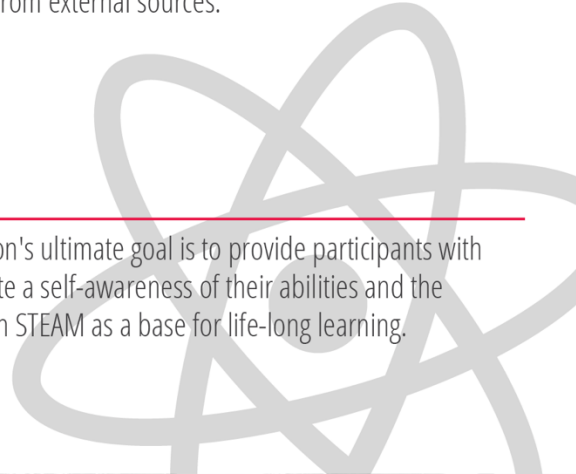
Program Goals

To provide young people with positive, interactive, educational and social learning experiences that promote science, technology, teamwork and leadership. By encouraging young people's natural curiosity, they are inspired to become learners for life and promoting the development and growth of self-confidence, creativity and critical thinking skills.

Mission

To stimulate interest in STEM to youth and thereby increasing a desire to pursue STEM programs at a post-secondary institution, specifically the University of Lethbridge, within full cost-recovery programming that has support funding from external sources.

Destination Exploration's ultimate goal is to provide participants with experiences that create a self-awareness of their abilities and the enjoyment they find in STEAM as a base for life-long learning.



Message from the Director

2020-21 has proven itself to be a challenging year full of ups and downs, pivots, innovation, and creativity! With the physical doors of DE closing in March 2020 to COVID-19 the team had to quickly change the format of the programs and engagement with the youth they serve. DE managed to maintain relationships and virtual programs with many of its partners. Over 3,500 youth, parents, teachers, and community members were reached during the pandemic.

As we move forward into the 2021-22 season, we continue to face challenges that require innovation and creativity. DE is increasing its in-person programs and is looking forward to seeing more participants on campus again and joining students in their classrooms. I look forward to another great year of building relationships and inspiring the next generation of STEM enthusiasts!

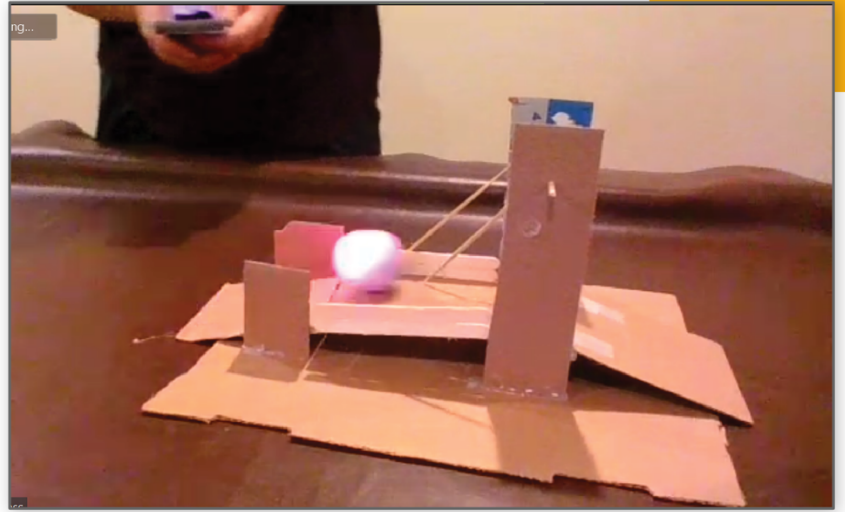


Valerie Archibald
Director, Youth Outreach
University of Lethbridge



CLUBS

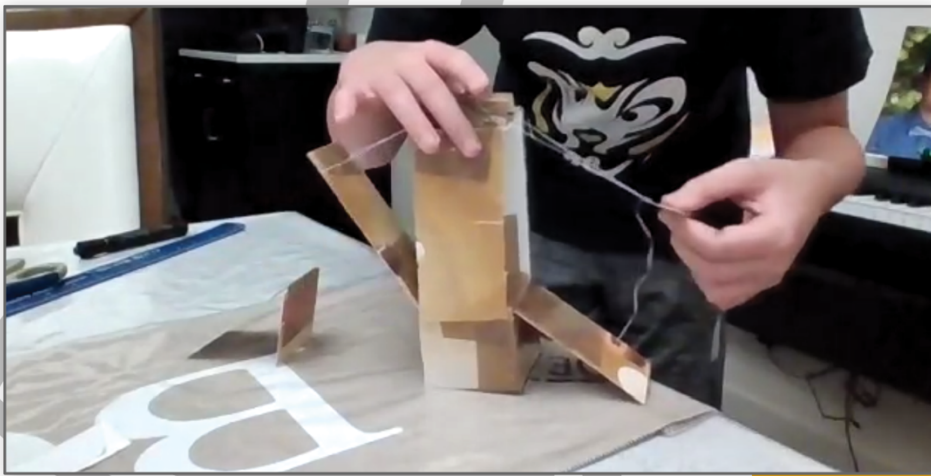
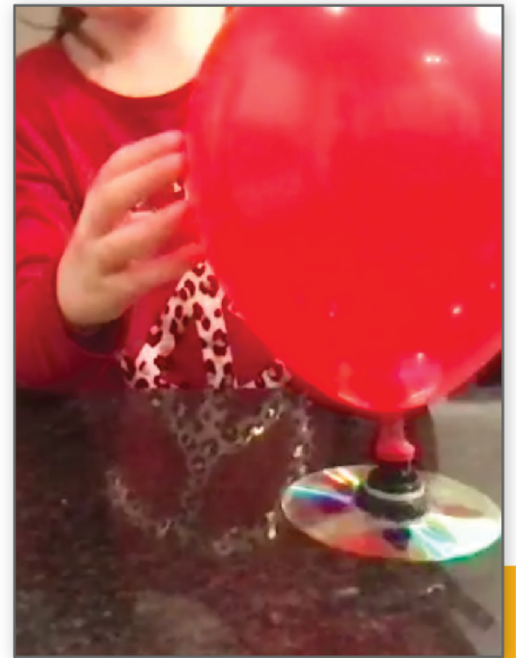
Destination Exploration was able to offer virtual clubs to students in grade 3 – 9! These clubs provide students with the opportunity to build their skills over time, build relationships with mentors and to find a safe virtual space to learn, explore and have fun.



Virtual STEM Clubs

- ▣ Arconic STEM Club
- ▣ InnovateHER Club
- ▣ FriYAY Club

69 students participated in virtual clubs in 2020-21





CAMPS

 CLUBS
 DE @ HOME
 COMMUNITY

Our STEM Camps were able to run in-person for 3 weeks with an attendance of 65 campers (38% female, 62% males). Our junior *Destination Science & Tech* (gr. 1-3) and senior *Science & Tech Explorers* (gr. 4-7) camps included a multitude of fun and engaging STEM activities.

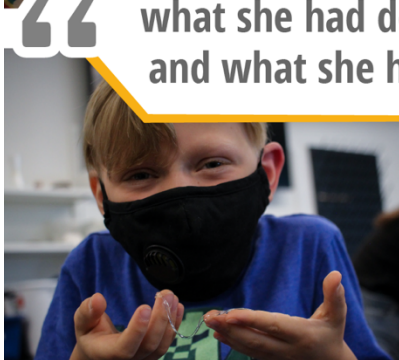
“ I felt very comfortable leaving my child during the covid pandemic and trusted the measures in place. Thank you for everyone’s efforts and hard work to make camp happen. My child had so much fun! ”



3 weeks of in-person camps



“ My daughter told us happily what she had done at camp and what she had learned! ”



8 weeks of online MiniU



219 Happy Campers!

Destination Exploration joined the UofL Art Gallery, the UofL Music Conservatory and Horns Recreation to create the ultimate online summer experience for campers – **MiniU!** These camps were offered online for 8 weeks with 154 participants (52% female & 48% male) This camp was designed to showcase all that the U of L has to offer.





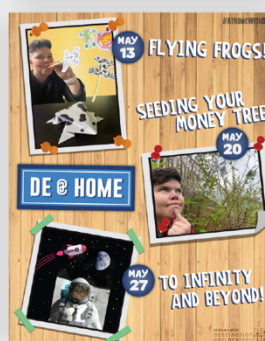
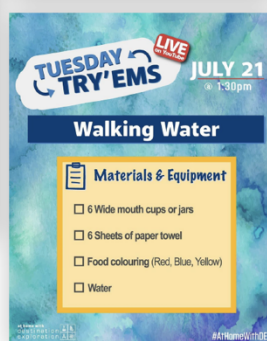
DE @ HOME

CLUBS
CAMPS
COMMUNITY

When the world suddenly shifted online, DE launched the **At Home with DE** page dedicated to help youth, parents and teachers stay engaged in STEM. The blog-style page was filled with resources, challenges, activities, and helpful hints on how to keep up with STEM at home. Monday's posts focused on other Actua members, Wednesdays were dedicated to hands-on activities and Thursdays brought technology tutorials posted on our new YouTube channel.



Over **2,740** people engaged with #AtHomeWithDE Posts



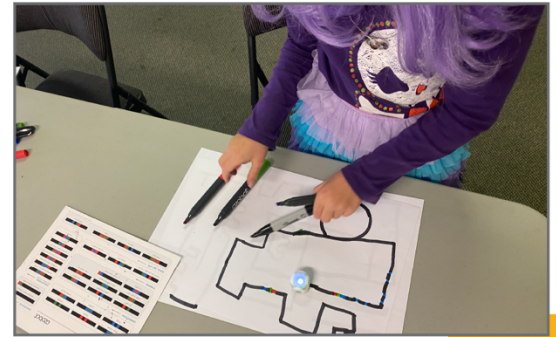
The blog ran for 18 weeks and has a permanent home on the DE website to be used for years to come. As we shifted into summer, the last 5 weeks consisted of LIVE streamed activities - **Try'em Tuesdays** and self guided activities - **Technology Thursdays**.



COMMUNITY

- CLUBS
- CAMPS
- DE @ HOME

175 engaged in virtual Play Week Activities

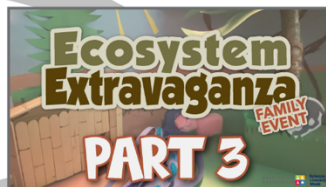
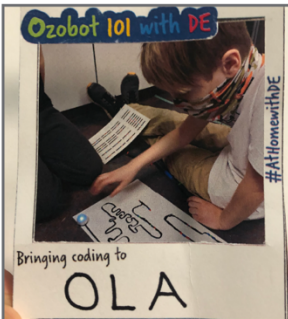


Destination Exploration's Outreach and Community Engagement looked a little different this year as we transitioned to majority online programming. While still a challenge, virtual delivery brought unexpected opportunities as workshops and events could be delivered right into our participants homes! We said goodbye to travel barriers and offered more opportunities for our rural families and teachers to stay engaged.

Over 260

participants in Library and At-Home Learner Workshops

10 Teachers completed DE's online Ozobot 101 Training



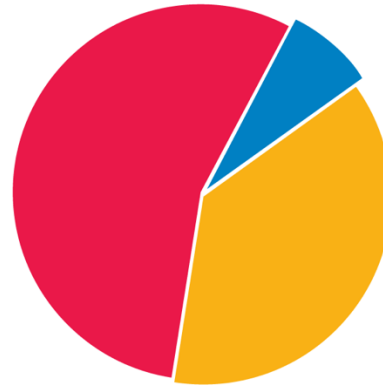
27 participated in Science Literacy Week

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Destination Exploration Budget 2020-2021



REVENUE



56%

Registration Fees

36%

External Revenue

8%

Summer Student Funding

EXPENSES

Wages & Benefits

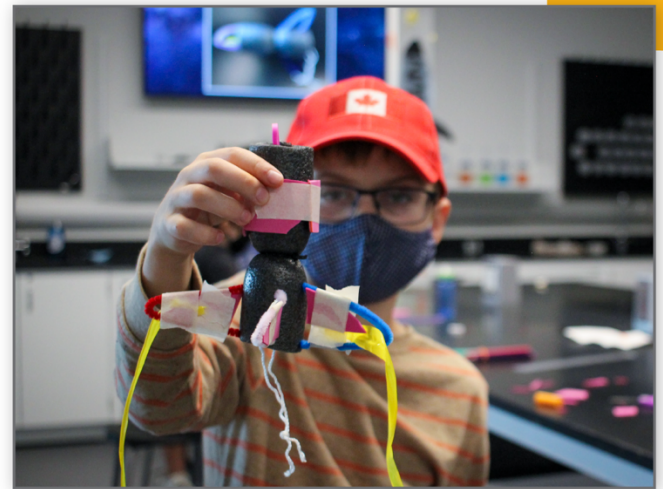
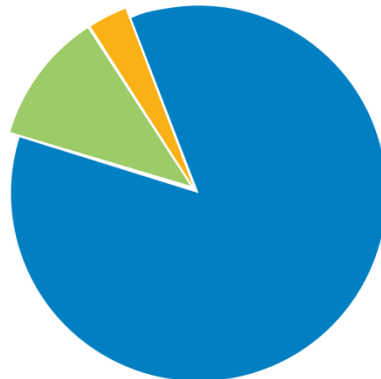
88%

Materials & Equipment

10%

Admin

2%



NETWORK MEMBER OF ACTUA

A network member of actua.ca



Actua provides training, resources and support to its national network of members located at universities and colleges across Canada in the delivery of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) education outreach programming. Each year, these members engage over 225,000 youth in 500 communities nationwide.

Please visit Actua at www.actua.ca.

FUNDERS

University of Lethbridge



Faculty of Arts & Science



GO BEYOND



ARCONIC FOUNDATION



Government of Canada

Gouvernement du Canada

2020 Actua National Funders



2020 Actua Western Canada Major Funder



University of Lethbridge



uLeth.ca/Destination-Exploration

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