

Mobile STEM Experience Center – Info & FAQs

What is the Mobile STEM Center?

GSCTX is excited to launch the Mobile STEM Center in San Angelo, Brownwood, Waco and their surrounding counties. This innovative program will allow GSCTX to bring STEM curriculum curated by GSCTX to girls in grades K-12, significantly grow our engagement in STEM education in the area and help remove barriers to accessing high-quality STEM education. The Mobile STEM Center will be a reservable resource for troops and service units throughout the Concho Valley and Waco. A trained GSCTX STEM program specialist will bring the necessary supplies to deliver a fun, engaging, hands-on STEM experience to Girl Scouts.

How does the Mobile STEM Center fit into GSCTX's STEM goals?

GSCTX STEM Strategy: Girl Scouts of Central Texas is invested in providing quality STEM experiences for “every girl, everywhere” that inspire the next generation of STEM leaders.

Our STEM program will:

- Spark girls' interest in STEM by engaging them in activities that are interesting to them.
- Encourage the creative, hands-on, and problem-solving aspects of STEM that Girl Scouts enjoy.
- Represent the variety of disciplines and subjects that STEM encompasses.
- Build the STEM skills and STEM confidence girls need in school and their future workplaces.
- Bridge the gap between girls' STEM interests and career choices by connecting STEM activities to future STEM careers, introducing girls to careers in STEM, and connecting girls to female STEM role models.
- Expand access to STEM programming to girls in underserved communities.

Is there a proof of concept for this Mobile STEM Center idea?

Yes, several councils have embraced this programs-on-the-go model for use in their council. Notably, GSHPA (Heart of Pennsylvania), has seen great success with their mobile STEM units. Their council has geographic similarities to GSCTX. At GSHPA, the Mobile STEM Centers were instantly popular. In the first six months, they served 1300 girls with STEM programming. Since the program's inception at GSHPA, they have increased their Mobile STEM Center fleet to four vehicles and they have four, full-time STEM mobile program coordinators as well as a STEAM Coordinator that handles overflow and in-school programming.

Why is it called “Mobile STEM Experience Center?”

The Mobile STEM Experience Center has all the necessary portable technology to bring to your local Girl Scout activity. GSCTX program specialist will unload and set up all the materials in a location of your choosing! Girls will not actually get inside the vehicle, it's simply designed to house all the fun, hands on activities.

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What is the purpose of the Mobile STEM Experience Center?

Studies show that by sixth grade, many children are deprived of close to 6,000 hours of learning from enriched youth programming. With the Mobile STEM Experience Center, Troop Leaders are empowered to increase access and engagement, of high quality STEM programming for girl scouts in their area. Our fun and vibrant van transports an abundance of science, technology, engineering, and mathematic (STEM) equipment. With the activities offered, girls can build digital literacy, analytical, and problem-solving skills needed to further pursue post-secondary STEM education and explore interest in STEM related career fields.

What are the goals of the Mobile STEM Experience Center?

The Mobile STEM Center and staff are committed to building up girls' confidence and creating a positive self-identity with our STEM activities. Whenever we deliver a program, we'll do our best to encourage an experiential, cooperative, and fail-safe atmosphere. In doing so we hope to:

- increase 75% of girls interest in STEM education and careers.
- increase 75% of girls awareness of post-secondary STEM opportunities
- 75% of girls in the will have confidence in themselves and their abilities to form positive identities.

What will the Mobile STEM Experience Center do?

Enhance the Girl Scout experience for families in and around the Concho Valley, Brownwood, and Waco area. With this program GSCTX can deliver STEM education and activities where girls and leaders need it most! Once a STEM program, date, and location are reserved by a troop, the van and program specialist, will bring the experience to you! No need to worry about equipment or program planning, the Mobile STEM Center will provide everything you need for a successful STEM event.

How will the Mobile STEM Experience Center be reserved?

Reservations of the Mobile STEM Experience Center are now open to troops in the following counties: Tom Green, Brown, Coke, Coleman, Concho, Irion, Mason, McCulloch, Menard, Runnels, San Saba, Schleicher, Sterling, Sutton, Bell, Bosque, Coryell, Falls, Lampasas, Limestone, and McLennan. Simply click [here](#) to get started.

Troops may view dates available by clicking on the calendar. Once an available date is selected, click reserve and then the system will prompt you to enter some basic information: preferred program, troop age level, program location etc. Following this process, you will receive a confirmation email of your transaction. Please review the confirmation details listed carefully.

To adjust or cancel your reservation please contact customer care at 1-800-733-0011.

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What will the Mobile STEM Center's cost to girls be?

Thanks to funding from the San Angelo Health, AEP Texas, and Rapoport Foundations, GSCTX can share the Mobile STEM Center with troops in the Concho Valley, Brownwood, and Waco areas for FREE! With the Mobile STEM Experience girls will receive a fun patch and can complete newly offered STEM badges!

What will the curriculum of the Mobile STEM Experience Center be?

RoboGirls

Girls will learn about robots and engineers, design their own robots in teams, gain understanding of what robots do, programming robots. Girls will also be introduced to programming robots by exploring simple machines, computer science, and computational thinking. Girls will discover how robots act on instructions as they create their own programs.

Dance Party (San Angelo & Brownwood ONLY)

Girls will be introduced to computer science and programming and learn to use code to choreograph dance characters. Girls will learn about the multiple algorithms used in coding, both online and through unplugged activities.

All About Owls

Girls will discover the ecosystem and explore the food chain by focusing on owls, including local owls, owl anatomy, and owl pellet dissection

It's Electric

Girls will learn about circuits, wiring, and computer coding. They will also gain invention literacy skills by wiring a banana piano.

Motion Commotion

Girls will learn about the physics of movement, friction, and engineering by designing, building, and testing race cars, racetracks, and roller coasters

Cosmonaut (San Angelo & Brownwood ONLY)

Girls will learn about how space science, engineering, and robotics are linked. They will also work through a team-based, problem-solving Mission to Mars challenge

Augmented Reality (San Angelo & Brownwood ONLY)

Girls will learn how the brain processes 3D images then uses their new knowledge to bring art to life.

Mean Green (San Angelo & Brownwood ONLY)

Use robots and problem-solving skills to explore ways to combat a virus.

ME-teorology (San Angelo & Brownwood ONLY)

Explore the science of meteorology with fun group experiments and advice from STEMistas in the field.

Spa-tacular

Create a list of tasty cosmetic products as we discover the science behind beauty products and fashion trends.

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What will the Mobile STEM Experience Center's range be?

STEM Mobile programming will take place in Tom Green County, Brown County, and McLennan County as well as their surrounding counties.

Area 1 Counties: Tom Green, Brown, Coke, Concho, Irion, Mason, McCulloch, Menard, Mills, Runnels, San Saba, Schleicher, Sterling, and Sutton.

Area 2 Counties: Bell, Bosque, Coryell, Falls, Lampasas, Limestone

What is the rollout timeline?

GSCTX is thrilled to share the new Mobile STEM Center with the Girl Scouts in the San Angelo, Brownwood and now Waco areas. Reservations are available to troops beginning November 2019. The Mobile STEM Center will officially “hit the road” January 2020.