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Virtual STEAM Event for Elementary Students and Their Families

Cocoa Chemistry: Valentine's Science!

San Francisco East Bay—Scientific Adventures for Girls (SAfG) and Lawrence Hall of Science are offering a FREE virtual co-ed **Family Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts & Math (STEAM) Event** on **Wednesday, February 22nd** from 5:30 to 6:30 pm PST.

Every month, SAfG's STEAM nights give families an hour to participate in cool science activities together—and in February, we're focusing on the chemistry of chocolate and animal relationships with our partner the **Lawrence Hall of Science**. Elementary students and their parents and/or caregivers are invited to attend the February event. This month they will explore the physical changes and hydrophobic nature of chocolate and cocoa. They will also engage in fun, hands-on activities making their own sweet treats. In addition, the Lawrence Hall of Science will introduce one of their animal ambassadors. Families will meet some fluffy friends on the screen and learn about animal relationships for this season of love!

The event is free. Register online at tinyurl.com/chocoscience to receive a list of supplies for the evening's projects. *(Most materials are easily found in a home.)*

"Our Valentine's-themed STEAM night will give students an opportunity to play with chemistry in the most common lab around: the home kitchen! Exploring reversible and irreversible physical changes in chocolate, students will be delighted to learn that science can be so engaging (and delicious!) These hands-on activities are designed to promote life-long joyful associations with science, inspiring our girls to pursue STEM in their futures." stated Emma Jo Ambler, Program Coordinator, Scientific Adventures for Girls.

At the end of the night, families are also given a chance to win some impressive raffle prizes! Family STEAM Nights introduce and normalize family science activities. It's an opportunity to create a family tradition of doing science

together and learn something new. It helps parents get more comfortable with science or math themselves and educates them on STEM career opportunities. Research has shown that family members influence children's involvement, and when interest in an activity is modeled, girls in particular feel supported and start seeing themselves in STEM roles and opportunities.

The Hosts

Scientific Adventures for Girls mission is a nonprofit working to change the face of science. Its mission is to remove systematic barriers to all girls' participation in STEM. Starting in kindergarten, the organization engages them in hands-on learning, helps increase their positive attitudes toward STEM, builds their confidence and begins to equip them with 21st-century skills.

For over 50 years, The Lawrence Hall of Science has been at the forefront of science education. As part of the University of California, Berkeley, we work with scientists, engineers, and educators to design the most effective learning experiences. We strive to transform the world of STEM, infusing these fields with diverse perspectives and innovative minds.

Family STEAM Night Events are generously funded by Sandia National Laboratories.

For more information, contact Courtenay Carr Heuer at ccarr@scientificadventures.org.

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