



STW/STEM Summer Reading 2019

Overview

For STW/STEM, you will have to read five articles over the course of the summer. Before school starts, you will also have to look over the GravityLight website. The due dates for these reflections are staggered throughout the summer. As you do your work, think critically about the pieces you read: Was the work interesting? What do you think of the process the researchers used? Do you believe the results? Can you see any other applications of this work? What follow-up studies would you do if you were working in that field?

The main goals of this assignment are to help you:

- Start thinking about areas of interest
- Practice writing about STEM topics
- Become critical readers of STEM articles
- Stay current with STEM topics
- Acquire exposure to different types of STEM research

You are responsible for three checkpoints over the course of the summer. The details are below. If you have any questions, please email Ms. Curran (smcurran@wpi.edu).

	Reading	Writing	Due Date	Submit
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An article of your choice in the field of biology • An article of your choice in physics or astronomy • An article of your choice in any field 	Write one paragraph summarizing the article. Write one paragraph describing your personal opinions on each piece.	July 12, 2019	https://forms.gle/LWYxJokMfoUXjkbv9
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An article of your choice in engineering or technology • An article of your choice in any field 	Write a reflection on both pieces. The reflection should be well-organized, summarize major points from the article, and provide your personal thoughts on the article.	July 26, 2019	https://forms.gle/zxNZGxJWEzxYU6vd6
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gravity light https://gravitylight.org/ 	Look through the website. Pay special attention to the engineering processes. Answer the questions provided.	August 9, 2019	https://forms.gle/tYvAZq52ZUnUhUh58

Places to find STEM news:

There are many sources of STEM news. Most news websites have a tab for science or engineering news. Other websites specialize in specific types of news. For example, Quanta Magazine (<https://www.quantamagazine.org/>), Live Science (<https://www.livescience.com/>), and Phys.org (<https://phys.org/>) have great articles on a variety of STEM topics. Project 538 has some excellent applied statistics related to economics, politics, sports, and public health (<http://fivethirtyeight.com/>). This source also sneaks in some regular news; make sure to find articles with a STEM connection.