

Allegheny Intermediate Unit Math & Science Collaborative wins \$ 400 k PAsmart Grant to Advance Early STEM+C Education with Storytime STEM-packs

The Allegheny Intermediate Unit Math & Science Collaborative has been awarded a PAsmart Advancing Computer Science and STEM Grant for \$399,379.00 to support **Storytime STEM-packs™: Entry Point for Early Computer Science and STEM Learning in PreK-2 Classrooms and Public Libraries.**

This innovative project will engage young learners in STEM and computer science through themed **Storytime STEM-packs™** and related robot challenges. Storytime STEM-packs are an educational innovation developed by the Allegheny Intermediate Unit Math & Science Collaborative. These materials enable educators with minimal prior knowledge of STEM to connect age-appropriate standards-based science, engineering, math, and computer science concepts to children's literature. Each **Storytime STEM-pack** includes: (1) a popular children's book; (2) all the physical and print materials to facilitate an engaging, hands-on STEM+C activity for 24 children; and (3) a facilitator guide that makes connecting the story to the STEM+C activity easy.

AIU MSC will develop and distribute 7 **Storytime STEM-packs** along with 7 companion computer science activities (STEM+C), to predominantly high needs schools and libraries across Allegheny and Westmoreland Counties. Participating classroom educators and children's librarians will be involved in a total of 18 hours of professional learning and networking. Those served directly by this project will include 44 preK-2 school districts from both Allegheny and Westmoreland Intermediate Units, 13 public libraries, 60 AIU Head Start Classrooms, and 11 nonpublic schools within the Diocese of Pittsburgh; serving approximately 200 educators and librarians, and 3000 children in 2019-20.



Representatives from Partner Organizations and Allegheny Intermediate Unit Math & Science Collaborative