

BROADCAST- OSF kicks off STEAM November with activities at Peoria Children's Museum

The United States is experiencing a severe shortage of medical professionals across all levels of the healthcare industry and because of that, OSF HealthCare is going beyond STEAM Day November 8, to create activities *throughout the month* to spark an interest in science, technology, engineering, art and math to plant the seed for future medical careers.

VO or Radio Package

STEAM ACTIVITIES	:52	SOC
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Peoria Playhouse Children's Museum in Peoria is just one organization OSF HealthCare has partnered with to expand the reach of OSF STEAM activities. OSF STEAM Instructor Shannon Egli (pronounced EGG-lee), says the engineers at Jump Simulation & Education Center have used molds and 3D printing to create hands-on activities to teach kids about the systems and inner-workings of their bodies.

"We have squishy organs where they can lay on the ground, trace their body and then put the squishy organs where they think they're supposed to go on their own body, so they get a chance to understand where parts of their body are on this piece of paper. It's really cool because they like to squish a heart or liver or lungs and really get to play with it and get involved." (:17)

There is a vertical magnetic skeleton and a paper model to show kids where bones are located and how they act like scaffolding of a building to provide support.

ANCHOR TAG: Patients at OSF HealthCare Children's Hospital of Illinois have also enjoyed STEAM activities and OSF has teamed with Caterpillar and other community organizations to present kids with STEAM projects all month long.