

DesignLab Workshops Electrify Students' Interest in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math)

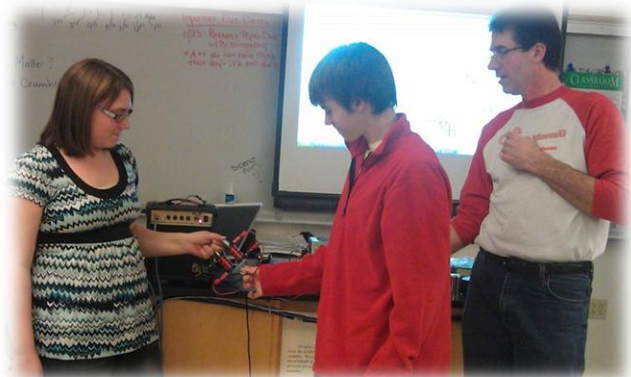


Above: DesignLab participants simulate the flow of electricity using sticky notes and candy.

2011 is the third year that Douglas has been able to offer DesignLab Electrical Engineering After School Workshops for 8th graders. This year's workshops began in October and will run through the end of December. Students are learning about electricity, circuits and switches, how to solder wires, and how to use various tools. Students will have the opportunity to design and build their own nighttime Frisbees, bedroom alarm systems, and fortune-telling boxes. Mrs. Graveson coaches the students through the safe and proper use of tools and electricity and helps them learn to use the engineering design process to create their own inventions. Mac Andrews, local parent and Raytheon Engineer, recently joined the students to share his engineering expertise (and some cool "toys" related to electrical engineering). This fall's participants are **Ben Boisvert, Joe Briggs, Alex Corso, Juliana Dumont, Emma Helstrom, Hudson Houle, Cam Kearney, Izzy Mazzarella, Thea McCrory, Jen Peterson, Hannah Postma and Mitch Thackaberry**. A second series of workshops, Motorized Machines, will begin in February.



Students explore the plasma lamp.



Mr. Andrews explains electromagnets.