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## Scott's Branch holds STEM showcase

by ROBERT JOSEPH BAKER ([HTTP://MANNINGLIVE.COM/AUTHOR/ROBERTBAKER/](http://MANNINGLIVE.COM/AUTHOR/ROBERTBAKER/)) | June 9, 2016 1:47 AM

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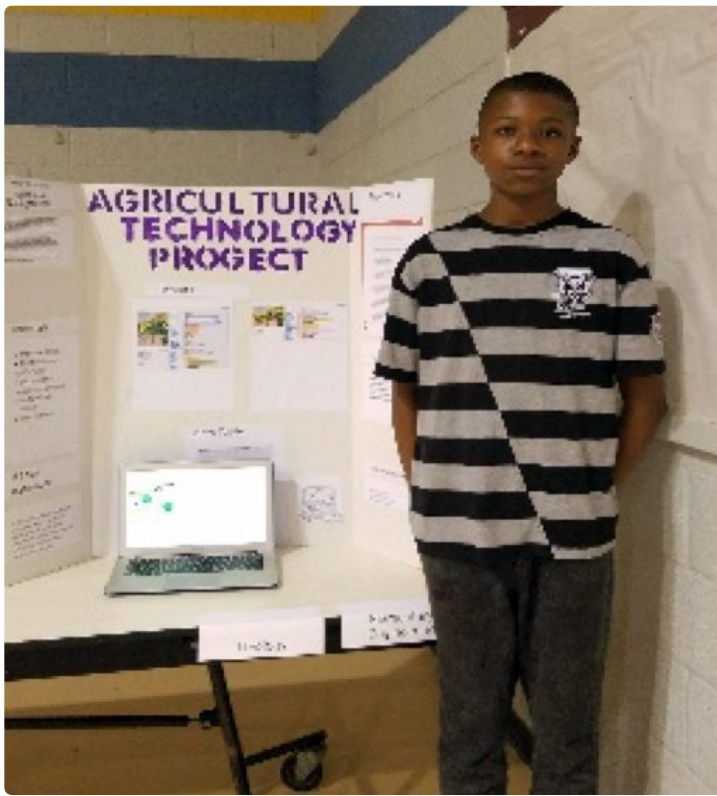
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Clarendon School District One in Summerton held a STEM Showcase May 26 for third through 12th grade students at the Clarendon Resource Center and provided STEM activities for K4 through second grade students at the Summerton Early Childhood Center.

The students showcased more than 100 projects and participated in STEM activities that fostered their learning in the areas of Science, Technology, Engineering and Math – at the core of innovation in South Carolina.

“We want to challenge our students and prepare them for college and careers,” said Dr. Deanna Taylor, STEM Grant Coordinator for Clarendon School District One. “There are many science-influenced basic skills expected by employers,” she said. “Our students will have to make tough decisions that no other generation has encountered and will be influenced by their understanding of emerging STEM topics. The STEM Showcase involved the integration of Science with Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics which required the students to apply STEM related skills to a topic of interest to them.”

The STEM Showcase is just one example of how Clarendon School District One is rapidly advancing STEM learning for students. In fact, Clarendon School District One is home to one of the first two New Tech Schools in South Carolina. Additionally, the STEM program is being expanded with the implementation of Project/Problem based learning in the lower grade levels.

During the Showcase students were able to present their work to judges from the local community, interact with like-minded students, and explain their work to the volunteers and parents. The Showcase also afforded high school students from Scott’s Branch High School the opportunity to serve as volunteers at SECC, present their work during the Showcase, and participate in mock interviews with Mr. Bernard Price of Save the Children Federation, Inc. The success of the STEM Showcase would not have been possible without the support of Dr. Rose H. Wilder (Superintendent), Ms. Barbara M. Ragin (Assistant Superintendent), Dr. Gwendolyn Harris (Principal), Mrs. Sheila Barringer (Principal), Dr. Beverly McCullough (Principal), the Clarendon School District One administrators and staff members, Ms. Brenda Golden (South Carolina Department of Commerce), Mr. Robert Edwards (Meritor), Mr. Bernard Price (Save the Children Federation, Inc.), Mr. James Darby (Community Member), Ms. Kia Brown (Parent Volunteer), Dr. Robert Petrusis (EPRE Consulting, LLC), Ms. Janet Davis (Parent Volunteer), Mrs. Kimberly Little (It-ology), Ms. Jeanne Hartley (USC Center for Science Education), Mrs. Julie King (S2TEM Centers), Mr. Scott Mcpherson (Riley Institute), and Ms. Jenna Brown (Santee-Lynches Regional Council of Governments).



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