



Top Tips

STEM clubs are great environments to run CREST Awards. This sheet contains our best hints and tips to get you started...

Clubs are proven to engage young people with science, technology, engineering and maths subjects (STEM). They inspire, help with learning, raise career aspirations, and improve the profile of STEM subjects to the wider community. Not to mention, they're great fun, and show that science is accessible to everyone!

CREST Background

CREST is a STEM enrichment programme which enables young people aged 5-19 to do open-ended project work.

The CREST Awards is the only nationally recognised accreditation scheme for STEM project work, and around 30,000 students in the UK gain CREST Awards every year.

www.crestawards.org/about-crest-awards

Top tips for setting up a club

1 Start simple

We offer six Award levels, starting with CREST Star and SuperStar which require neither a scientific or teaching background, nor specialist equipment.

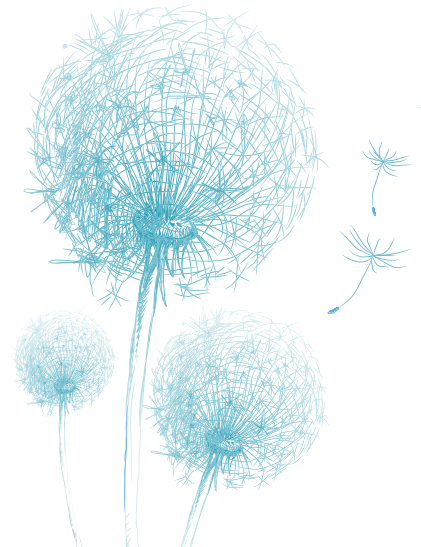
To get started, pick eight activities from our library. These take up to an hour to run and can be done over an extended period of time.

CREST Star

www.crestawards.org/run-crest-awards/crest-star

CREST SuperStar

www.crestawards.org/run-crest-awards/crest-superstar



2 Teamwork

Work with others to share the load. Invite parents, STEM Ambassadors, universities or local companies to help and share their expertise.

www.stem.org.uk/stem-ambassadors



3 Mishaps

Cultivate an atmosphere where it's okay to fail – the most important thing is taking part. Make sure you carry out a full risk assessment before undertaking activities.

<http://primary.cleapss.org.uk/Resources/Doing-Things-Safely/>



4 Be prepared

Ensure you have plenty of equipment and supplies. Activities don't need to be expensive: you can use resources like scrap paper, paperclips, scissors, newspaper, empty drinks cans, and eggshells to do our CREST Star and Super activities.



5 Measure your impact

Find out what works, and what doesn't. You can measure this by using surveys or feedback forms at the beginning and end of your STEM club.

Need more support?

- STEM Learning have a great website which includes a step-by-step guide on how to set up a STEM Club:
www.stem.org.uk/enrichment/stem-clubs
- Here is a handy guide to getting started with CREST:
www.crestawards.org/run-crest-awards
- Why not plan ahead and do something special during British Science Week?
www.britishscienceweek.org
- To find out if you are eligible for grants and funding to run CREST, visit:
<https://help.crestawards.org/portal/kb/articles/grants-and-funding-to-run-crest>
- Email STEM Learning for advice about setting up the club:
stemclubs@stem.org.uk
- Email CREST for information on our awards framework:
crest@britishscienceassociation.org