



2024 STEM Calendar



JANUARY

ICELAND'S
GEOTHERMAL
ENERGY

ACIS.COM/ICE

Discovering STEM in Iceland

- Hike the Sólheimajökull glacier with an expert guide
- Learn about geothermal technology innovation at Hellisheidi Power Station
- Visit the geysers, waterfalls, beaches and rock formations that make Iceland a top geological destination



Geothermal energy is one of the renewable resources that may, along with solar and wind power, be the future of energy on Earth. Nowhere is better at harnessing it than Iceland, with its many wondrous volcanoes serving as access points to the heat in Earth's core. The country's dedication to preserving the natural environment has encouraged its increased use. In fact, about a quarter of Iceland's electricity is generated at one of its geothermal plants, and 99% of the Nordic nation's energy comes from a renewable source!



MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
1 New Year's Day	2	3	4	5	6 National Technology Day	7
8 1942: Stephen Hawking's Birthday	9	10	11	12	13	14
15 Martin Luther King Day	16	17 1706: Benjamin Franklin's Birthday	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				



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FEBRUARY

IGUAZÚ FALLS

[ACIS.COM/GEN](https://www.acis.com/gen)

Bella Argentina Itinerary

- Multi-day excursion to Iguazú National Park
- Explore Buenos Aires, “The Paris of South America”
- Visit to a working gaucho ranch
- Tango lessons and dinner show



Ancient volcanic plateau turned 260-meter-wide waterfall, the Iguazú Falls are one of the most breathtaking natural landmarks on the planet. Situated within the borders of both Brazil and Argentina, the falls are surrounded by the diverse plant and animal life of the rainforest. Travel along the Iguazú River until you reach the falls, where you may observe a few of the 275 individual drops.

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
			1	2	3	4
				Groundhog Day World Wetlands Day		
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
		National Periodic Table Day				National Inventor's Day (USA)
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
		Valentine's Day				Feb 18- Feb 24 National Engineers Week
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29			
		National Science Day (India)				

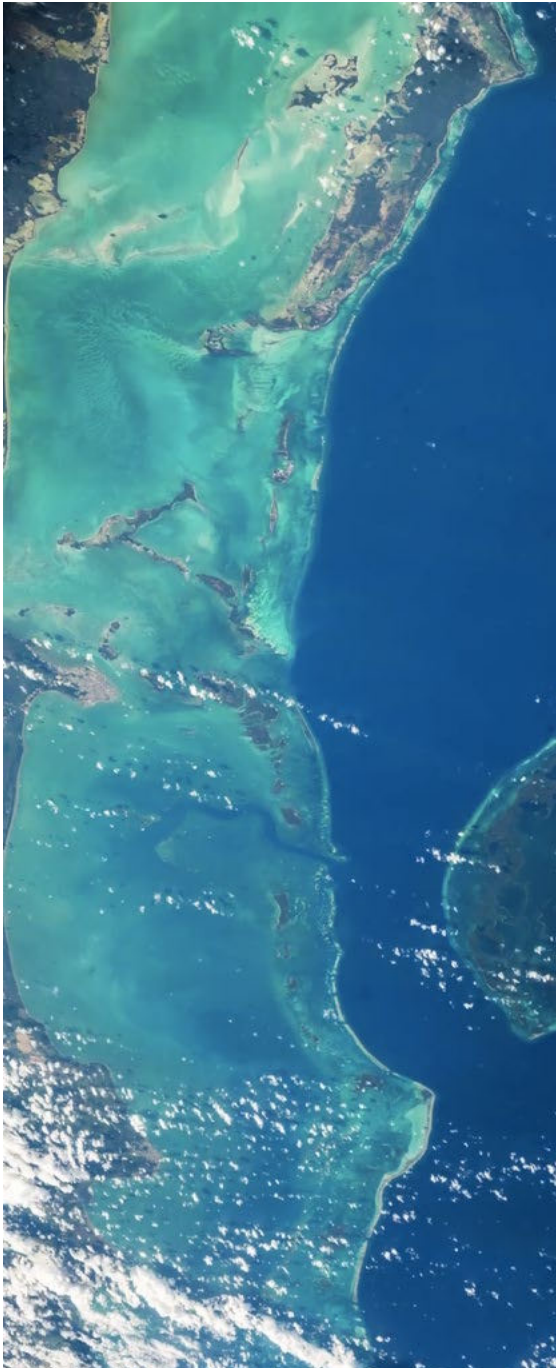


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MARCH

BELIZE BARRIER REEF



Venture into the warm tropical waters off the coast of Belize City to find yourself in the second largest coral system in the world and scuba diving heaven, the Belize Barrier Reef. In 1996 it was designated a UNESCO World Heritage site to protect its vulnerable and diverse marine community, and rightfully so. It's estimated that over 500 fish species and 106 coral species inhabit the reef, and scientists believe they have only identified 10% of the marine life that actually resides there! These make it an ideal eco-tourist destination. Although its multiple marine reserves, cayes, and atolls couldn't hurt either.



MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10 Daylight Savings starts
11	12	13	14 1879: Albert Einstein's Birthday Pi Day	15	16	17 St. Patrick's Day
18	19 Spring Equinox	20	21	22 World Water Day	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31 Easter



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APRIL

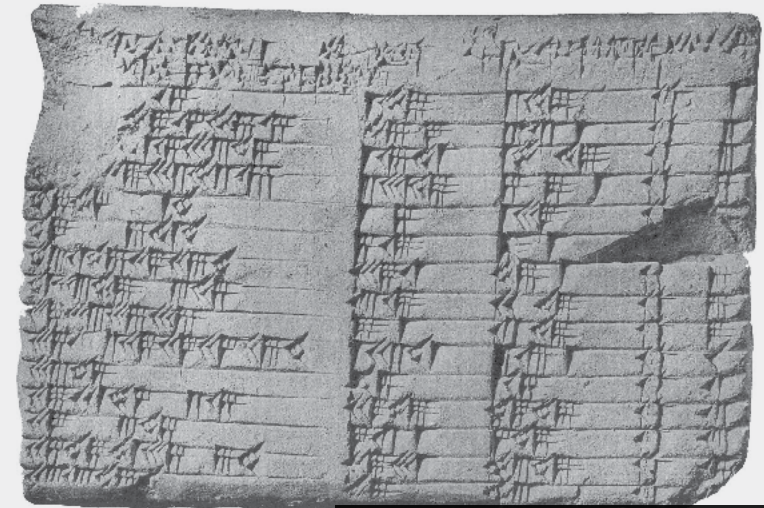
CONCEPT OF ZERO



Chaturbhuj Temple, Gwalior

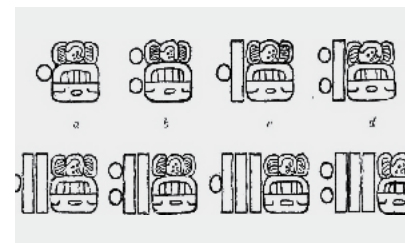


The concept of having nothing has been around for at least as long as human kind: Either we have something to trade/sell, or we don't! But the concept of zero as a number is more recent, only dating to around 5 A.D. Zero began as a placeholder, perhaps originating independently amongst Babylonians, Mayans, and Sumerians. The concept endured to ancient India, where philosophy collided with mathematics to define the new and enduring numerical value.



Babylonian mathematical tablet

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
1 April Fool's Day	2	3	4	5	6 4/6-4/13 National Robotics Week	7 Geologist's Day World Health Day
8	9	10	11	12	13	14 World Quantum Day
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22 Earth Day	23	24	25 National DNA Day	26 Arbor Day National Richter Scale Day	27	28
29	30				Global Astronomy Month Mathematics and Stats Awareness Month	



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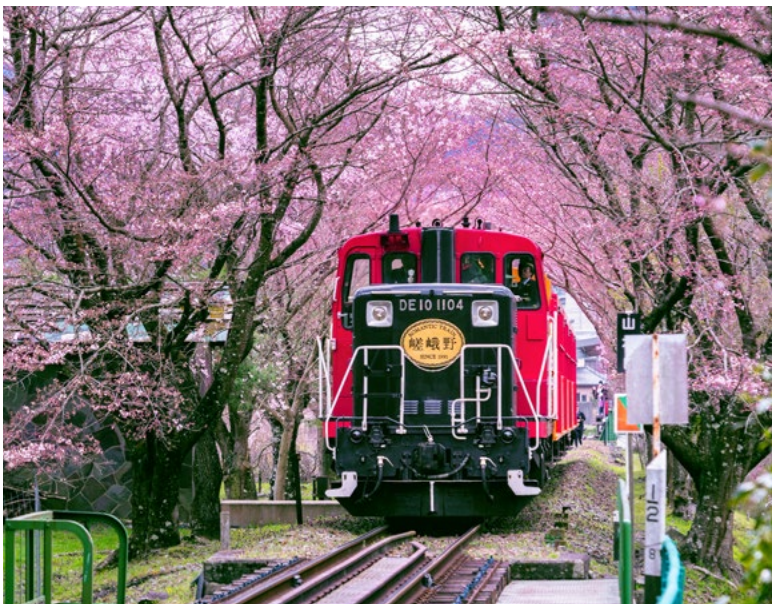
MAY

JAPAN'S CHERRY BLOSSOMS

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Discovering STEM in Japan

- Visit the National Museum of Emerging Science & Innovation (Miraikan) for an ASIMO demonstration
- Meet with chemistry and physics students at the University of Tsukuba
- Discover the tech used to design high-speed bullet trains at Maglev Exhibition Center
- Guided sightseeing of Kyoto and Tokyo's cultural and historical highlights



Sakura, the pink and white blossoms of the Japanese cherry tree, are on full display in the country's annual Cherry Blossom Festival. There are over 200 varieties of blossom, and the most popular in Japan is Somei Yoshino. The trees can reach up to 75 feet tall in their native habitats, and require full sun for production of their beautiful blooms.



MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
		1	2	3	4	5
				National Space Day		National Astronaut Day
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
5/6-5/10 National Teacher Appreciation Week						Mother's Day
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
		1752: Benjamin Franklin first tests the lightning rod	International Day of Light	National Endangered Species Day	International Museum Day	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
		International Day for Biological Diversity		Aviation Maintenance Technician Day		
27	28	29	30	31		
Memorial Day 1907: Rachel Carson's Birthday						National Inventors Month



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JUNE ANNUAL SASOL SOLAR CHALLENGE



Collaboration, engineering, competition, and solar technology all collide in a unique race called the Sasol Solar Challenge. Taking place throughout the scenic roads of South Africa (between Pretoria and Cape Town), college and professional teams from around the world race solar-powered vehicles of their own design through a variety of obstacles. Potholes, changing weather climates, and other unexpected conditions will challenge the teams' designs, grit and competitive spirit. The vehicles showcased in the Challenge may represent the future of solar technology, so be on the lookout for each year's standout winners!

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
					1 World Reef Awareness Day	2
3	4	5	6	7	8 World Oceans Day	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16 Father's Day
17 6/17-6/23 Pollinator Week	18	19	20 Summer Solstice	21	22	23 International Women in Engineering Day 1912: Alan Turing's Birthday
24	25	26	27	28	29	30 National Meteor Day



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JULY

STEFANO BOERI'S VERTICAL FOREST



Human actions continue to take a worsening toll on the flora and fauna of our natural environment, and some of the world's leading thinkers have developed methods to help mitigate our impact. One such example is the Vertical Forest project by Stefano Boeri, which premiered its first location in Milan, Italy. Featuring the equivalent of 20,000 sq. meters of woodland and undergrowth in only 3,000 sq. meters of space, the project both limits sprawl and promotes synergy between human and non-human life. The project's functional yet gorgeous visual appeal has made it a trademark of the Milan skyline and a groundbreaker in environmental sustainability.



MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10 1856: Nicola Tesla's Birthday	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20 1969: Anniversary of the Apollo 11 Moon Landing	21
22 World Brain Day	23	24 National Thermal Engineer Day	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Plastic Free July



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AUGUST

MEDICINAL PLANTS IN THE AMAZON

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Ecuador's Andes and the Amazon

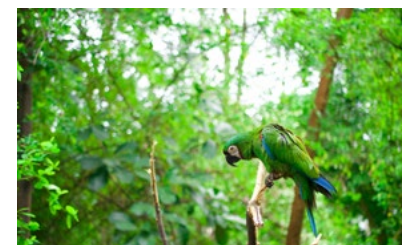
- Rainforest hike to learn about conservation and traditional uses for the surrounding flora
- Meet with two different Ecuadorian indigenous communities
- Visit AmaZONico animal refuge and rescue center
- Guided sightseeing of the capital of Quito



Touch down in Quito and take a local bus down muddy mountainside roads and precarious bridges and breathtaking views. You will eventually reach 1 of the 14 indigenous communities in Ecuador's Amazon rainforest. The indigenous shaman, among other community members, has vast knowledge of Amazonian plants with medicinal properties. For example, the dragon blood tree oozes a red sap that can be used to treat skin wounds, and the moradilla plant treats diarrhea and stomach infections. Developments in communication and travel technology have allowed for much of this knowledge to go public. However, only the indigenous communities will truly understand and appreciate the secrets of their local rainforest hospital.



MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
			1 World Wide Web Day	2	3	4
5	6 1881: Alexander Fleming's Birthday	7	8	9	10 1846: Smithsonian Institute Chartered	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19 National Aviation Day Orville Wright's Birthday	20 National Radio Day	21	22 National Surgical Oncologist Day	23	24	25 1867: Death of Michael Faraday
26	27	28	29	30	31	



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SEPTEMBER

HOW VOLCANOES SHAPED THE AZORES

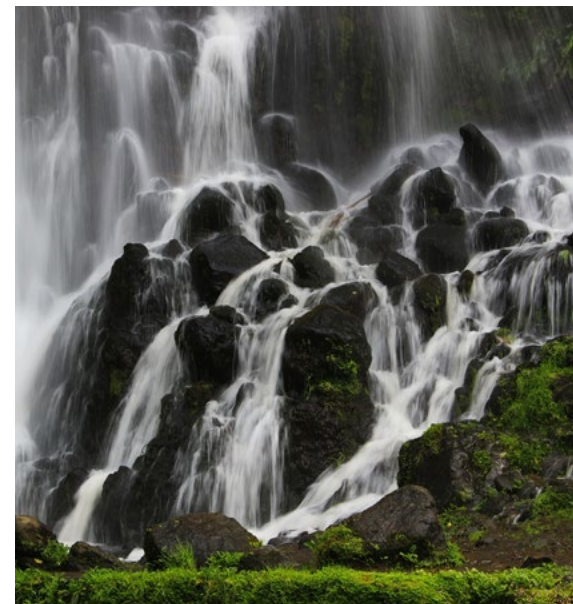
ACIS.COM/AZO

Discovering STEM in the Azores

- Study volcanology first-hand with visits to crater lakes, a lava tube, the Volcanological and Geothermal Observatory and thermal pools
- Explore Furnas' hot springs for a delicious meal cooked by geothermal steam
- Join biologists on a whale and dolphin watching tour



The Azores archipelago, 3,900 km west of Lisbon, originated 10 million years ago as a result of 1,776 then-active volcanoes. The archipelago sits above the contact point of the three largest tectonic plates in the world, whose rifting has been cited as the cause of the region's significant volcanic activity. 26 of the Azores' volcanoes are still active; dormant volcanoes like Mount Pico, one of the Seven Natural Wonders of Portugal, are popular tourist destinations.



MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
						1 1881: Juno Asteroid Belt Discovered By Karl Ludwig Harding
2 Labor Day 1992: Mae Jemison travels to space	3	4	5	6 National Read A Book Day	7	8
9	10	11	12 International Programmers Day	13	14	15 Greenpeace Day
16	17 National I.T. Professionals Day	18 9/18-9/22 National Pollution Prevention Week	19	20	21	22 Fall Equinox
23	24	25 Math Storytelling Day	26	27	28 International Day of Scientific Culture	29
30						



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OCTOBER SLOTHS OF COSTA RICA

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Pura Vida!

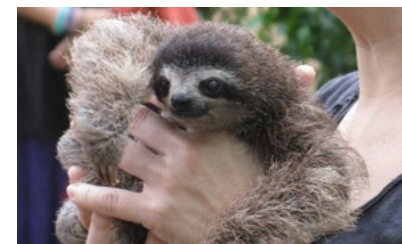
- Guided explorations of Braulio Carrillo, Tortuguero and Manuel Antonio National Parks
- Monteverde Canopy Tour—with ziplining!
- Swimming in La Fortuna waterfall and geothermal hot springs



There is nothing more serene than watching a sloth laze through its natural habitat, high in the tropical forests of Costa Rica. Costa Rica is home to 2 of the 6 sloth species in the world, the Hoffman's Two-toed Sloth and Brown-throated Sloth. Their characteristic slow speed is due to their incomprehensibly slow digestive system, taking nearly two weeks to digest a single meal. And although they look cute, you may want to think twice before trying to pet one; their fur plays host to a variety of life like algae, fungi, and moths. In exchange for a free place to live, they provide their furry host with green-tinted fur to protect them from being seen by predators.



MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
	1	2	3 National Techies Day	4	5	6 National Manufacturing Day
7	8 Ada Lovelace Day	9 National Nanotech Day	10 National Metric Day 1731: Henry Cavendish's Birthday	11	12	13 10/13-10/19 Earth Science Week
14	15	16 National Fossil Day	17	18	19 International Sloth Day	20
21 Celebration of the Mind Day Celebrated on mathematician Martin Gardner's birthday	22	23 Mole Day	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31 Halloween			



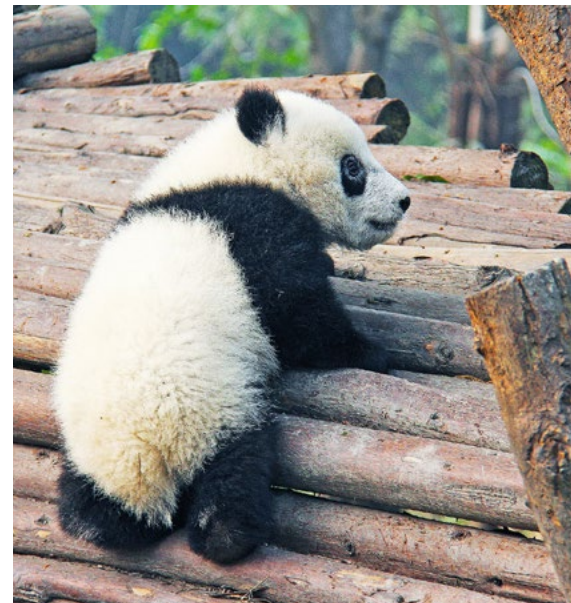
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NOVEMBER

GIANT PANDA CONSERVATION



Amidst an endless stream of human-caused wildlife extinctions emerges a shining light of conservation success; the wild giant panda's population comeback. The giant panda is a rare bear species that only resides in the mountains of China and who found its population numbers dwindling from human-caused habitat loss and fragmentation. But hard work on the part of the Chinese government, local communities, and conservation groups have led to the opening of nearly 30 reserves, and led to the passing of laws that enforce protection of both habitats and bamboo food sources. While they are still a vulnerable species, the approximately 1,864 pandas currently residing in the wild are a symbol of hope for other species conservation efforts around the world.



MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8 1895: Discovery of the X-Ray National STEM/STEAM Day	9 World Science Day for Peace and Development International Science Center and Science Museum Day	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18 Pride in STEM Day	19	20	21	22	23 Fibonacci Day	24
25	26	27	28 Thanksgiving	29	30	



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DECEMBER

GLACIER FORMATIONS IN ALASKA

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Exploring Alaska

- Hike to Exit Glacier and learn about the science of glaciology
- Get up close and personal with marine life on a cruise around the Kenai Fjords National Park
- Visit the Denali National Park, complete with Wilderness Rafting



If you're looking to see one of Earth's awe-inspiring yet increasingly threatened glaciers, a cruise through the American state of Alaska might be the answer. Glaciers are typically formed when snow, accumulated over a long period of time at high altitudes, compresses into re-crystallized ice structures. Although multiple types of glaciers exist, Alaska only showcases mountain glaciers throughout its many impressive ranges. Glaciation in Alaska probably dates back nearly 15 million years, but those still in existence have since receded as climate change begins to take effect.



MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7 International Civil Aviation Day	8
9 12/9 - 12/15 Computer Science Education Week 1906: Grace Hopper's Birthday	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17 Wright Brother's Day	18	19	20	21 Winter Solstice	22
23	24	25	26	27 1571: Johannes Kepler's Birthday	28 1612: Galileo Galilei becomes the first astronomer to observe Neptune	29
30	31 New Year's Eve					



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