

bennett *live*

FOR PARENTS & EDUCATORS

Exploring

WITH MR. REYNOLDS

Learning Guide - Week 1

CREATED BY:

 bennett labs





Bennett Live offers engaging media programming with a mission to inspire young designers, creators, and makers through project-based learning.

- Live and pre-recorded programming for ages 3-12
- Monday-Friday at 11 am and 2 pm (CST) on [Bennett Day School's Facebook page](#)
- Episodes are archived on [Bennett Day School's YouTube Channel](#)
- Inspired by the principles of Reggio Emilia and Project-Based Learning (PBL)

Designed to advance a child's creativity and their development as lifelong learners and leaders, Bennett Live is a Bennett Labs creation for children and families everywhere.

- To learn more visit: bennettday.org/bennettlive
- To connect, share and follow: #bennettlive



Exploring

WITH MR. REYNOLDS

Week 1

This week we will explore tinkering, making, and writing together.

EXPLORING

Exploring with Mr. Reynolds is a creative problem-solving program for Grades 2-6 (Ages 7-12) where students can explore their ideas and investigate the world around them. Each day, Mr. Reynolds inspires curiosity and home-based exploration. Students will be invited to learn about ideas, explore problems and materials and apply their knowledge. Join Mr. Reynolds on a daily journey of discovery, making and creative problem-solving.

MR. REYNOLDS

Mr. Reynolds is an experienced educational leader and an award-winning classroom teacher with over 15 years of experience in making, creating and project-based learning with children in the elementary grades. He completed his Bachelor's in Elementary Education at Valparaiso University, and at Loyola University, his Masters in Educational Leadership and Policy Studies. A founding member of the Bennett Day School educational team, and TinkerLab curator, Mr. Reynolds, adopts an integrated approach to teaching and learning, incorporating technology into student research, presentation, communication and assessment for enhanced outcomes.

WORKSPACE & A BOX OF STUFF

- A workspace like a desk, kitchen table, or floor area.
- Pens, pencils, and coloring instruments.
- Scissors - the stronger the better!
- Adhesive tape and glue, a hot glue gun and duct tape.
- Craft paper, printer, and colored construction paper
- Cutting Station. A large piece of scrap wood and a box cutter or a pocket knife.
- Box of Stuff. A box filled with stuff from around the house such as small containers of various sizes and shapes, trinkets, found objects, bottle caps, straws, string, paperclips, push pins, little figures, key chains, small things for use in making.

MONDAY

We will begin by exploring design thinking and the design process. We will make a toy from the things you have around the house.

Equipment and Supplies

- CardboardAdhesives: hot glue or tape preferred, white glue or stick can work too
- Markers, crayons or similar colorful writing instruments

Tips and Advice

This is meant to be a simple toy creation and there is no "right" way to make it. Part of the design process is iterating on ideas and methods in an effort to create something that better meets the needs of the end-user.

TUESDAY

We will explore goal setting, how and why we set goals. We will set a goal for what we will make in today's episode.

Equipment and Supplies

- Box of Stuff
- Simple creation, like the toy we created in the previous episode, to iterate on and remix

Tips and Advice

Goal Setting is an important part of developing strong executive functioning skills. The process of iteration can help keep the goal-setting structure loose, informal, and achievable for all.

WEDNESDAY

We will map a story and explore math concepts of size, scale, and ratios. We will use our imagination to create a fictional place.

Equipment and Supplies

- Large piece of cardboard or paper. The larger the better.
- Pencils, markers, straightedge and/or ruler
- Trinkets, figures, and the like from your Box of Stuff

Tips and Advice

The goal of today's episode is to explore our imagination and create a map of a fictional place for storytelling. The map can serve as a tool to navigate your imagination and explore creativity.

THURSDAY

We will make a letter and explore how we can develop ideas for letter writing and addressing an envelope to a friend or loved one.

Equipment and Supplies

- Notebook or printer paper
- Pencil, crayons or colored pencils
- Envelope, stamp, and address of a friend or loved one
- Construction paper to make an envelope

Tips and Advice

Letter writing is also a fun way to develop your writing voice and send something in the mail! You could also drop this off in a neighbor's mailbox if they live in your neighborhood.

FRIDAY

We will explore using forces to create an inflatable creature such as a *Bag Monsters* which was inspired by this article on [DIY Inflatables](#).

Equipment and Supplies

- Plastic bags
- Markers (permanent work better)
- Strong tape and scissors
- Fun embellishments like goggle eyes, pipe cleaners
- Small fan, preferably one that can aim up

Tips and Advice

A small circular fan that can aim up will be much easier to work with than a large box fan. But use whatever you've got!



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