



\*\*\*\*\* Announcing the 2023 STARward STEM Design Challenge Finalists\*\*\*\*\*

*The STARward STEM Design Challenge is an “out of this world” opportunity where students compete to have experiments tested on the International Space Station (ISS). Student teams from participating schools in Fayetteville, NC investigate challenges that face astronauts in space exploration, identify a problem of interest, and design an experiment that that can help improve life in space. Winning projects will be flown to the ISS in Summer 2023!*

*This design challenge is part of the [STARward STEM program](#) which seeks to build interest in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) careers and develop STEM skills by providing “STAR” learning experiences for students in grades K-12.*

### **2023 Design Challenge Finalists – Elementary School Level**

#### **Cumberland Mills Elementary**

- The Healers Comfrey, Ms. Cascasan’s 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Class
- Brown Plastic Eaters Pestalotiopsis Microspora, Ms. Cascasan’s 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Class
- Starborn Stevia Plant, Ms. Cascasan’s 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Class

#### **Cumberland Road Elementary**

- Bacteria Growing in Microgravity, Ms. Hidel-Reyes’ 2nd Grade Class
- Cleaner Efficiency, Ms. Hidel-Reyes’ 2nd Grade Class

- Changing Water, Ms. Hidel-Reyes' 2nd Grade Class

#### Mary McArthur Elementary

- Sweet Potatoes in Space, Ms. Phillips 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Class
- Growing Garlic in Space for Medicinal Purposes, Ms. Henry's 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Class

#### Montclair Elementary

- Growing Medicine in Space with Aloe Vera, Ms. Collin's 5th Grade Class
- Bog in Space, Ms. Collin's 5th Grade Class

#### Sherwood Park Elementary

- Better Sleep In Space- Space Astros, Ms. Corbin's 4th Grade Class
- Improving Sleep In Space- Team Solar, Ms. Corbin's 4th Grade Class
- Sleeping in Space- Rocket Rangers, Ms. Corbin's 4th Grade Class

#### VanStory Hills Elementary

- Space Candy "Rocks" with Vitamin D, Ms. Palezo's 4th Grade Class

#### William H. Owen Elementary

- African Violet, Ms. Gonzalez's 4th Grade Class
- Carrots, Ms. Young's 4th Grade Class
- Swiss Chard, Ms. Young's 4th Grade Class

### **2023 Design Challenge Finalists – Secondary School Level**

#### Douglas Byrd Middle School

- Biofuel, Ms. Atkin's 6th Grade Class
- Medicine in Microgravity, Ms. Atkin's 6th Grade Class
- The Neem Tree Plant, Ms. Atkin's 6th Grade Class

#### Seventy First Classical Middle School

- The Essentials Project, Ms. Beckham's 6th Grade Class
- Dr. B.C. Frankincense, Ms. Beckham's 8th Grade Class
- Live, Laugh, Love Leaves!, Ms. Beckham's 8th Grade Class