IDEAStudio collaborates with middle school teachers to explore STEM concepts in a design-based, transdisciplinary learning environment.

In the beginning of the fall of 2012, some eighth grade students at a local middle school studied their subject matter in an altogether different way every Friday. Two eighth grade teachers spent the summer working with IDEAStudio team members to plan a design-based curriculum that emphasizes the important connections among disciplines. The students’ objective was to design an exhibit for the Science Museum of Western Virginia that demonstrates how to make their world a better place.

**Participants:** Teachers and local middle school students  
**Type:** Design-based curriculum  
**Date:** Fall 2012