Top 5 tips

Engage students with STEAM-infused PBL activities

1. **Be willing to learn with the students.** You might see your teacher role as separate from the students, but in PBL, the teacher and the students are co-learners. Be willing to try some of the STEAM-infused PBL activities you have found online, even if they go beyond your comfort level. Go on the journey with your students and explore, create, innovate and discover with them! Be a student in your own classroom.

2. **Treat failure as a success.** Celebrate and acknowledge what works as well as what doesn’t work. Reflect often, allow your student to learn from their mistakes and send the message that there is more than one correct outcome.

3. **Expect and embrace chaos.** In successful PBL activities, students must have fun, enjoy the learning, constantly brainstorm and try new things. This can be scary for someone who is used to being the “sage on the stage” with their students sitting quietly in perfectly lined-up rows facing the front of the classroom. Don’t be scared to rearrange the classroom and create a new learning environment. Allow the students to fully engage and move around.

4. **The best way to learn is to teach.** Let your students direct the show. Rely on your students to help the other students, help you and learn from one another.

5. **Jump in!** Get your hands dirty, make mistakes yourself and let the students know that they are in a safe and comfortable space where they have a voice, a choice and are able to celebrate their successes and failures.