

# Bridges Fall After School Program Lays a Foundation for Engineering

September - November 2014

This fall, Bridges expanded its After School Program to include a fall component. As a result, Bridges fourth and fifth grade students now have year round Bridges programming. The Fall After School Program introduced a STEM component to student learning with a variety of engineering projects including building a marble run, a tower, and a bridge.

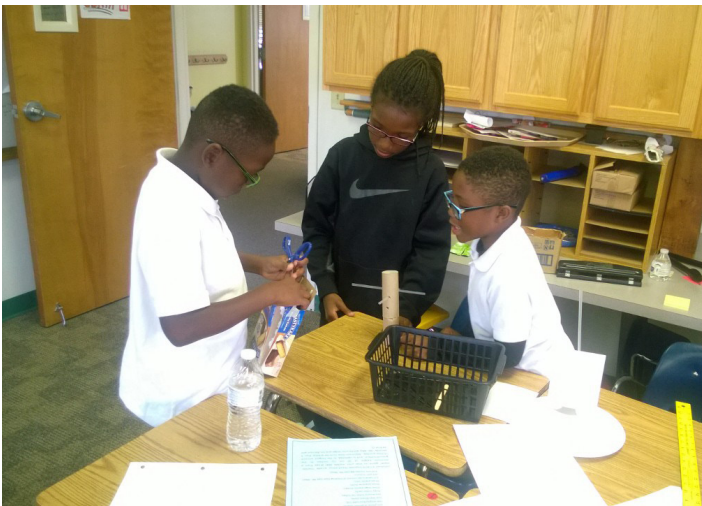
Thirty-three fourth and fifth grade students worked collaboratively on these projects where each of them had a hand in brainstorming, designing a blueprint, and building the end project. Six volunteers from the St. Paul's Schools served 102 hours to help to facilitate the five-step engineering process which includes: Ask, Imagine, Plan, Create, and Improve.



IMAGINE: Students watch Caine's Arcade, a video about a 10-year-old who built a cardboard arcade, to generate ideas for their marble runs



CREATE: Tyler and Fred building their marble run



PLAN: Brendan, R'Reeyah, and Zelotes look through materials as they plan their project



IMPROVE: Raheem, Destiny, and Elijah are video taped talking about ways to improve their bridge project