

1116-M5-2863 **Robert Orndorff*** (orndorff@uw.edu), **Debby Halperin** and **Mary Ann Crawford**. *Seattle Public Schools STEM Paper Folding Program*.

We started our paper folding program nine years ago. Every year, we work with three elementary school classes. Each class does paper folding once per week for one year.

Our principal aims comprise the following four aspects of early STEM education: ability, engagement, confidence and plans. We also address other objectives, e.g., looking at things deeply; failing constructively; asking one's own questions; nurturing creativity.

The program has been a success: it is popular with teachers, students, parents and the district math office; one of us has twice been a finalist for the national presidential award for math teaching; extracurricular programs are well attended; we were asked to present at the Northwest Mathematics Interaction meeting for math teachers.

In light of our aims, including the Common Core State Standards: How do we select projects? Which kinds of projects work? In what order do we do them? How do projects target specific goals? What behaviors and habits do we encourage? How do we adjust for student age? In this talk, we will address these and other things.

Our premise is that this program, taught by a math and origami expert in collaboration with teachers who value the connection between math and paper folding, will contribute to the above aims. (Received September 22, 2015)