

# TUMBLEWINGS

Scott Bartholomew





**STEM** Science, Technology,  
Engineering, Mathematics

**PURDUE**

UNIVERSITY

# DR. SCOTT BARTHOLOMEW

Assistant Professor of Engineering/Technology teacher education  
**Purdue University**



# WHAT IS INTEGRATIVE STEM?

“**technological/engineering** design-based learning approaches that intentionally integrate the **concepts** and **practices** of **science** and/or **mathematics** education with the **concepts** and **practices** of **technology** and/or **engineering** education.”

(Sanders & Wells, 2010, p. 1)

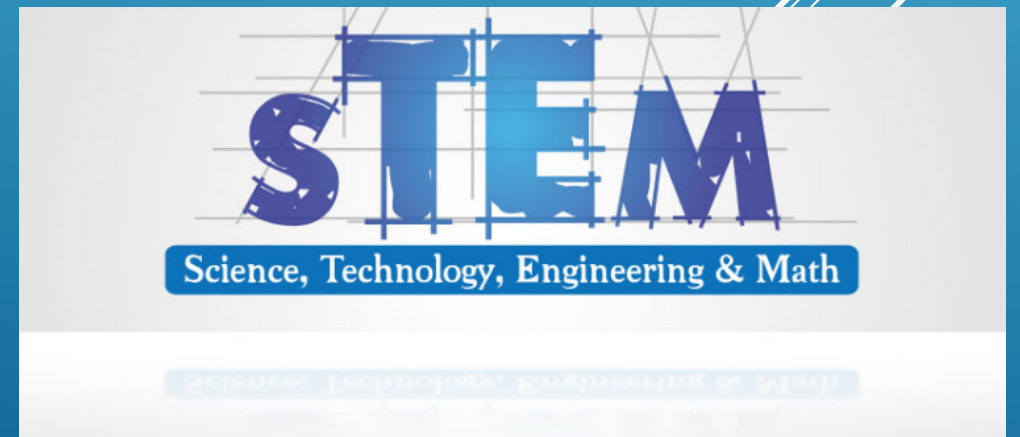
## INTEGRATIVE STEM EDUCATION

How it's defined. How it's practiced.  
Learn More!



# HOW ARE TUMBLEWINGS INTEGRATIVE STEM?

During this activity you will complete a **Technology & Engineering** Education design challenge which incorporates principles and practices of **Science** and **Mathematics**.



# WHAT IS A TUMBLEWING?

A **tumblewing** is a type of glider or kite which rotates about an axis and exhibits **lift** as the tumblewing alternates between **flying** and **stalling (free fall)**. One common example of a tumblewing is confetti which “tumbles” as it falls. The alternating flying and stalling of the confetti creates the visual appeal.



# OUR OBJECTIVES

Students will explore different **measurements and ratios** and their overall impact on the tumblewing's flight

(**MATHEMATICS & SCIENCE**)


Students will work through a **Technology & Engineering Design Challenge** to design, construct, test, modify, and re-

test their tumblewing (**TECHNOLOGY & ENGINEERING DESIGN BASED LEARNING**).

# THE ENGINEERING DESIGN CHALLENGE

## Construct a tumblewing that travels the furthest distance

### ▶ Competency-based Evaluation

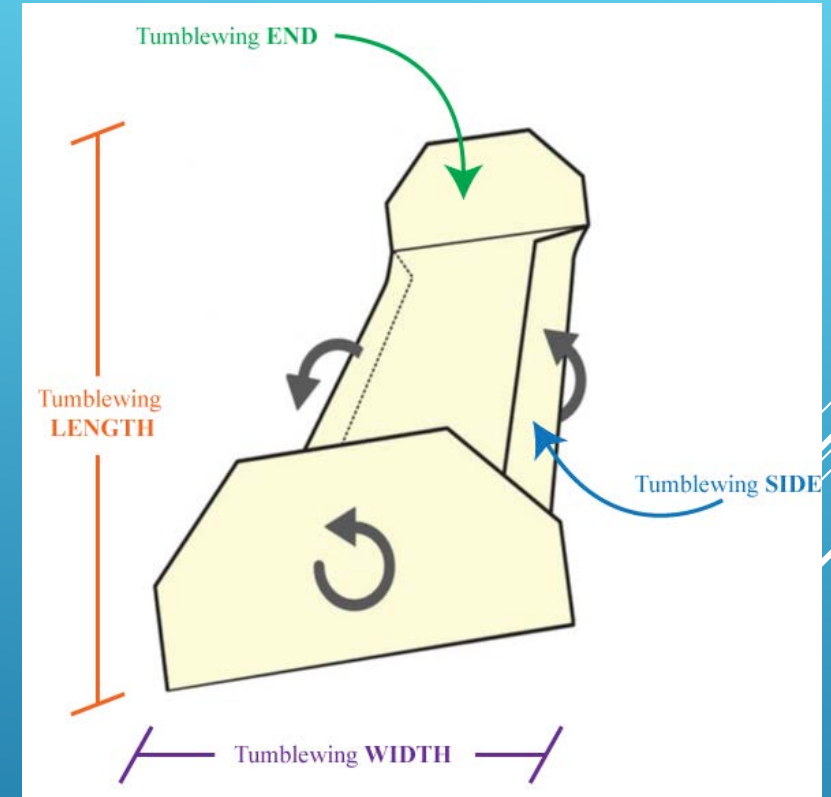
- ▶ 10+ Points: Flies the furthest distance
  - ▶ 10 Points: Built and flies more than 30' (9.1 meters)
  - ▶ 9 Points: Built and flies less than 20' (6.1 meters)
  - ▶ 5 Points: Not completed or launched - effort shown.
  - ▶ 0 Points: No effort shown.
- 
- A decorative graphic consisting of several parallel white lines of varying lengths and orientations, located in the bottom right corner of the slide.

# PRACTICES OF SCIENCE & ENGINEERING

## Test, Evaluate, Analyze, Interpret, & Make a Decision

Test only one variable (change) at a time.

For example, choose a set fold measurement for the **ends** and test the **side** folds at different measurements. Then choose the best fold for the **sides** and test the **ends** at different measurements. By holding all variables except for one constant we can better see the impact of a single change in the tumbling!



Trial #	Length of tumbling	Width of tumbling	Fold length (ends)	Fold length (sides)	Results (how far did it go)
Ex. 1	5"	2"	1/4"	1/8"	12'
Ex. 2	5"	2"	1/2"	1/8"	10'
Ex. 3	5"	2"	1"	1/8"	9''



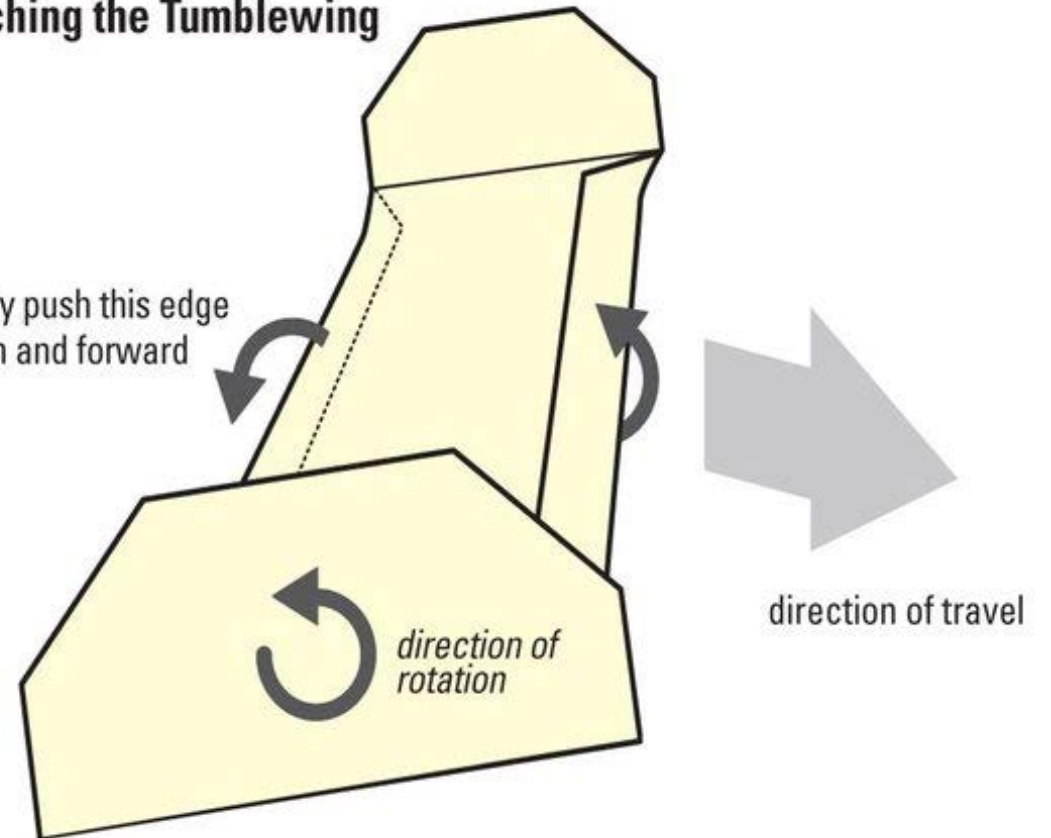
# FINAL TIPS

1. Use a pen to crease the fold edges
2. Launch with the side-folded **up** towards you
3. Don't tilt the cardboard (this eliminates your ridge lift)
4. Have fun – don't get frustrated if it takes some time to master



## Launching the Tumblewing

gently push this edge  
down and forward



# Dr. Scott R. Bartholomew

Assistant Professor

Engineering & Technology Teacher Education

[sbartholomew@purdue.edu](mailto:sbartholomew@purdue.edu)

765-494-7711

351 Young Hall, Purdue University

*Department of Technology Leadership and  
Innovation*