**Tool Kit for Little Engineers**

When kids picture a scientist, they often think white lab coat, magnifying glass, beakers, and microscopes. But what do they see when they think of an engineer? What tools does an engineer need? I set out to solve this issue (and yes, I did use the EDP for this problem….I am an engineer after all!). Here is what my kids now use when tackling an engineering problem.

Even the littlest engineer needs the proper tools to truly problem solve like an engineer.

There are countless types of engineers that use a wide variety of tools to accomplish their specific tasks. We have put together the basics of what engineers use in the field for collecting data, taking measurements, and testing solutions. Expose your kids to different types of STEM fields with a variety of different engineering careers they may have never heard of with this fun [Bingo Game](https://www.teacherspayteachers.com/Product/STEM-Careers-BINGO-Game-Science-Technology-Engineering-Math-1299404).

**Little Engineer's Tool Kit**:

• Pouch and/or Tool belt – to keep organized

• Clipboard – to hold notes and worksheets

• Calculator

• Ruler

• Tape measure

• Level

• Screw driver - to take things apart and put them together

• Multimeter- used to investigate electrical problems and circuitry

• Stopwatch (not shown)- used mostly during testing

• Other considerations: Choose a writing utensil appropriate for the age of your students. I use washable fine-point marker for my 5 year old because whatever it is will inevitably get on things she is investigating. Many design challenges will also require construction tools based on your materials. This means scissors and tape are often a must too!

**How To Use The Engineer Kit**

When faced with a problem, always consult the Engineering Design Process and follow the steps to a solution. We have created a condensed and generic version of the EDP worksheets to use for any engineering design challenge. You can get them for free [here](https://www.teacherspayteachers.com/Product/Engineering-Design-Process-Worksheets-for-all-STEM-Design-Challenges-3659960). Print them off and attach to your clipboard along with some engineering graphing paper. This is where all ideas, notes, design work, and results should be recorded. Carry necessary tools for the task in the pouch or in the tool belt for easy access. Watch your kids come alive as they become little engineers—equipped to tackle any challenge!