

## NOVEMBER 2015 DIRECTOR'S NEWSLETTER



Dear **TechStars** Families,

November is the time of year when my staff and I are thankful for our good fortune and good friends. We at **TechStars** are thankful for the opportunity to share our technology curriculum with your child and for the continuing support of parents, teachers and directors at AstraZeneca Child Development Center, Brilliant Little Minds, Chinese American Community Center/CACC, Children's House Montessori School, Concord Preschool & Childcare, Green Acres, Kids Korner, Kind Mind Kids, Nannies, St. Helena's ELC, Tower Hill After School and Tutor Time. Thank you for choosing **TechStars**.

The end of Daylight Saving Time and the increasing chill in the air as Fall takes hold mean more time at home is spent indoors. This is the perfect opportunity to invite your child to join you in exploring **eStars**, also known as **CT's Technology Club**. The link is <http://www.computerexplorers.com/e-stars-2> and the password for November 2015 is **magic211**, the last 3 characters are numerals. **eStars**, a free added value benefit extended to all **TechStars** families, is curated by Playrific. Upon entering this child-safe, user-friendly learning portal, choose from activities focusing on English Language Art, Mathematics, Earth Science, Life Science, Engineering and Technology. Each of these content areas offers a variety of games, videos, puzzles and e-stories that are updated quarterly. Time spent together exploring **eStars** allows your child to share all that he/she is learning in technology class and provides an opportunity to practice using a mouse to guide the cursor which helps develop hand-eye coordination and fine motor skills. **eStars** activities are designed for children up to 5 years of age. You are also welcome to share this learning portal with other children in your family; the Explorer level is for ages 5-7 and the TechStar level is for ages 8-10. **eStars** activities are different from those presented in your child's technology classes. FYI: **eStars** is not compatible with mobile devices.

A few "un-plugged" activities your family may wish to consider this month include:

- The Delaware Museum of Natural History's "Tiny Titans: Dinosaur Eggs and Babies" special exhibit continues through the remainder of 2015. Did you know the Bank of America Museums On Us program offers free admission the first full weekend of each month to Bank of America and Merrill Lynch debit and credit card holders? This month those dates are Nov 7 and 8. Read the details of this offer at <http://www.delmnh.org/event/bank-of-america-museums-on-us-10/>. Learn more about this museum's exhibits, special events and Nature Nook programs at <http://www.delmnh.org>.

- The Delaware Children’s Museum is a close-to-home, hands-on opportunity for your child to explore new ideas and build understanding of the world in which he/she lives. Special weekends your child may enjoy are “Try Science/Be a Meteorologist” on Nov 14 & 15, <http://www.delawarechildrensmuseum.org/try-science/>, and “Junior Engineers/Be a Biomedical Engineer” on Nov 28 & 29, <http://www.delawarechildrensmuseum.org/junior-engineers/>. View a floor plan of the museum and learn more about current exhibits at <http://www.delawarechildrensmuseum.org/exhibits/>.
- Mary Poppins, the Disney classic with a dancing chimney sweep and a magical nanny, opens on Nov 21 at the Delaware Children’s Theater. This live show featuring the Wilmington Ballet Junior Company is sure to be a treat for the whole family. Find show dates and times as well as ticket info at <http://www.dechildrenstheatre.org/project/mary-poppins>.

Best wishes to your family for a safe and happy Thanksgiving!

Sincerely,

**Roni Deely**

Owner/Director

[Roni.Deely@computerexplorersde.com](mailto:Roni.Deely@computerexplorersde.com)

TechStars by Computer Explorers of New Castle County



[www.computerexplorers.com/de](http://www.computerexplorers.com/de)