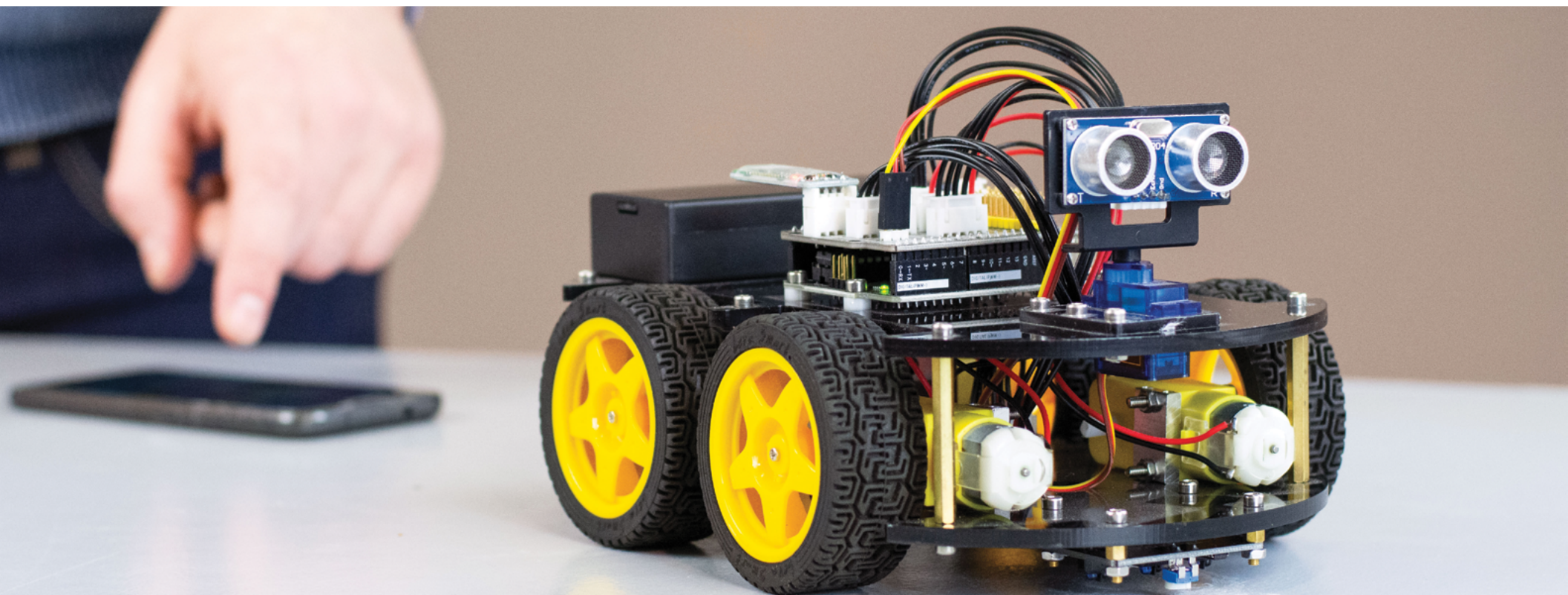


8 Tips for a Safer STEM Lab



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Safer Makerspaces, Fab Labs and STEM Labs—A Collaborative Guide



Entry and Exit

Labs over 1,000 sq. ft. need two outward-opening doors in the event an emergency exit is needed. Avoid blocking doors.



Lighting

Include a mixture of natural and artificial light for safer lab operation.



Sound

Place noise-producing equipment in a dedicated lab space and provide acoustical treatment on ceilings and walls within the lab.



Temperature

Keep chemical storerooms within your lab between 60–80 °F along with continuous airflow to prevent or reduce rate of decomposition of chemicals.



Ventilation

Ventilation that is directly at the source (e.g. a dust collector hose hooked directly to a belt sander) protects against hazardous particulates, gases or vapors.



Electrical Power Sources

Keep outlets at least three feet away from any water source and unplug any cords when the lab is not in use to avoid a fire hazard.



Showers and Eyewashes

A must in any STEM Lab, Makerspace or Fab Lab to minimize effects of accidental exposure to chemicals, specimens, particles and other airborne objects.



Safety Zones

Safer operator zone markings, the appropriate Personal Protective Equipment, machine guards and instructor supervision reduce accidents and injuries.

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