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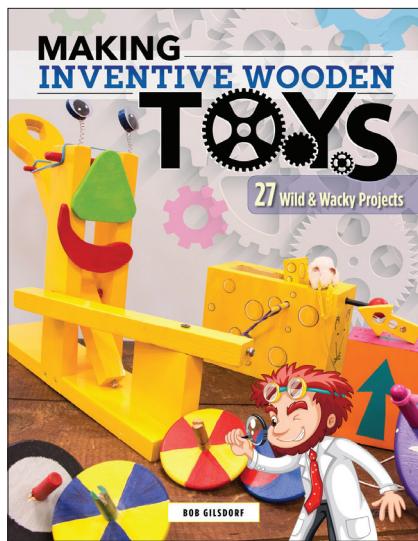
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STEAM-inspired Wooden Toymaking Book Combines Physics with Fun for the Whole Family



East Petersburg, PA—STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math) jobs are expected to rise by thirteen percent in the next decade. Having a firm foundation in these areas is key for students to ensure potential for success. That's why STEAM books are so important for young learners. When STEAM is applied to a fun activity, such as toymaking, learning takes on a whole new meaning.

Making Inventive Wooden Toys: 27 Wild & Wacky Projects Ideal for STEAM Education (Fox Chapel Publishing, October 2018) is a new book that applies STEAM principles with the craft of toymaking. Author and woodworker Bob Gilsdorf presents 27 fun wooden action toys and games that whiz, spin, pop, and fly in this highly enjoyable Fox Chapel title.

A multigenerational crafter, Gilsdorf remembers his father's woodshop growing up. "The creative environment sparked a strong early interest in woodworking," he says. When he was ten, he wanted to build something for his birthday. His parents gave him a pile of wood, four wheels, and a salvaged steering wheel to creat a go-kart. "It was the ultimate gift and the beginning of a lifetime hobby."

Now, Gilsdorf enjoys passing on the same enjoyment he felt as a child to younger generations. He discovered the delight of experiencing his own children's perspectives on woodworking. "One of the best parts of making toys with kids is that every project turns out perfect," he says. "I build a birdhouse with my four-year-old son and let him draw the shape for each side and roof. There wasn't a straight line or 90-degree angle anywhere, but my son said that it was exactly the way he wanted it."

He's taken this same lively attitude in ***Making Inventive Wooden Toys***. Each project is filled with fun, wonder, excitement, and learning. He shows how to create a ping-pong ball launcher, a desk-top rocket, a wheel-top racer, and more. With each project, Gilsdorf's motivation flows out of sharing the fun of toymaking with young woodworkers. "The real satisfaction," he says, "comes from watching the kids see their toys in action."

Fox Chapel Publishing is excited to add ***Making Inventive Wooden Toys*** to its line of popular STEAM-related books, including *BOOM! 50 Fantastic Experiments*, *Krazy Kool Kinetic Sand*, *Mousetrap Racers*, *Pinewood Derby Designs & Patterns*, and many others.