



# ROBERT ZOOK

Elementary STEM Teacher

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## FIND ME ONLINE

Professional Twitter  
<https://x.com/RobZook1>

Professional Portfolio  
[robertzook.com](http://robertzook.com)

## SKILLS

- Cultivating joyful STEM cultures in learning communities
- Designing differentiated, standards-based elementary science curricula
- Creating engaging, child-centered, Reggio-inspired learning environments
- Building transdisciplinary units of inquiry through collaboration
- Presenting and leading professional development for staff

## STRENGTHS

- Humble and reflective
- Collaborative seeker
- Adaptable learner
- Sense of humor
- Creative

## SUMMARY

**...Robert changed the culture of Science and learning at our school, and he's built a legacy.** Craig Alan Johnson, Director, American School of Bombay

Innovative elementary learning designer with a passion for authentically integrating joyful STEM approaches to create engaging, inquiry-driven learning experiences. Skilled in sparking academic growth through joyful, hands-on methods that inspire curiosity and a love for learning. Seeking an elementary educator role to continue collaborating with a dynamic and progressive school community, where I can bring joy to the learning process and enhance the impact of inquiry-based education.

## EXPERIENCE

Elementary Science Teacher 07/2019 - Present

**Korea International School** Pangyo, South Korea

- Taught science to over 350 Pre-K – Grade 5 scientists annually, using differentiated instruction to engage learners of all levels and foster a love for inquiry-based learning
- Designed and implemented a standards-based, Reggio-inspired science curriculum for Pre-K – Grade 5, incorporating differentiated strategies to meet the diverse needs of students
- Collaborated with homeroom teachers to integrate STEM into all subject areas, resulting in interdisciplinary units of inquiry and enhancing overall learning outcomes
- Grew a joyful STEM presence throughout learning community
- Led professional development workshops for staff, focusing on inquiry-based learning and STEM integration
- Presented at national and international conferences, sharing innovative STEM teaching strategies and classroom practices
- Led a team of 20 specialists, advancing the goals of the "Specialists are Literacy Teachers" project while promoting cross-disciplinary collaboration
- Laughed daily with our young scientists

Elementary Science and Maker 07/2015 - 06/2019

**American School of Bombay** Mumbai, India

- Taught Pre-K – Grade 5 STEM classes and co-taught with homeroom teachers, growing transdisciplinary integration of STEM across subjects
- Increased academic rigor and joyful learning by leading the integration of NGSS science standards into KG – Grade 5 PYP Programs of Inquiry
- Spearheaded the integration of science, coding, and robotics into homeroom literacy and math instruction, enriching the core curriculum with hands-on, STEM approaches to learning
- Cultivated a joyful STEM culture within the ASB learning community
- Organized and led "STEAM Maker Saturdays", a monthly event that connected over 200 students, parents, and teachers for joyful, collaborative, hands-on learning
- Designed and facilitated STEM workshops for ASB staff, parents, NGOs, and international conferences, sharing innovative strategies for inquiry-based learning and STEM integration

## PASSIONS

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♥ Spending Quality Time with my family

🚶 Hiking and exploring nature

🍷 Healthy Cooking

🌱 Gardening

## EXPERIENCE

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### Fifth Grade Teacher

07/2014 - 06/2015

**American School of Bombay**

Mumbai, India

- As a homeroom teacher, collaborated with the Grade 5 teaching team to align instruction with the ASB Mission Statement and the Primary Years Programme (PYP) framework
- Integrated STEAM, Maker education, project-based learning, and passion projects across all subjects, resulting in increased student inquiry, ownership, and engagement
- Implemented Responsive Classroom protocols, fostering a positive, inclusive learning environment and promoting student social-emotional development
- Mentored students through the PYP Exhibition, empowering them to take ownership of their learning and showcase their inquiry-based projects

### Fourth Grade Teacher

08/2006 - 06/2014

**Omaha Public Schools**

Omaha, NE

- As a homeroom teacher, cultivated critical thinking in diverse 4th-grade students through differentiated instruction, Readers and Writers workshops, project-based learning (PBL), and the use of humor to engage students across all subjects
- Co-developed the district's elementary science curriculum, enhancing the scope and rigor of science education for all elementary students
- Led professional development workshops on integrating STEM and literacy for colleagues at the district level
- Designed and led after-school programs for robotics, science, math and green technology

## EDUCATION

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Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education

2006

**Peru State College**

Peru, NE

Completing - Master in Science and Curriculum and Instruction - 2 classes left to complete degree

**University of Concordia**

Portland, Or

## PUBLICATIONS

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Maker Minds

2015

**ASB R&D**

*Chapter: Making in the Classroom*

Future Forwards

2017

**ASB R&D**

*Article: Making and Tinkering in the PYP*