

STEMscopes Early Explorer Named CODIE Award Finalist for Best PreK/Early Childhood Learning Solution

HOUSTON — May 9, 2018 — The 2018 <u>SIIA CODiE Awards</u> have selected <u>STEMscopes™ Early Explorer</u> as a finalist in the Best PreK/Early Childhood Learning Solution category.

The SIIA CODiE Awards are the premier awards for the software and information industries and have been recognizing product excellence for more than 30 years. STEMscopes Early Explorer was honored as one of 152 finalists across the 39 education technology categories.

"I am impressed by the level of innovation and creativity demonstrated by the 2018 CODiE award finalists. These products are opening doors for learners of all ages by developing and utilizing new technologies to respond to student and educator needs," said Ken Wasch, president of SIIA.

Developed by <u>Accelerate Learning</u> and incubated at Rice University, STEMscopes Early Explorer is an online comprehensive early childhood STEM program that embraces learning by doing to build interest and engagement in STEM. Designed for children ages 3-5, it is built from the ground up to Head Start, state and national preK and kindergarten guidelines, and it is scaffolded to prepare students for the Next Generation Science Standards in kindergarten.

"Receiving this prestigious industry recognition is validation that STEMscopes Early Explorer is meeting a critical need and preparing our youngest learners for STEM learning and career opportunities," said Dr. Vernon Johnson, president and CEO of Accelerate Learning. "In an implementation study of STEMscopes Early Explorer, teachers reported spending an average of 36 minutes per day on STEM instruction, compared to the national average of one to three minutes spent on math and science in preschool classrooms. A follow-up study showed that students who used STEMscopes Early Explorer in preschool also had significantly higher science scores at the beginning of kindergarten and they maintained this advantage throughout the school year. These results and this recognition clearly make the case for starting STEM early."

The SIIA CODiE Awards are the industry's only peer-reviewed awards program. Educators and administrators serve as judges and conduct the first-round review of all education nominees. Their scores determine the SIIA CODIE Award finalists. Winners will be announced during a CODIE Award Celebration at the SIIA Annual Conference and CODIE Awards in San Francisco on June 13.

For more information, visit http://stemscopes.com or call toll-free 800-531-0864.

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