

Professional Development Situation: Coaching

Skill Focus: Developing a STEM Identity

Time Required: 15 minutes

MAKING STEM STICK

Participants will read “STEM in Afterschool” and reflect on keeping youth engaged in STEM to help them develop a STEM identity.

Agenda

Reading & Reflecting—10 minutes

- [STEM in Afterschool: Changing Perspectives, Changing Lives](#)

Setting Goals—5 minutes

Materials

- [STEM in Afterschool: Changing Perspectives, Changing Lives](#)
 - If conducting this session virtually, be sure the participant has access to this.

Before the Session

- **Read this coaching guide** to become familiar with the content and allow time to personalize the activities to best suit your presentation style.
 - *Italics indicate text that can be read aloud or emailed to the participant.*
- Send an email to the participant being coached:
 - *Our coaching session is scheduled for DATE at TIME. We will focus on “Developing a STEM Identity”. Please feel free to contact me with your questions or concerns at CONTACT INFORMATION.*
- Gather all materials needed for the coaching session.

During the Session

Reading & Reflecting (10 min)

- Give a copy of [STEM in Afterschool: Changing Perspectives, Changing Lives](#) to the participant.

- Read through the report together, however feels most comfortable. You might read together or ask the participant to read along and circle parts that are surprising or interesting.
 - **Optional:** If you think it would be successful, you can distribute this document before the meeting and assign it as “homework.”

Setting Goals (5 min)

- Ask the participant what actionable pieces of information are in this document. Some suggestions:
 - Keeping youth interested is paramount to supporting identities in STEM
 - Youth who get involved in STEM out-of-school-time programs tend to stay in STEM longer, so we need more out-of-school-time programming.
- Ask a few follow-up questions:
 - *Do you feel like your youth are 100% engaged?*
 - *Do you think youth “buy in” to the program? Is it important to them?*
 - *What can we do to make sure youth feel welcomed, challenged, and engaged at every session?*
- Commit to an action plan for keeping youth engaged in your program. Try to make it a simple, short-term goal. You should all share the responsibility for meeting this goal.

After the Session

- Follow up with your participant to see how they are progressing on their action plan. Try to be supportive and helpful, not evaluative.

Want to Earn Credit? Click2Science has teamed up with Better Kid Care to provide continuing education units. Check it out at: <http://www.click2sciencepd.org/web-lessons/about>