

Implementing Click2Science at the Y-USA

Background Summary:



Representatives from Click2SciencePD (C2S) collaborated with the Y-USA to recruit participants from four locations (Fort Worth, Memphis, San Antonio, and St. Louis). A small group of leaders from each location participated in C2S training put on by C2S staff in the fall of 2016. These leaders were then responsible for training 10 frontline staff at their respective locations between fall 2016 and spring 2017. The triangulated, comprehensive evaluation included interview/focus groups with site leaders and frontline staff following training, pre- and post-training observations of frontline staff using the Dimensions of Success (DoS) protocol, and collection of youth data.



Site leaders and frontline staff had positive perceptions of their experiences with C2S training.

"So many times staff take a training and it's the theory of STEM...I felt Click2Science provided them [staff] with the actual skills of this is how you ask purposeful questions or this is an example of someone in a tinker room asking purposeful questions." – Leader

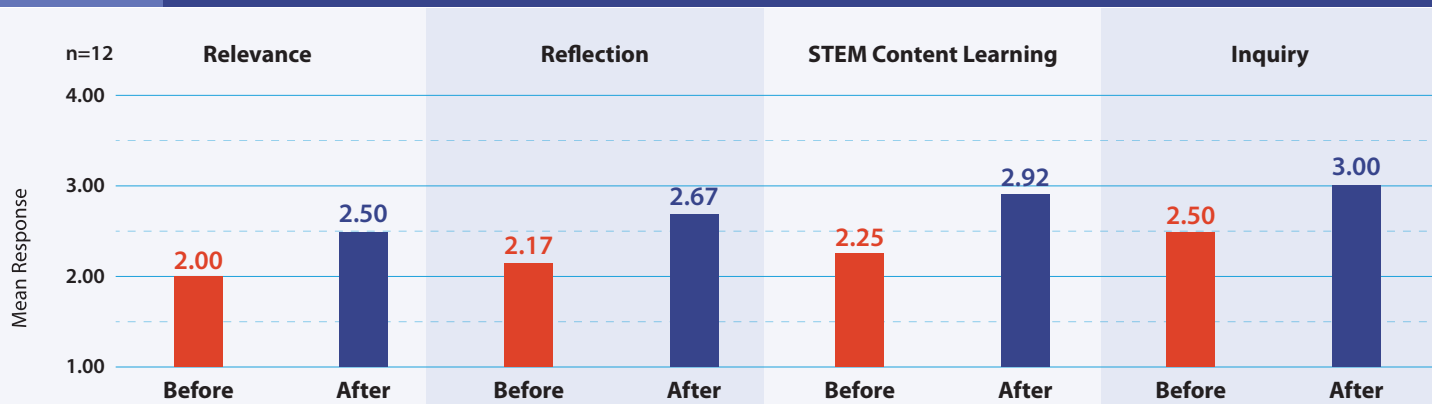
"I felt that it [Click2Science training] helped make me stronger in a lot of places I didn't realized I was weak in." – Frontline staff

"Knowing that they [staff] are touching lives in STEM is something we haven't done before –Click2Science helped bridge that gap and made it possible." – Leader

"In the Click2Science training I've been able to take back things like purposeful questions, making sure I'm hands on with a group, and also allowing the kids to feel like they know how to be in certain roles, like they can be in leadership roles." – Frontline staff

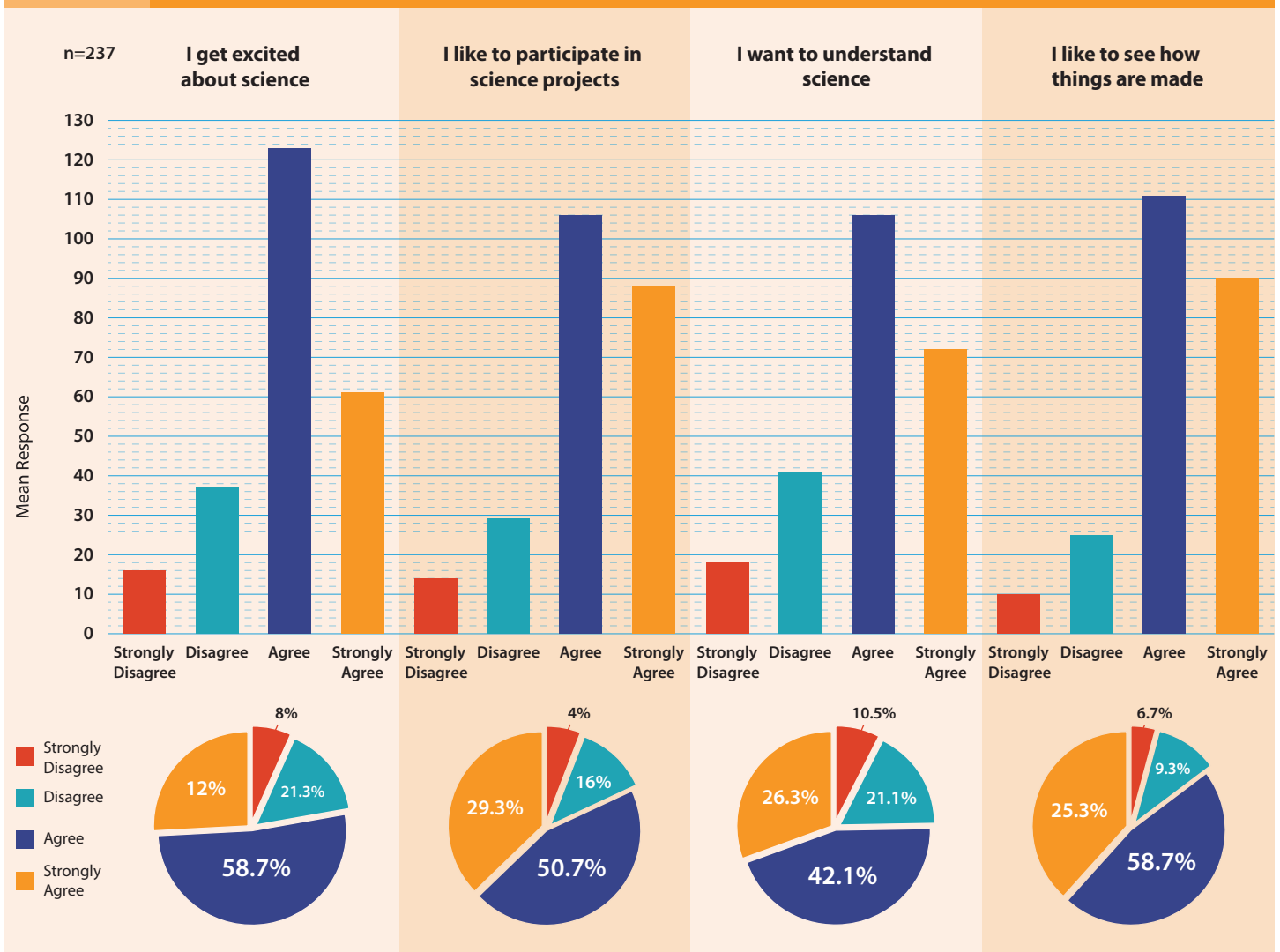


Frontline staff selected for observations improved over time on 11 out of the 12 DoS dimensions. Highest gains were found on the inquiry, reflection, relevance, STEM content learning and youth voice dimensions.





Data were collected from participants in grades 3-8 involved in OST Y-USA programs at four locations (Fort Worth, Memphis, San Antonio, and St. Louis). Youth consistently indicated they had positive perceptions of broad science-related areas and were curious about science and technology.



✓ Main Point:

Different sources of evidence point to the ability of C2S training to make a positive impact on frontline staff practice. Positive reflections expressed by frontline staff, their leaders, and the empirical evidence from the DoS showing improvement over time, support the role of C2S in helping frontline staff. Youth data demonstrates participants in programs taught by frontline staff trained in C2S have positive perceptions of broad science-related aspects.