Nationally Acclaimed Afterschool Coaching

About Us
ACRES workshops meet in small supportive groups of 4 to 8 educators. Cohorts meet online for interactive professional learning. We offer a variety of cohorts and can also tailor a cohort for an organization’s staff. Thanks to generous funding from several national foundations, the program is currently offered at no cost to participants. The program was launched in 2015 as a project of the Maine Mathematics and Science Alliance. Participating in the ACRES series will help afterschool educators build facilitation skills and confidence in STEM.

Learn more at www.mmsa.org/acres.

At a Glance
ACRES is a nationally acclaimed coaching program that builds knowledge and skills so afterschool educators, librarians and anyone who works with youth in out-of-school settings can confidently facilitate Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) experiences for youth.

- 90% of participants found ACRES to be useful to their practice as an educator;
- 85% found taking an ACRES course enjoyable;
- 88% are likely to take another ACRES module and;
- 89% would recommend ACRES to a colleague.

Over 350 individual participants engaged in Virtual Professional learning.

Who We Work With
ACRES Participants serve youth in programs such as Boys and Girls Clubs, Scouts, YMCAs, afterschool programs, robotics programs, science olympiad, teen centers, local library programs, science centers, museums, summer camps and more.
Without STEM Lessons and Questions, There Can’t be STEAM Activities

SCIENCE

SCIENCE:
The process of asking and answering questions about the natural and designed world, leading to greater understanding of predictive power.

TECHNOLOGY

All of the products, processes, and systems that we develop to improve the human-made world and preserve the natural environment.

ART

The process for defining problems and developing solutions to improve the human-made world while preserving the natural environment for future generations.

MATH

The study of numbers, shapes and patterns. Numbers: how things can be counted. Structure: how things are organized. Place: where things are and their arrangement. Change: how things become different.
education should be about allowing students to wonder, to question, to explore and to do their own sense-making of natural and human-made phenomena. Instead it is often a place for teachers to tell students about science."

- Linda Tolladay in Education Week Teacher
Why I am passionate about STEM

STEM Statistics
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IN-DEMAND SKILLS

Attributes employers seek¹

- Leadership: 80%
- Teamwork: 79%
- Written communications: 70%
- Problem solving: 70%
- Verbal communications: 69%
- Strong work ethic: 69%
- Initiative: 66%
- Analytical/Quantitative skills: 63%
- Flexibility/Adaptability: 61%
- Technical skills: 60%
- Interpersonal skills: 58%
- Computer skills: 55%
- Detail-oriented: 53%
- Organizational ability: 49%
- Friendly/Outgoing: 35%
- Strategic planning skills: 27%
- Creativity: 24%
- Tactfulness: 21%
- Entrepreneurial skills/Risk-taker: 19%

¹National Association of Colleges and Employers, 2015
Why I am passionate about STEM

COLLEGE GRADS AND EMPLOYERS DISAGREE ON WORKFORCE PREPAREDNESS

Percentages represent the number of students/employers who think college grads are highly prepared in these skill areas upon entering the workforce.

Thank you for joining our session on STEM. Stay in touch.