



Working together to increase the availability
and quality of afterschool opportunities statewide

@fterschool advisor - November 1, 2012

Announcements from the Center

Afterschool Conference Reaches New All-Time High

Healthy Minds, Healthy Bodies, Healthy Youth Afterschool, the 20th annual statewide conference sponsored by the Arizona Center for Afterschool Excellence looks forward to welcoming over 700 afterschool staff and administrators on Saturday, November 3 at the Phoenix Convention Center.

Normandie Nigh, CEO of A World Fit for Kids, will give the keynote address and then attendees will have their choice of 36 workshops on topics ranging from healthy living skills and activities to behavior management, STEM, and much more.

Between sessions, conference attendees will have the benefit of interacting with a broad range of exhibitors who represent best practice goods and services to increase the quality of programs for all ages.

Registration for the conference is now closed but we encourage you to attend one of multiple trainings that AzCASE will sponsor from January through May. A full schedule of these trainings will be published soon. And of course we encourage you to plan now to attend our next full day conference in November 2013.



**Healthy Minds.
Healthy Bodies.
Healthy Youth Afterschool.**

**The 20th Annual
Arizona Statewide
Afterschool Conference &
Awards of Excellence Luncheon**

Saturday, November 3, 2012
8 am - 3:30 pm
Phoenix Convention Center, West Building

If you are an attendee, an exhibitor, or a workshop presenter, you should have received a reminder email with logistical details to help the day of the conference go smoothly. Additional conference details, including the discounted parking flyer, workshop lineup, and more can be found on the [main conference page here>>](#)

Still have questions?

Call 602.496.3308 or email info@azafterschool.org

Tucson Parks & Rec's KIDCO Shines the Lights on Afterschool



The word is out - Tucson's got talent! To mark the annual Lights On Afterschool celebrations, Tucson Parks & Recreation's KIDCO Program took the idea of Lights on and ran with it, putting on a KIDCO Idol and dance performance that featured 487 kids and drew an amazing crowd of 4,500 family and community members.

October 18th is the annual day for Lights On Afterschool celebrations, providing a chance for programs to raise awareness of the important work happening in afterschool, and the Afterschool Alliance encourages gatherings to bring the community together around out of school time. KIDCO, in true afterschool fashion, gave kids voice and choice in the performances. Kids and staff at each of the sites worked together since August to come up with the songs and routines they would perform. Kids came up with the costume and performance ideas, and got help from families to fill in with decorations.

The event, held at Reid Park, gave afterschool and the KIDCO youth a chance to shine. Vendors sold food, families came to cheer on their kids, and community members gathered to see what was going on, hopefully leaving with an increased appreciation for the vital work KIDCO and other afterschool programs do.

"For us, afterschool is such a need and if we don't get the word out there, people just don't know that we have it," said Teri Mendez, Recreation Program Coordinator with Tucson Parks & Recreation.

Her suggestions for programs pondering future Lights On celebrations: "Put it in the hands of a child. They will perform if you let them."

Watch the [video](#) of KIDCO's stars in action, and see more of what KIDCO has been up to [here](#).

AzCASE Leads Effort to Develop Afterschool Standards

The Arizona Center for Afterschool Excellence and the Valley of the Sun United Way are partnering to lead a statewide effort to develop afterschool quality standards that are intended to be a framework to help program providers align their policies, practices and procedures. The purpose of the Arizona Afterschool Standards is to outline the path and specific steps that lead to quality programs, based on research and best practices in the education and youth development field. The proposed Arizona standards are meant to be recommended, voluntary guidelines for:

- Afterschool providers --- for self assessment, measurement, accountability, and quality improvement; and to provide a shared framework for collaboration with others
- Funders and Policy Leaders - to link funding and accountability to research-based, measurable outcomes
- Parents and Families - to understand essential elements of high quality programs and to be able to advocate on behalf of their children and youth

A statewide quality committee comprised of afterschool providers, educators, youth development professionals and government representatives has been assembled to draft the proposed standards over the next six months. Once completed, the proposed standards will be vetted statewide getting the input and buy-in from stakeholders across the state.

The development of standards is seen as the first step in a three year process to develop a comprehensive quality improvement system for afterschool and out-of school time programs. Subsequent steps will be the review and recommendation of assessment tools for providers and the development of a professional development system that ensures program staff have the core competencies required under the standards and the assessment tools.

For more information regarding the Standards Committee and the quality improvement system, please contact Melanie McClintock at mmcclintock@azafterschool.org or at 602.496.3307.

To see the full list of Standards Committee members, click [here>>](#)

Only 5 Days Until the General Election!

If you've been sitting this one out so far, now's the time to tune in to the election. Take these last 5 days before the election to educate yourself on issues that will be on your ballot on Nov. 6. This election will decide a number of issues crucial to kids. It's incredibly important that you study up and show up to vote on Tuesday!

Here's how:



1. Send in or drop off your Early Voting ballot!

Early voting by mail has already started! If you are already on the early voting list, you should have received your ballot in the mail several weeks ago. Have questions about early voting? [Contact your county recorder's office for help here>>](#)

Your early ballot must be received (postmarks do not count) by 7:00 p.m. on Election Day in order to be counted. Please make sure that you return your early ballot by mail well in advance of the deadline date to ensure that your vote will be counted.

You can also skip the lines and drop it off at your polling place on the day of the election if you don't get it in the mail in time.

[Learn more about Early Voting>>](#)

Note: All counties in Arizona have the same Early Voting rules, so even though the link takes you to the Maricopa County Recorders website, if you live anywhere in Arizona the same rules apply.

Important dates

- Last day to vote early in person: November 2
- General election: Tuesday, November 6th

[Find your polling place>>](#)

2. Be an informed voter!

Know what district you're in and who's running

Redistricting changed the boundaries and makeup of Arizona's legislative and congressional districts.

[Find out which district you live in here>>](#)

[See who your candidates are for all of November's races here>>](#)

Know what the candidates stand for

Children's Action Alliance has compiled a legislative [report card](#), so you can see how your legislators voted in issues impacting children and families in the 2012 Legislative Session. You can also find information on student achievement and conditions for children and families in your redrawn district in Children's Action Alliance's [2012 Legislative District Factsheets](#).

Know what the ballot propositions are about

There are nine statewide ballot propositions to vote on this November. The Secretary of State's office offers a [guide](#), including the text of the proposition and arguments for and against. The Arizona Advocacy Network provides its own [non-partisan guide](#), explaining the background of propositions, summarizing arguments for and against, and listing who is for and against as well as how much money has been donated to each side.

3. Be an advocate for afterschool!

The Afterschool Alliance has released updated versions of its [Campaign Toolkit](#) and its Candidate's Guide to Afterschool. Particularly during presidential election cycles, voters' concerns are brought to the forefront of the public debate and widely discussed in the media. But what concerns will be raised? Whose voices will be heard? What will candidates and pundits focus on? It is the voices of people in local communities that drive candidates' campaigns. [Download the Campaign Toolkit here>>](#)

Scottsdale Residents: Read City Council and Mayoral Candidate's Views on Afterschool!

AzCASE contacted all candidates running for mayor or city council seats in Scottsdale. Check the left hand news section of our [home page](#) for the responses, to see where the responding candidates fall on important afterschool issues.

Access additional election resources, afterschool talking points, and find your legislators on our [website](#).

4. Get youth fired up about civics!

AzCASE encourages you to show up to vote on November 6th. However, just because kids can't vote yet doesn't mean it's too soon for them to get in on the action! Make afterschool a place where kids learn about the importance of civic participation, and realize that they have a voice!

Election & Civics Resources

- [Rand McNally Play the Election](#)
- [iCivics](#)
- [PBS' Election Center](#)
- [Center for Civic Education's Voting Lessons](#)
- [Constitution Center Educational Games](#)
- [Annenberg Center Resources for Excellent Civics Education](#)
- [New York Time Education Blog: Ideas for Teaching Elections to English Language Learners](#)
- [Even More Resources for Teaching English Language Learners About Elections](#)

Focus on Health

Afterschool programs play a key role in the health and well-being of youth through activities that encourage healthy behaviors, an environment that includes a healthy snack or meal, and opportunities for physical activity. This section features new topics, resources, curriculum ideas and activities to help you ensure youth are fit, healthy, and ready to learn. [See a complete list of our afterschool health resources here>>](#)

The end of Hot Cheetos?



You can almost hear the howls of outrage from here. Despite a spike in national popularity after being the focus of a [viral video](#) this summer, Hot Cheetos are now the [target of bans](#) in school districts in Illinois, New Mexico, and California for being unhealthy and creating messes for janitorial staffs to deal with thanks to their trademark red powder. This leads to a key question for educators: How do you get kids to make healthier choices about what they eat?

Fuel Up to Play 60 has some resources that can help make eating healthy fun. From taste tests and contests that introduce kids to healthier foods to cooking challenges and schedule shifts to make sure kids have enough time to eat and realize when they're full, there are a variety of ways to make nutrition fun and help kids learn to make healthier choices on their own.

[See the Fuel Up to Play 60 Healthy Eating Playbook for more ideas>>](#)

Health Funding Opportunities

Delta Dental of Arizona Foundation 2012-13 Community Grants Program

Deadline: November 15, 2012

Improving oral health for communities and residents of Arizona, particularly the underserved and uninsured, is the mission of the Delta Dental of Arizona Foundation. Since 1997, the Foundation has focused resources across the state

promoting oral health and preventing dental disease in children and youth through age 18.

Organizations may apply for grants ranging from \$1,000 to \$15,000 to support oral health promotion and dental disease prevention programs serving children and youth (this includes programs serving pregnant mothers and children and youth through age 18).

[More information>>](#)

APS Foundation Grants

Deadline: Rolling

Through Corporate Giving, APS supports nonprofit organizations with a 501(c)(3) Internal Revenue Service tax exempt status through cash and/or in kind services. APS supports local communities in five strategic areas: health and human services, community development, education, arts and culture, and environment. Grants have been awarded to schools, recreation centers, sports programs, and many other community groups. Award Amount: Award amounts vary

[More information>>](#)

The Wal-Mart Foundation

Deadline: Rolling

The Wal-Mart Foundation supports programs and initiatives addressing education, workforce development, economic sustainability, and health and wellness. For health and wellness in particular, the Foundation looks to promote healthy lifestyles and behaviors. Organizations that meet the eligibility requirements for this program can request an application at their local Wal-Mart or Sam's Club. Award Amount: \$250 - \$5,000

[More information>>](#)

SPARK Grants

[Grant Finder Tool](#) allows you to search for Grants by location and program of interest. Grants updated daily.

Arizona's Coordinated School Health Program

Provides current funding opportunities from their partnering organizations.

[View here>>](#)

Conferences, Trainings & Seminars

20th Annual AZ Afterschool Conference

Healthy Minds.

Healthy Bodies.

Healthy Youth **Afterschool.**

Saturday, November 3, 2012

8 am - 3:30 pm

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[More information>>](#)

Questions?

602.496.3308, info@azafterschool.org

Sixth Annual Children's Obesity Conference

Thursday, December 6, 2012

Desert Willow Conference Center in Phoenix

Explore children's health through the lens of this year's theme, "Mental Health and Childhood Obesity: An Exploration of the Role of Bullying, Self Esteem and Health Among Children and Families."

[More information>>](#)

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in the afterschool community,
join our network on Facebook!



Afterschool in the News

Arne Duncan Highlights Impact of Afterschool

Secretary of Education Arne Duncan appeared on the Diane Rehm show at the tail end of his cross-country trip promoting education as an investment in the future of America. He touched on challenges facing education reform, the drop out crisis, and education funding. He also took time to highlight the importance of out-of-school time in keeping youth engaged in their schools and communities.

"When you have great extracurricular activities after school, dance and drama and art and chess and debate and yearbook and sports teams, those things... often actually keep students in school and give them a reason to be excited about coming to school," he said. "In far too many places, those extracurriculars have been cut. I really think schools should be community centers open 12, 13, 14 hours a day with the school running the school during the day."

[Hear the interview and read the transcript here>>](#)

Is College Still Worth It? Statistics Say Yes

Unemployment numbers were better last month, but half of recent college grads are still [unemployed or underemployed](#). It seems like everyone, from politicians to [Newsweek](#), is asking, given rising tuition costs, is college is still worth it? Odds are if you work with junior high or high school kids and their families, they're wondering the same thing.

Analysis out of the Brookings Institute says yes, college is very much still a worthwhile investment. Veritably every sector of society has felt the reverberations of the economic downturn in the past few years, but college graduates have remained 20 percentage points more likely to be employed as compared to those with only a high school diploma, the most dramatic gap in recent history.

The cost benefit analysis is pretty clear when it comes to earnings as well: "While college may be 50 percent more expensive now than it was 30 years ago, the increase to lifetime earnings that a college degree brings is 75 percent higher."

[Read the analysis on why college still makes fiscal sense here>>](#)

[For resources on affording college, check out the Arizona College Access Network here>>](#)

Job Opportunities

**HAVE AN AFTERSCHOOL JOB OPENING
TO POST IN OUR NEWSLETTER?**

[Post it here>>](#)

Kyrene Community Education

Program Coordinators (Tempe)

Program Specialists (Tempe)

Club Leaders (Tempe)

[Read more>>](#)

Children's Action Alliance

Program Coordinator - Arizona Youth Opportunities (Phoenix)

[Read more>>](#)

Jobs for Arizona's Graduates

Dunbar Elementary Service Learning & College Awareness Coordinator (Phoenix)

[Read more>>](#)

Our Family Services

Academic Educator/Children's Program Coordinator
(Tucson)

[Read more>>](#)

United Way of Northern Arizona

Literacy Coordinator (Flagstaff)

[Read more>>](#)

Great Hearts Academy

After-School Athenaeum Program Director (Phoenix)

[Read more>>](#)

City of Scottsdale

Recreation Leader II (Scottsdale)

[Read more>>](#)

City of Phoenix

Project BRAVE Youth Counselor - Part-time (Phoenix)

[Read more>>](#)

[View the full list of available positions and descriptions on our website>>](#)

Funding Opportunities

***New opportunities in red**

Prudential Spirit of Community Awards

Deadline: November 6, 2012

The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards program annually honors middle and high school students in the United States who volunteer. Students in grades 5-12 are eligible to apply for the 2013 awards if they have volunteered in the past year. Awards are granted to youth volunteers at the local, state, and national level. State honorees will receive \$1,000 awards, silver medallions, and an all-expense-paid trip to Washington, D.C., in May for special recognition events.

[More information>>](#)

Nike Support for Native American Youth Sports

Deadline: November 15, 2012

The N7 Fund, an initiative of Nike, is committed to bringing sport and all of its benefits to Native American and Aboriginal communities in the U.S. and Canada. The N7 Fund offers grants to nonprofit organizations that provide sports and physical activity programs for Native American and Aboriginal youth of high school age or younger. Grants of up to \$50,000 are provided. To be considered for funding, grant applicants must have a measurement of success for their programs.

[Read more>>](#)

EMCF Social Innovation Fund Grants

Notice of Intent to Apply Due: November 13, 2012

Through this open, national competition, EMCF plans to make investments in three to five nonprofits that help economically disadvantaged youth improve academic achievement, attain employment and avoid risky behaviors.

We are interested in youth-serving organizations throughout the United States that have:

- Compelling evidence of their programs' impact on economically disadvantaged youth, ages 9-24, and meet, or are on a path to meet within three years, EMCF's definition of demonstrated effectiveness.
- A track record of reaching the hardest-to-serve youth in communities of need, as outlined in our Eligibility Requirements.
- Strong leadership and a potential for growth, including the ability to secure funds to sustain operations on a larger scale after EMCF's investment concludes.
- The financial and operational capacity to expand to scale, and to meet federal compliance requirements regarding the use of grant and match funds.

[Read more>>](#)

Financial Literacy Program Grants

Deadline: November 15 for December 15th grant announcements; rolling throughout the year

The Comerica Charitable Foundation awards grants of varying amounts to communities in Texas, Michigan, California, Arizona, and Florida. The Foundation supports education programs including K-12 and adult financial literacy programs. When applicable, it also encourages efforts made by non-profit organizations to use minority and women-owned businesses in the development, design, or implementation of charitable fund-raising campaigns.

[Read more>>](#)

Project Ignition

Deadline: November 15, 2012

The National Youth Leadership Council® and State Farm® are pleased to announce the availability of \$2,000 Project Ignition grants! Public high schools may apply for the grants to address teen driver safety through service-learning. Car crashes remain the number one cause of death for adolescents. Project Ignition is bringing together students, teachers and communities to create change and save lives. Twenty-five schools will be chosen to receive \$2,000 grants in January 2013 and implement their campaigns from January to April. The ten best campaigns will be selected to receive up to an additional \$7,500 to continue their project in the following school year and participate in the National Service-Learning Conference® in 2014.

[More information>>](#)

Responsible Sports Grants

Deadline: November 31, 2012

Responsible Sports, a philanthropic program of insurance company Liberty Mutual, is accepting applications from youth sports organizations in the United States to participate in its Responsible Sports Community Grant program. Fifteen \$2500 grants, intended to help defray the costs of running a successful youth sports program, are available in 3 categories - large (100+ players) organization, small (under 100 players) organization and school/educational organizations.

[More information>>](#)

Youth Garden Grants

Deadline: December 3, 2012

Sponsored by the Home Depot Garden Club, the National Gardening Association's Youth Garden Grants are awarded to schools and community organizations with child-centered garden programs. Schools, youth groups, community centers, camps, clubs, treatment facilities, and inter-generational groups in the United States are eligible. Applicants must plan to garden with at least fifteen children between the ages of 3 and 18. Priority will be given to programs that emphasize integration of content standards, nutrition connections, environmental awareness, entrepreneurship, and social aspects of gardening such as leadership development, team building, community support, or service-learning.

[More information>>](#)

National Science Foundation STEM Grants **Deadline: January 14, 2012**

The Advancing Informal STEM Learning program invests in research and development of innovative and field advancing out of school STEM learning and emerging STEM learning environments.

[Read more>>](#)

GTECH Afterschool Advantage Computer Lab Grants

Deadline: Rolling

The GTECH *After School Advantage* Program is a national community investment program, which provides non-profit community agencies and public schools with state-of-the-art computer labs. These computer centers are designed to provide inner-city children aged five to 15 with a meaningful, yet fun, learning experience during the critical after-school hours, in a safe environment. GTECH hopes to increase children's interest in careers in computers and provide them with the necessary tools to help them become more competitive in school and in today's job market. GTECH will donate up to \$15,000 in state-of-the-art computers, on-line technology, computer software and volunteer hours to each afterschool program selected.

[More information>>](#)

Ronald McDonald House Charities

Deadline: Rolling

The Ronald McDonald House Charities not only try to improve the health and well being of children directly through our programs, but we also work with non-profit organizations around the world that are making an immediate, positive impact on children who need it most. Grants to these organizations extend the reach and impact of RMHC and move donation dollars quickly through to areas in their time of need. Amounts vary.

[More information>>](#)

[Find more resources and funding opportunities on our website>>](#)

Awards, Contests & Fellowships

Valley Teen Leadership Program

Deadline: November 2

The Valley Teen Leadership program provides opportunities for high school sophomores and juniors to participate in a highly interactive four-month program designed to equip the next generation of leaders with the tools necessary to successfully address community needs. Teens learn leadership and creative problem-solving skills through interactions with community leaders who help foster an

awareness of local, national, and global issues. Electronic applications, including an essay and references, are required, so interested students are encouraged to apply soon! Financial assistance is available based on individual need.

[More information>>](#)

Early Childhood Child Care Teacher Awards

Deadline: December 3

The Terri Lynne Lokoff Child Care Foundation/Children's Tylenol National Child Care Teacher Awards acknowledge the critical role of child care teachers in providing quality early care and education. Early childhood and preschool child care teachers from all 50 states and the District of Columbia and on U.S. Military bases and installations are eligible to apply for these awards. Applicants must be full-time child care teachers employed in a home, group, or center-based program for a minimum of three years and meet other eligibility guidelines. As part of the application process, teachers are asked to design an enhancement project for the children in their classroom or home, illustrating the educational, social, and emotional benefits from the project. Fifty selected teachers will each receive a \$1,000 grant; \$500 to create the project and \$500 for the teacher's personal use. Of the top ten recipients, one is selected to receive the Helene Marks Award, which includes an additional \$1,000 award.

[More information>>](#)

Phoenix Outstanding Young Man & Young Woman of the Year Awards

Deadline: December 7

Do you know any outstanding high school students? The city of Phoenix is seeking exceptional students for its 27th Annual Outstanding Young Man and Young Woman of the Year Awards.

One exceptional young man and young woman will be selected for recognition from each of the eight City Council districts. Of the 16 finalists, a deserving young man and young woman will be awarded the honor of Citywide Young Man/Young Woman of the Year, and will each receive an additional prize!

For more information, contact the Neighborhood Services Department at 602-534-4444 or

mailbox.youth@phoenix.gov

[More information>>](#)

The Lexus Eco Challenge

Deadline: December 17 (air/climate)

Lexus and Scholastic have teamed up for the Lexus Eco Challenge, designed to inspire and empower middle and high school students to learn about the environment and take action to improve it. Middle and high school teams comprised of five to ten students and a teacher-advisor are invited to participate in one or both of the two initial challenges, each addressing different environmental elements - land/water and air/climate. For each of the challenges, teams define an environmental issue that is important to them, develop an action plan to address the issue, implement the plan, and report the results. The submission deadline for Challenge 2 (air/climate) is December 17, 2012. The program will award a total of \$500,000 in grants and scholarships.

[More information>>](#)

Arizona Rubik's Tournament

Competition: March 2, ASU West Campus

Introduce kids to a classic puzzle, the Rubik's cube! The tournament will consist of teams of eight students in grades K-12 plus a teacher/coach, divided into elementary, middle school, and high school divisions. The teams will be competing to collectively solve 25 Rubik's Cubes.

[More information>>](#)

Trainings & Conferences

2012 Statewide Afterschool Conference

November 3, Phoenix Convention Center

Get tips on transforming your program into a force for changing lives and saving lives from a nationally-recognized expert! Learn activities and practices you can put to work the next day! Take advantage of specialized Junior High and Administrator tracks! See the nine finalists for the Afterschool Awards of Excellence and Mayor Stanton honored at our annual Luncheon! Enjoy all of this and more at the Annual Statewide Afterschool Conference. Register today!

[More information>>](#)

FREE Arts Integrations Trainings

November 2

Coconino Center for the Arts, Flagstaff

Arts Intensive

November 3

Sperling Center for Educational Innovation, Tempe

Arts Integration for Common Core

November 10

Pima College Center for the Arts, Tucson

Arts Integration for Common Core

Arts Integration Solutions is offering a series of free professional development trainings for teachers. To find out more and to register, see <http://artsintegration.com/>

Arizona SciTech Festival Opens Call for Events

Deadline: November 10

Through a partnership formed between Arizona Science Center, Arizona State University, Arizona Technology Council Foundation and the Arizona Commerce Authority, the Arizona SciTech Festival is gearing up for its second annual event designed to excite and inform Arizonans of all ages about how science, technology and innovation affects their everyday lives and will expand their economic future.

After a successful Festival kick-off conference that brought together over 375 partners in industry, education, research, entrepreneurship, community, arts and culture, now is the time for all Arizonans to submit their ideas for events for the 2013 festivities.

[Learn more and suggest an event>>](#)

First Flight Robotics Workshop

November 17, 8:00 am - 3:30 pm

Through a partnership formed between Arizona Science Center, Arizona State University, Arizona Technology Council Foundation and the Arizona Commerce Authority, the Arizona SciTech Festival is gearing up for its second annual event designed to excite and inform Arizonans of all ages about how science, technology and innovation affects their everyday lives and will expand their economic future. After a successful Festival kick-off conference that brought together over 375 partners in industry, education, research, entrepreneurship, community, arts and culture, now is the time for all Arizonans to submit their ideas for events for the 2013 festivities.

[Learn more and suggest an event>>](#)

How Kids Learn II

January 9, 2013, San Francisco

On January 9, 2013, the Learning in Afterschool & Summer project and Temescal Associates will hold a TED-like conference in the Bay Area entitled How Kids Learn II. The purpose of the conference is to inform and energize OST program leaders, educators, afterschool stakeholders, and policymakers about our current knowledge on how children learn, and to share innovative approaches to promoting learning outside of the classroom. Registration is open now, and space is limited.

[More information>>](#)

Best of Out of School Time Conference

May 1-4, 2013, Palm Springs, CA

BOOST invites you to join the nation's largest, most recognized and comprehensive conference for after school and out-of-school time professionals. Set in a retreat-like atmosphere, this conference promises to rejuvenate your passion and boost your direction for quality programming.

[More information>>](#)

Community Events

Fit Kids of Arizona

November 3, 9:00 am

Riverfront Park, Cottonwood, AZ

Race to support the the fight against childhood obesity at the 2012 Fit Kids of Arizona 5K Fun Run and 10K Autumn Dash! Online registration open though **today**, all kids 5 and under and all Fit Kids active program participants run FREE! 5K entry cost \$20 for adults, \$5 for kids 5-18. 10K entry cost \$40 for adults, \$10 for kids 5-18. You'll have a chance to win awards by age group, receive an event

t-shirt, and enjoy a great post-race bash!

[More information>>](#)

21st Century Pima County Youth Career Workforce Development Healthcare Expo

November 14, 3:00-6:00 pm

Mulcahy Kino Community Center YMCA

Attend the Workforce Development Health Career Expo for a chance to meet and interact with 30 health care-related and schooling career representatives! There will be breakout sessions and exhibits that participants can attend and view. For questions, please contact [Johanna Duffek](#) or [Rebecca Pitman](#).

[More information>>](#)

Rafters Fall League Family Days

Tuesdays in November

Salt River Fields, Scottsdale

Every Tuesday, fans will be able to participate in family-friendly "Take Me Out Tuesdays." For only \$11, fans will receive a game ticket, hot dog, drink, and over \$100 in free merchandise and services from participating stores at The Pavilions at Talking Stick.

[More information>>](#)

Resources, Research & Reports

Working families face uphill battle to pay for quality child care

In spite of the importance quality of child care, the situation for working families who need a safe place for their kids is getting worse rather than better according to a new report by the National Women's Law Center. The Arizona Department of Economic Security has no state dollars in the child care assistance budget, relying only on federal funding. The budget request for next year remains the same. In 2009, the state began to turn down qualified working families to cut spending, and the number of children receiving child care assistance has plummeted from more than 27,000 to less than 9,000 since 2008. There are currently nearly 8,000 children on the "waiting list" and more than 32,000 children have been turned away since the list started. A Maricopa County parent with a preschool aged-child who is able to participate in child care assistance face a \$320 monthly gap between the real life cost of child care and state reimbursement rates, the eighth largest gap in the nation.

[Read the full report>>](#)

Science of Football: Making STEM Fun and Relevant

NBC, the National Science Foundation, and the NFL have teamed up to show that science is everywhere, including the football field! Get the sports fans at your site excited about STEM with this 10-episode [video series](#) that explores the science of football. Kids will learn how the Pythagorean theorem, geometry, Newton's laws of motion, and other math and science concepts help players do their jobs. Who knows, you might kick off a new passion for STEM!

[See more Science 360 video series here>>](#)

Featured Activity

Get Kids Thinking About Voting



A big part of breaking down barriers to civic engagement is empowering people to understand how the voting process works, and vocabulary is a big part of that.

1. Watch this [BrainPop video](#) on voting, to give kids a basic foundation of how it work.
2. Go over [key election terms](#). Have kids create flashcards with the words and an illustration of the meaning to help cement the definitions.
4. Divide the group into pairs or smaller groups, and have a race to see who can group all the similar words together (ex: campaign words together, voting words together, etc)
3. Play bingo! Use these [bingo cards](#) to practice with the words. Bonus: Instead of saying the word, read the definition and have kids identify the correct word themselves.
4. Now that your kids know all the lingo, have them make election bookmarks reminding the adults in their lives to go vote on November 6th!

Adapted from [Teacher Vision](#)



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