



Citizen Science Toolkit for Afterschool Programs

The California Academy of Sciences has developed a **Citizen Science Toolkit** to help educators integrate citizen science projects into afterschool programming. It contains resources including lessons, readings, and worksheets - to help communicate the value of citizen science to youth and cultivate their sense of empowerment and impact when performing science investigations.



[Download the toolkit to get started!](#)

Putting Afterschool to Work: Career Exploration in Out-of-school Settings

Repost from the Advance CTE Blog

As a middle school student, Jesse Eberly first discovered his interest in computer science at an afterschool and summer learning program in Jim Thorpe, Pennsylvania called Schools and Homes in Education (SHINE). Now a senior at the Carbon Career & Technical Institute (CCTI), Jesse remembers building a shed the summer he joined SHINE as his first hands-on learning experience. The next year, he began taking afterschool computer classes in drafting and design on the CCTI campus, and the rest was history. His experiences in afterschool led him to attend CCTI and specialize in Information Technology, computer engineering and networking, while still connecting with SHINE as a volunteer. Now a recent graduate of CCTI, he wants to build upon the credits he has already earned to complete a degree in cybersecurity and eventually work at the Pentagon. Jesse knows it is time to do away with the old stigma around tech schools. "If the career you want to have is offered there" he said, "it's great." And through his early experiences in SHINE's afterschool and summer programs, Jesse knew what career he wanted to have.



[Read more](#)

Celebrate 4th of July with a Bang!

Pair 4th of July celebrations with fun hands-on science learning! From water bottle rockets to the science behind fireworks and an LED dance party glove, Science Buddies has put together a list of projects to help light up and launch summer fun.

[Pick your 4th of July project here](#)

