



## [WEBINAR] Million Girls Moonshot Cultural Responsiveness in STEM

Tuesday, August 11, 2020 @ 12:00pm

The **Million Girls Moonshot** seeks to re-imagine who can engineer, who can build, who can make. Their goal is to inspire and prepare the next generation of innovators by engaging one million more girls in STEM learning opportunities through afterschool and summer programs over the next 5 years.



You are invited to participate in their upcoming webinar on August 11th at 12 pm PT to learn from experts about the concept of cultural responsiveness and discuss the importance of developing a culturally responsive and anti-racist mindset. The presenters will discuss how youth benefit from culturally responsive afterschool programs and share specific tactics and practices to develop culturally relevant STEM afterschool programs.

**Participants are asked to complete these two activities prior to the webinar.** These activities will help participants get a better understanding of the importance of diversity and cultural responsiveness in their role and work.

[Learn more & sign up](#)

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## International Dark Sky Discovery Center to Open in Arizona

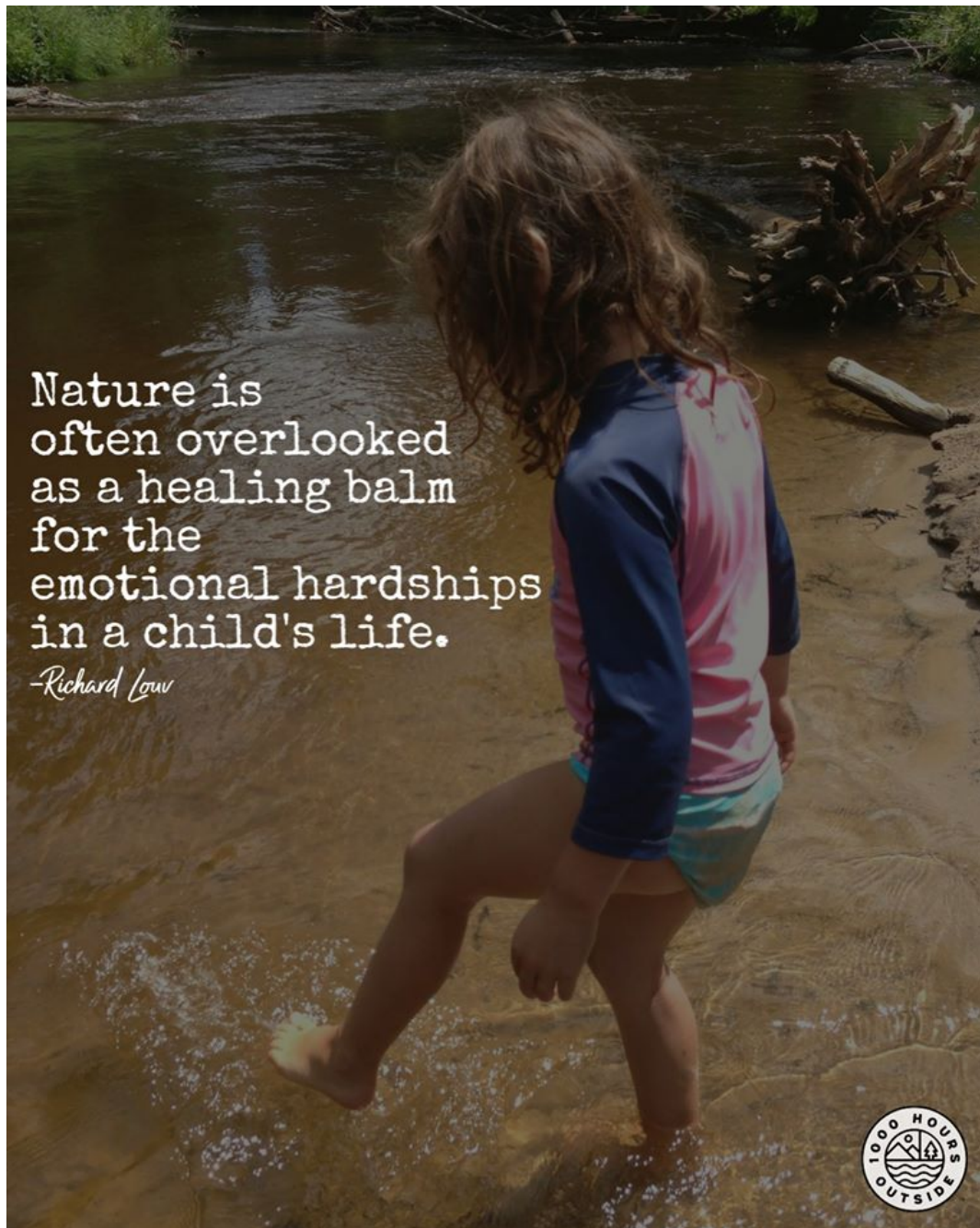
Although progress has been hampered by COVID-19, plans for the 15,000 square-foot International Dark Sky Discovery Center (IDSDC) continue to move forward. The multi-functional Center will focus on dark sky preservation as a portal to better understanding astronomy, the space program, the universe, and life on earth.



The privately-funded, non-profit \$18 million IDSDC will be located in Fountain Hills, Arizona and will fulfill its education mission by supporting STEM programs and fostering partnerships with Arizona State University, area community colleges, and high schools. The facility will offer programs and experiences that will inspire, educate, and stir imaginations. Additionally, it will address the rapidly growing interest in astrotourism, thus serving

as an educational and experiential attraction for Arizona and beyond.

[Learn more about the project](#)



## A Renewed Emphasis on Outdoor Learning

This pandemic has been a roller coaster for all of us. Children might not fully understand what is happening in our world, but you can be sure it's having an impact on them. Author of *Last Child in the Woods* and Founder of the [Children and Nature Network](#), Richard Louv, says that "nature is often overlooked as a healing balm for the emotional hardships in a child's life." Outdoor learning is also a wonderful way to get kids learning together while keeping safer distances in open air -- crucial as COVID-19 cases are on the rise.

Take a look at these resources for planning outdoor learning opportunities with your kiddos this fall:

- [Thriving Through Nature: Fostering Children's Executive Function Skills - Children & Nature Network](#)
- [Environmental Education Resources - Afterschool Alliance](#)
- [Outdoor and Environmental Education: Resource Roundup - Edutopia](#)
- [Outdoor Science Weekly Lesson Plans - Arizona Science Center](#)

- [COVID-19 Outdoor Learning Resources - Green Schoolyards America](#)



# COVID-19 RESOURCES

UPDATES & TOOLS FOR OST PROVIDERS

Arizona Center for Afterschool Excellence

[azafterschool.org/STEM](https://azafterschool.org/STEM)

