

SCIENCE



TECHNOLOGY

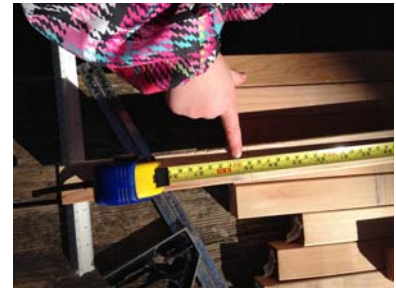


No Child Left Inside Backyard STEM Enhancement Project

ENGINEERING



MATHEMATICS



The Child Care Action Council has been awarded a grant to support In-Home Family Child Care providers as they enhance STEM learning in their backyards. Because *Thrive by Five*, the funding source for our grant, is looking for an innovative approach to education, we have an incredible opportunity to develop a sustainable program for STEM learning in your child care setting.

The Goal: Because it is important to build a strong foundation in children's early experiences in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics, it is our goal to support you in creating a rich outdoor environment for children's exploration in these areas. Classes/speaker, individualized coaching, and workshops will be provided, free of charge, with enrollment, along with \$200 to fund improvements to your program.

Your Role: Demonstrate your commitment to this project by filling out the following application and supplying information, which reveals your interest and potential plan for participation in this project. We can only accept 30 providers, so your prompt and thorough reply will help to ensure enrollment.

Application Process:

- Read about STEM and fill out this application.
- Attach photos of your program demonstrating current STEM activities.
- **Submit your application by January 25, 2015** (*applications submitted after January 25th will be considered only if grant funds are still available once the first round of applications is reviewed*).
- Applicants will be notified of their acceptance in this project by March 1st. Workshops, consultations, and speakers will be developed based on interest and location of participants, to start in April 2015 and last through March of 2016!
- We are hoping to serve programs in Mason, Thurston and Grays Harbor County.

Do you want to make an extra effort to ensure you will receive this grant assistance? Attach photos with your application of your program demonstrating some of your current outdoor STEM learning activities. If you need help thinking about what this might look like, contact Susanna for more information, help defining STEM examples in your setting, or assistance with photography.



No Child Left Inside
In-Home Family Child Care

Backyard STEM Enhancement Project

(Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics)

STEM Application and Pre-Survey

Date:	
Program Name:	County:
Contact Person:	
Site Address:	City & Zip:
Mailing Address (if different):	
Phone Number:	Email Address:

1. How many children do you have in your care? What are their ages?
2. Do you take children on subsidy (Working Child Connections)? Yes No
3. Do you participate in Early Achievers? Yes No
4. Why are you interested in participating in our STEM project, *No Child Left Inside*?

5. On an average day, how much time do you spend outside/in your backyard with children in your care?

Season	Minutes spent outside on an "average" day (choose one for each season)				
Winter	<i>None</i>	<i>less than 15 min.</i>	<i>15 to 30 min.</i>	<i>over 30 min. to 1 hour</i>	<i>more than 1 hour</i>
Spring	<i>None</i>	<i>less than 15 min.</i>	<i>15 to 30 min.</i>	<i>over 30 min. to 1 hour</i>	<i>more than 1 hour</i>
Summer	<i>None</i>	<i>less than 15 min.</i>	<i>15 to 30 min.</i>	<i>over 30 min. to 1 hour</i>	<i>more than 1 hour</i>
Fall	<i>None</i>	<i>less than 15 min.</i>	<i>15 to 30 min.</i>	<i>over 30 min. to 1 hour</i>	<i>more than 1 hour</i>

How interested/engaged in outside/backyard activities are the children? (choose one)

Very interested Somewhat interested Not at all interested

How interested/engaged in outside/backyard activities are you? (choose one)

Very interested Somewhat interested Not at all interested

6. What do you typically do outside with children while in your care?

Do you lead organized learning activities outside and/or set the stage for self-initiated learning?

Yes

No

If yes, please give some examples of what you do:

7. About how much time in an average day do you spend in organized outdoor learning activities?

Season	Minutes spent outside on an "average" day (choose one for each season)				
Winter	None	less than 15 min.	15 to 30 min.	over 30 min. to 1 hour	more than 1 hour
Spring	None	less than 15 min.	15 to 30 min.	over 30 min. to 1 hour	more than 1 hour
Summer	None	less than 15 min.	15 to 30 min.	over 30 min. to 1 hour	more than 1 hour
Fall	None	less than 15 min.	15 to 30 min.	over 30 min. to 1 hour	more than 1 hour

How interested/engaged in these organized outside learning activities are the children? (choose one)

Very interested

Somewhat interested

Not that interested

How interested/engaged in leading organized outside learning activities are you? (choose one)

Very interested

Somewhat interested

Not that interested

8. What, *if anything*, prevents you from getting outside? (choose **all that apply)**

Weather

Lack of interest/desire on my part

Lack of outdoor gear/clothing for children

Not enough time in the day

Limited outside space

Not sure what to do

Children's resistance of lack of interest

Other (please describe below):

9. Even if you get outside regularly, what, *if anything*, prevents you from leading STEM activities outside? (choose **all that apply)**

Not sure what to do

Children aren't interested in STEM activities

Don't have materials or resources

I'm not that interested in leading STEM activities

Other (please describe below):

10. What do you need as a provider to enhance STEM learning opportunities for children in your care? (choose **all that apply)**

Better understanding of STEM learning in early childhood education

More equipment in outdoor environment

Outside community resources to support my program

Other (please describe below):

11. How do you currently learn about STEM concepts and activities? (choose **all that apply)**

Trainings and workshops

Books and magazines

Internet sites and web pages

Library resources

Other (please describe below):

12. Are you currently connected with or accessing regularly local programs and resources relating to STEM curriculum and activities?

Yes

No

If yes, please list those local STEM resources are you connecting with:

13. What of the following STEM classes interest you? (choose *all* that apply)

Rainy Day Activities

Outside Construction/Engineering Activities

Hands on Math

Science Projects/Experiments

Other (please describe):

Solar Technology/Exploration

Backyard STEM landscape design (beyond coaching)

"Loose Parts" Curriculum design and implementation

14. What of the following STEM workshops would interest you? (choose *all* that apply)

Mud Pie Kitchen construction

Musical Garden Creation

Waterworks Maze Framework

Other (please describe):

Worm bins/Garden Beds

Backyard Make and Take projects

15. As a participant in this project, what specifically will you do to share what you learn with other providers?

16. Would you be interested in hosting a workshop as a demonstration site for constructing outdoor equipment for STEM learning? (Workshop planning and supplies would be provided by CCAC...AND you could keep the result in your backyard!)

Yes

No

Maybe (need more information)

If yes, what workshop you would like to host?

17. Participants in *Leave No Child Inside* will be expected to provide ongoing documentation and photos of STEM outdoor activities you lead as a result of this project. In addition, you may be interviewed or asked to complete a follow-up survey to account for the impact of grant funding on the care you provide.

Do you have any resistance to or concerns about this?

Yes

No

If yes, please tell us about your concerns:

**Send this form to Susanna@ccacwa.org or
call 360-584-6363 for more information.**

Our goal is to support STEM learning in your program!

Let us know how we can support you in this endeavor. We will do the best we can to deliver quality coaching and financial support to help you enrich your program!

