

# STEM NEXT

## October-December Asset Package



STEM Next compiles a quarterly asset package of resources, opportunities and activities to meet the needs of **program providers and staff in your state**. Please share these assets widely with your partners and programs! Check back for updates throughout the quarter.

We will also distribute new resources and updates throughout the quarter by email. [Sign up to receive these notices here!](#)

### How to Use this Asset Package:



Use the table of contents to the left to find the month, topic, or resource you need. Click to move to the resource of your choice. OR click the hyperlinks in the table below.

In the document's body, you can minimize the copy by clicking the > to the left of the opportunity title.

Each opportunity will now be accompanied by specific sample social media copy that can be used to help spread the word to programs. We also have graphics that you can download linked below each caption.

[Share with us!](#) We welcome feedback on the format and want to hear your impact stories.

### What's Happening? The Quarter at A Glance

[What's Happening? The Quarter at A Glance](#)

## Featured Opportunities

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[You Can Create Career Connections and Nurture STEM ID](#)

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[YES Curriculum in Action: Classroom Stories & Tips from Real Educators](#)

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[Graphic download here.](#)

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## Featured Opportunities

Ongoing and time-sensitive opportunities this month to engage in STEM learning, media campaigns and professional development opportunities.

# Get Ready for World Space Week Oct. 6-10 with a STEM Next Toolkit and Activity Bundle!



## **NEW: A STEM Next toolkit of career-connected activities and resources for afterschool educators to help kids of all ages explore Earth and space**

As an official partner of the World Space Week Association, STEM Next is excited to share a new collection of activities and resources to help out-of-school-time programs explore Earth and space with youth during World Space Week October 6-10, 2025.

World Space Week is the perfect opportunity to spark kids' curiosity with the wonders of the cosmos while showing them how innovations in science, biotechnology and engineering are making space exploration possible. STEM Next's World Space Week Toolkit provides afterschool educators with engaging, hands-on activities and resources that connect youth to a wide range of STEM careers, from astronaut health and moon colony design to rockets and real-world space trades.

**The toolkit also features an all-new Keeping the Beat Activity Bundle, a set of three activity sessions developed by STEM Next that aligns with our new Career-Connected Learning Framework.** In each activity, youth apply science and engineering practices, use math to identify patterns, and learn about careers that support astronaut health and fitness.

Programs can access all of these free STEM learning resources here: <https://bit.ly/4oFSN7I>

The toolkit is accessible now, and programs are welcome to begin using activities and resources.

## Sample social copy to promote the toolkit

*Long version (IG, LinkedIn, FB)*

*Afterschool educators: gear up for World Space Week with a new toolkit from @stemnextopportunityfund! This free collection of activities and resources is designed for afterschool programs to help youth explore Earth and space while discovering STEM careers that support space exploration.*

Highlights include engaging lessons on astronaut health, moon colony design, rockets, and more, plus the all-new “Keeping the Beat” Activity Bundle aligned with STEM Next’s new Career-Connected Learning Framework.

The toolkit is available now so programs can start planning for World Space Week, October 6–10, 2025.

Access the resources here: <https://bit.ly/4oFSN7I>

#WorldSpaceWeek #WorldSpaceWeekToolkit #EarthandSpace #Afterschool

*Shortened for X*

New from @stemnext: A free #WorldSpaceWeek Toolkit for afterschool programs. Hands-on activities on astronaut health, moon colony design, rockets, and more. Perfect for exploring STEM careers with youth this fall.

Download here: <https://bit.ly/4oFSN7I>

#WorldSpaceWeekToolkit #EarthandSpace #Afterschool

Graphic [download here](#)

## **Beyond Astronauts: Your Guide to Space Careers**

The graphic is a promotional poster for a career chat event. It features a white background with green and blue geometric shapes. On the left, the title 'Beyond Astronauts: Your Guide to Space Careers' is written in black, with 'Space Careers' in white on a black background. Below the title, the date and time 'Wednesday, October 8th 3:00 PM PST / 6:00 PM EST' are listed, followed by 'Celebrating World Space Week 2025'. On the right, a green box contains the text 'A SPACE EXPERT PANEL INCLUDING' followed by a photo of Whitley Poyser and the text 'Whitley Poyser, Director Deep Space Exploration at Lockheed Martin'. Below this, it says '& MORE TO BE ANNOUNCED!'. At the bottom right, a blue box contains the text 'MODERATED BY' followed by a photo of Charlee and the text 'Charlee, 2025 Flight Crew of Alabama'. A small blue box at the top left says 'A STEM NEXT CAREER CHAT'.

**A STEM NEXT CAREER CHAT**

**Beyond Astronauts: Your Guide to Space Careers**

**Wednesday, October 8<sup>th</sup>**  
**3:00 PM PST / 6:00 PM EST**

Celebrating World Space Week 2025

**A SPACE EXPERT PANEL INCLUDING**

Whitley Poyser, Director Deep Space Exploration at Lockheed Martin

**& MORE TO BE ANNOUNCED!**

**MODERATED BY**

Charlee, 2025 Flight Crew of Alabama



This World Space Week, join STEM Next for a Career Chat moderated by our own teen Flight Crew member from Alabama, Charlee! We'll be talking to the pros about the coolest jobs in the cosmos (and on Earth!).

**Date:** Wednesday, October 8th

**Time:** 3:00 PM PST / 6:00 PM EST

The universe of space careers is HUGE! From designing rockets at Lockheed Martin to unique missions at NASA, there's a spot for you. This conversation featuring leaders in space exploration will focus on:

- ✨ Careers you never knew existed, all about living and working in space
- ✨ The skills you need to launch your future
- ✨ How to get started NOW on internship, college, and career prep

**Panelists include:**

- **Whitley Poyser**, Director of Deep Space Exploration at Lockheed Martin: She leads missions that will take humans deeper into space than ever before. As Director for the Deep Space Exploration Mission Segment, she guides teams building the technologies and spacecraft needed for journeys beyond the Moon.
- **NASA's Dr. Sarah Wallace**: Her work in the Biomedical Research and Environmental Sciences Division at the NASA Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center focuses on understanding how microbes behave in the unique environment of space and developing innovative technologies to keep astronauts healthy.
- **Matt Nasso**, Program Engineering Manager for GM's Lunar Mobility Vehicle project, helping design and build the next Lunar Terrain Vehicle that could carry astronauts or gear on the moon's surface.

This event is for young people and teens ready to explore their future. Afterschool program leaders, we would love for you to join live with your youth!

[REGISTER TO ATTEND TODAY!](#)

Sample social copy to promote this event

*Long version (IG, LinkedIn, FB)*

This World Space Week, join @STEMNext for a Career Chat moderated by 2025 Flight Crew member Charlee!

She'll be talking with space pros from NASA, Lockheed Martin, and more about the coolest jobs in the cosmos, the skills to succeed, and how teens can start preparing today.

Register now and be part of the conversation! [http://bit.ly/Beyond\\_Astronauts](http://bit.ly/Beyond_Astronauts)

#WorldSpaceWeek #STEMEd #CareerConnectedLearning

*Shortened for X*

This World Space Week, STEM Next hosts a Career Chat for youth to hear directly from NASA, Lockheed Martin, and other leaders about exciting space careers! How to register: [http://bit.ly/Beyond\\_Astronauts](http://bit.ly/Beyond_Astronauts)  
#WorldSpaceWeek

Graphic [download here](#).

## Career-Connected Learning Training Series for Out-of-School Time Educators

**CAREER-CONNECTED LEARNING TRAINING SERIES**

**For Out-of-School Time Educators**

<b>Oct.08</b> 3 pm ET	Career-Connected Learning: Building Broad Skills to Support Youth in the Workforce	<b>Nov.12</b> 3 PM ET	Engaging Families and Communities in Career-Connected Learning Part I
<b>Nov.05</b> 3 PM ET	Developing Career-Connected STEM Activities for Afterschool and Summer Learning	<b>Nov.19</b> 3 PM ET	Engaging Families and Communities in Career-Connected Learning Part II

**Presented by STEM Next**

Free registration

STEM Next is accelerating our efforts to advance career-connected learning in afterschool and summer learning programs with the introduction of our Career-Connected Learning Framework for Out-of-School Time Providers. This new tool is for out-of-school time providers and staff who want to design and implement career-connected STEM learning experiences in afterschool and summer programs. Throughout the series, program providers will learn about the four foundational strategies of career-connected STEM in OST and how to implement simple tactics and strategies to make your activities more aligned with careers. [REGISTER FOR ALL TRAININGS HERE](#)

1. Career-Connected Learning: Building Broad Skills to Support Youth in the Workforce  
Date: October 8, 2025, 3–4 p.m. ET / noon–1 p.m. PT  
Facilitator: Sheila James, Teen Science Café Manager, STEM Next Opportunity Fund
2. Developing Career-Connected STEM Activities for Afterschool and Summer Learning  
Date: November 5, 2025, 3–4 p.m. ET / noon–1 p.m. PT  
Facilitator: Sabrina Gomez, STEM Advisor, STEM Next Opportunity Fund
3. Engaging Families and Communities in Career-Connected Learning Part I  
Date: November 12, 2025, 3–4 p.m. ET / noon–1 p.m. PT  
Facilitators: Bunmi Esho, Consultant, and Sheila James, Teen Science Café Network Manager, STEM Next Opportunity Fund
4. Engaging Families and Communities in Career-Connected Learning Part II  
Date: November 19, 2025, 3–4 p.m. ET / noon–1 p.m. PT  
Facilitators: Bunmi Esho, Consultant, and Sheila James, Teen Science Café Network Manager, STEM Next Opportunity Fund

## Sample social copy to promote this training series

### *Long version (IG, LinkedIn, FB)*

Following the launch of the Career-Connected Learning Framework for Out-of-School Time Providers, @STEMNext is offering a four-part training series to help afterschool and summer program leaders put the framework into action.

Through these sessions, participants will explore:

- Broad skills youth need to thrive in the workforce
- How to develop STEM activities aligned to career pathways
- Ways to engage families and communities in career-connected learning

Upcoming sessions:

- Oct 8, 2025 – Building Broad Skills
- Nov 5, 2025 – Developing STEM Activities
- Nov 12, 2025 – Engaging Families & Communities, Part I
- Nov 19, 2025 – Engaging Families & Communities, Part II

Register for all trainings here: <https://bit.ly/m/CareerConnectedSTEMTrainings>

#STEM #Afterschool #CareerConnectedLearning #YouthDevelopment #WorkforceDevelopment

### *Shortened for X*

After launching the Career-Connected Learning Framework, @stemnext is hosting a 4-part training series for OST providers. Build workforce skills, design career-connected STEM, and engage families.

Register here: <https://bit.ly/m/CareerConnectedSTEMTrainings>

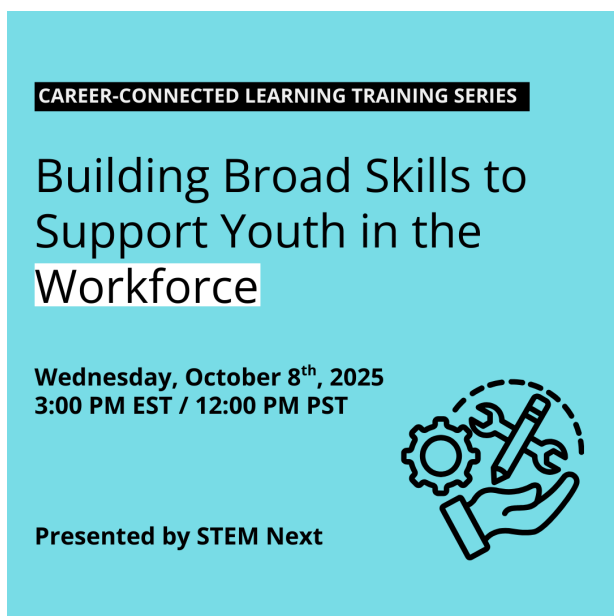
#CareerConnectedLearning

Graphic [download here](#).

**OCTOBER**

## Professional Development Opportunities

### Career-Connected Learning: Building Broad Skills to Support Youth in the Workforce



Date: October 8, 2025, 3–4 p.m. ET / noon–1 p.m. PT

Facilitator: Sheila James, Teen Science Café Manager, STEM Next Opportunity Fund

As the modern workforce evolves at an unprecedented pace, durable—or “soft”—skills are increasingly as important as technical skills in high-demand STEM jobs. Helping youth develop these skills is a core strategy of STEM Next’s Career-Connected Learning Framework for Out-of-School Time Providers.

In this training, attendees will learn how to weave durable skills into STEM activities so youth can confidently say to employers: I solve problems, think critically, communicate clearly, work well with others, and adapt to change.

Participants will leave with materials to support staff professional development and three ready-to-use STEM lessons for youth.

**Audience:** This training is designed for out-of-school time program providers and staff, including directors, professional development and quality specialists, and facilitators. It is also ideal for out-of-school time organizations, including museum and library staff.

**Attendees who complete the post-training survey will be entered into a raffle to win a \$100 Amazon gift card for their program.**


Register today! [https://bit.ly/CCL\\_Training\\_1](https://bit.ly/CCL_Training_1)

## Sample social copy to promote this opportunity

### *Long version (IG, LinkedIn, FB)*

Afterschool and summer program providers, join STEM Next for "Career-Connected Learning: Building Broad Skills to Support Youth in the Workforce" on October 8th!

This training will explore durable skills like problem solving, communication, and collaboration, and how out-of-school time providers can integrate them into STEM activities. Participants will receive professional development resources and three ready-to-use STEM lessons.


 October 8, 2025 | 3–4 p.m. ET / noon–1 p.m. PT

Register here: [https://bit.ly/CCL\\_Training\\_1](https://bit.ly/CCL_Training_1)

#STEM #Afterschool #CareerConnectedLearning

### *Shortened for X*

New @stemnext training for afterschool program providers: Build youth workforce skills like problem solving, communication, and teamwork through STEM.

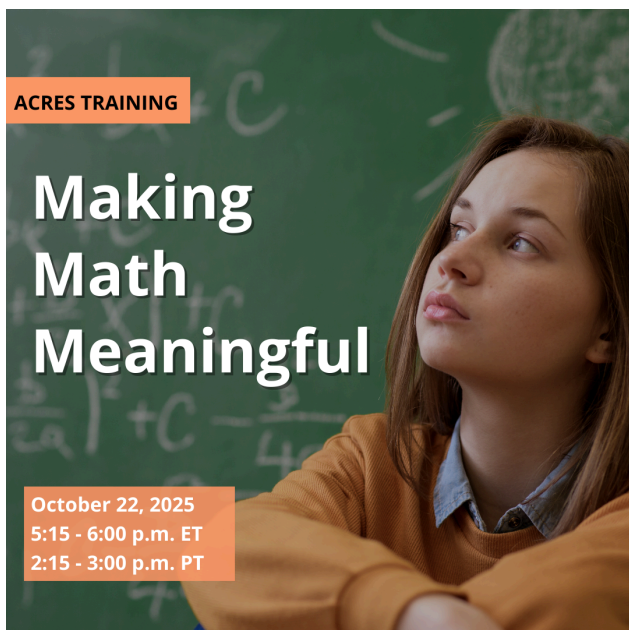
 October 8, 2025 | 3 p.m. ET / noon p.m. PT

Register: [https://bit.ly/CCL\\_Training\\_1](https://bit.ly/CCL_Training_1)

#STEM #Afterschool #CareerConnectedLearning

Graphic [download here](#).

## **Making Math Meaningful**



Discover ways to use natural materials to represent math problems, find and understand math in nature, and use math to investigate authentic outdoor math problems in this training led by ACRES. Gain access to a hub of resources to explore, as well as activities you can use immediately. This is a free, LIVE, virtual workshop that will last 45 minutes. For more information, email [acres@mmsa.org](mailto:acres@mmsa.org). To register, go to [ACRES 2025 workshops](#)

Date: October 22, 2025 5:15 - 6:00 p.m. ET / 2:15 - 3:00 p.m. PT

### Sample social copy to promote this opportunity

#### *Long version (IG, LinkedIn, FB)*

Join ACRES on October 22 at 5:15 pm ET for "Math Is Everywhere: Numeracy in Nature," a free, live 45-minute virtual workshop.

Discover how to:

- Use natural materials to represent math problems
- Find and understand math in nature
- Investigate authentic outdoor math problems

Participants will receive resources and activities to use right away.

Learn more: [acres@mmsa.org](mailto:acres@mmsa.org)

Register: <https://bit.ly/4pgA2rK>

#STEM #Afterschool #MathEducation

#### *Shortened for X*

Free virtual workshop: "Math Is Everywhere: Numeracy in Nature" with ACRES.  
Explore math in the outdoors and take home activities you can use immediately.



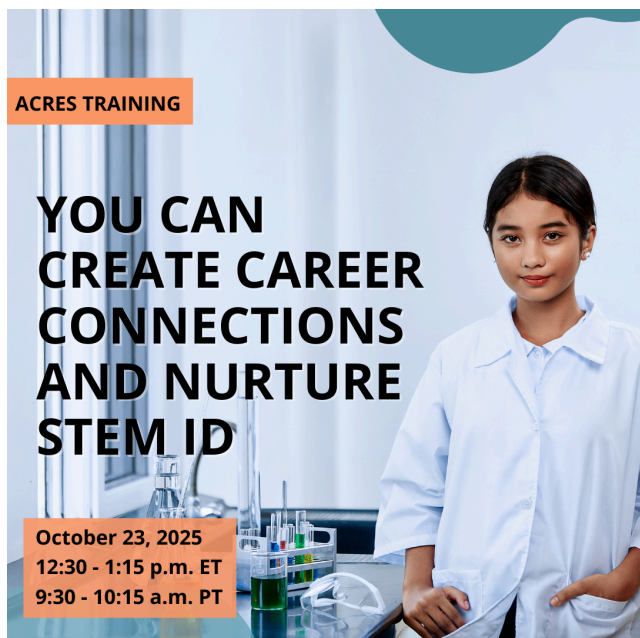
Oct. 22, 5:15–6:00 ET | 2:15–3:00 PT

Register: <https://bit.ly/4pgA2rK>

#STEM #MathEducation #Afterschool

Graphic [download here](#).

## You Can Create Career Connections and Nurture STEM ID



Date: October 23, 2025 12:30 - 1:15 p.m. ET / 9:30 - 10:15 a.m. PT


Facilitator: ACRES

In this ACRES training, OST staff learn tips and tricks to help them make STEM career connections early on in the school year. Participants experience several easy-to-implement strategies, including a photo elicitation activity, learn about how youth form STEM identities, and then learn how to conduct related activities with youth. This is a free, LIVE, virtual workshop that will last 45 minutes. For more information, email [acres@mmsa.org](mailto:acres@mmsa.org). To register, go to [ACRES 2025 workshops](#).

### Sample social copy to promote this opportunity

*Long version (IG, LinkedIn, FB)*

ACRES invites all afterschool program staff to a free, live 45-minute virtual workshop: "You Can Create Career Connections and Nurture STEM ID."

 October 23, 2025 | 12:30–1:15 p.m. ET / 9:30–10:15 a.m. PT

This session will share practical ways to:

- Help youth see STEM careers early in the year
- Support the growth of STEM identity
- Use tools like photo elicitation and other hands-on activities

Register: <https://bit.ly/4pgA2rK>

#STEM #Afterschool #STEMIdentity



*Shortened for X*

Afterschool programs, join ACRES for a free virtual workshop: "You Can Create Career Connections and Nurture STEM ID." Learn to spark career connections, nurture STEM identity & host activities with youth.

🕒 Oct. 23, 12:30–1:15 ET | 9:30–10:15 PT

Register: <https://bit.ly/4pgA2rK>

#STEM #Afterschool #CareerConnectedLearning

Graphic [download here](#).

## YES Curriculum in Action: Classroom Stories & Tips from Real Educators



### YES Curriculum in Action: Classroom Stories & Tips from Real Educators

October 28, 2025  
7:00 - 8:00 p.m. ET

Presented by Museum of Science Boston

Date: October 28, 2025 7:00 - 8:00 p.m. ET / 4:00 - 5:00 p.m. PT

Facilitator: Museum of Science Boston

Want real-world advice on implementing YES engineering units? Join us for a fast-paced, story-rich webinar with classroom educators who've run YES in their schools. They'll share which units they chose, how they prepped and organized materials, what facilitation moves kept students engaged, and the impact they saw in student collaboration, confidence, and problem-solving. Sign up [here](#).

[Sample social copy to promote this opportunity](#)

*Long version (IG, LinkedIn, FB)*

Are you looking for real-world advice on using YES engineering units? Join the Museum of Science Boston on October 28, 2025, from 7:00–8:00 p.m. ET for YES Curriculum in Action: Classroom Stories & Tips from Real Educators.

This fast-paced, story-rich webinar will feature classroom educators sharing which units they chose, how they prepared and organized materials, facilitation strategies that kept students engaged, and the impact they saw on student collaboration, confidence, and problem-solving.

Sign up here: <https://bit.ly/4pry3Bd>

#STEM #EngineeringEducation #Afterschool #YESCurriculum

*Shortened for X*

Educators are sharing their best tips for using @museumofscience YES engineering units on October 28, 7–8 p.m. ET. Hear real classroom stories, prep strategies, and ways to boost student collaboration and problem-solving.

Register: <https://bit.ly/4pry3Bd>

#STEM #EngineeringEducation #YESCurriculum

Graphic [download here](#).

## Activities for Youth

### Keeping the Beat Activity Bundle



In [this career-connected learning activity bundle](#) created by STEM Next specifically for afterschool programs, youth explore how the heart, blood, and circulatory system work—and how these systems are affected by gravity on Earth and in space. Throughout the three, one-hour activity sessions, youth apply science and engineering practices, use math to identify patterns, and learn about careers that support astronaut health and fitness. Adapted from NASA eClips, these lessons connect Earth and Space Learning with Health and Life Sciences.

**Grade range: 4th–8th**

Find more activities for your youth to celebrate World Space Week in our World Space Week Toolkit! Programs can access all of these free STEM learning resources – all year round! – here: <https://bit.ly/4oFSN7I>

### Sample social copy to promote this resource

*Long version (IG, LinkedIn, FB)*

Afterschool educators: gear up for World Space Week with the all-new “Keeping the Beat” Activity Bundle aligned with STEM Next’s new Career-Connected Learning Framework. It’s one of several resources in the World Space Week toolkit from @stemnextopportunityfund designed for afterschool programs to help youth explore Earth and space while discovering STEM careers that support space exploration.

Access the Keeping the Beat activity bundle here: <https://bit.ly/WSWActivityBundle>

Find the World Space Week toolkit here: <https://bit.ly/4oFSN7I>

#WorldSpaceWeek #WorldSpaceWeekToolkit #EarthandSpace #Afterschool

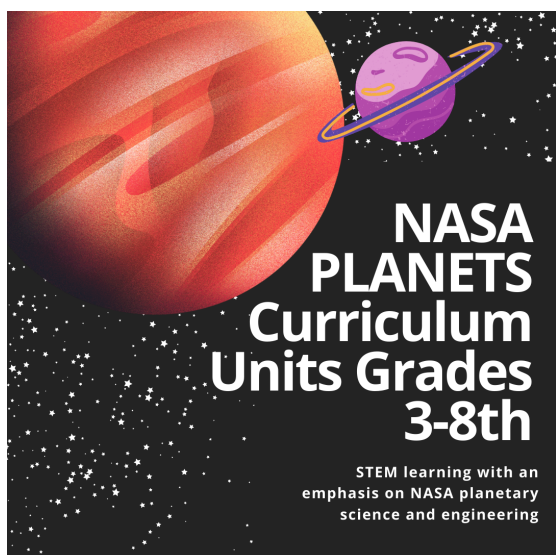
*Shortened for X*

New from @stemnext: A free, career-connected activity bundle for youth to celebrate #WorldSpaceWeek Oct. 6-10! Access it here: <https://bit.ly/WSWActivityBundle>

#WorldSpaceWeek #EarthandSpace #Afterschool

Graphic [download here](#)

## NASA PLANETS Curriculum Units Grades 3-8th



PLANETS (Planetary Learning that Advances the Nexus of Engineering, Technology, and Science) develops programs for educators and youth in grades 3-8 that provide STEM learning with an emphasis on NASA planetary science and engineering. Check out free units of study around Space Hazards (grades 3-5), and Water in Extreme Environments and Remote Sensing (grades 6-8). Link: [PLANETS Curriculum Units](#)

### Sample social copy to promote this opportunity

*Long version (IG, LinkedIn, FB)*

NASA PLANETS Curriculum Units for grades 3–8 are now available for free. PLANETS (Planetary Learning that Advances the Nexus of Engineering, Technology, and Science) provides STEM learning resources with a focus on NASA planetary science and engineering.

Educators and youth can explore units on Space Hazards for grades 3–5, and Water in Extreme Environments and Remote Sensing for grades 6–8.

Check out the free curriculum here: <https://bit.ly/3VHwUHU>

#STEM #NASA #Afterschool #STEMEducation

*Shortened for X*

Free NASA PLANETS curriculum for grades 3–8. Explore Space Hazards, Water in Extreme Environments, and Remote Sensing while connecting youth to planetary science and engineering.

Learn more: <https://bit.ly/3VHwUHU>

#STEM #NASA #STEMEducation

Graphic [download here](#).

## Innovators Quest



The Manufacturing Institute has developed The Quest for the Crystal of Innovation (Innovators Quest), a gamified experience for grades 4-9. This turnkey solution allows manufacturers to engage students in a fun, challenging, and age-appropriate way, either in classrooms or at community events like summer camps, expos, and Manufacturing Day on October 3.

The Innovators Quest helps students discover their strengths while encountering tasks that incorporate core manufacturing skills. The activities promote teamwork, communication, and problem-solving while introducing students to key concepts like additive manufacturing, aerospace engineering, electromechanical components, robotics, and quality control. Learn more about this tool and how you can sponsor a kit to use in your community [here](#).

### Sample social copy to promote this opportunity

#### *Long version (IG, LinkedIn, FB)*

Spark curiosity and introduce young minds to the world of manufacturing with *The Quest for the Crystal of Innovation (Innovators Quest)*, a gamified experience designed for grades 4–9. This turnkey program from the Manufacturing Institute engages students through teamwork, problem-solving, and hands-on challenges that explore additive manufacturing, aerospace engineering, robotics, and more. Perfect for classrooms, summer camps, expos, or Manufacturing Day events, Innovators Quest makes STEM learning exciting and accessible. Learn how you can sponsor a kit for your community: <https://bit.ly/3VoEM0T> #MFG25

#### *Shortened for X*

Bring STEM to life with The Quest for the Crystal of Innovation! This gamified experience for grades 4–9 introduces key manufacturing skills through teamwork & problem-solving—perfect for camps, expos, or MFG Day. Sponsor a kit today: <https://bit.ly/3VoEM0T> @TheMfgInstitute #MFG25

*Graphic download [here](#).*

## Other Resources

### Research-Based Practices & Career Awareness and Exploration

STEM Next aims to raise awareness of research-based practices proven to increase the quality of STEM learning experiences for youth and is committed to strengthening career awareness and exploration in out-of-school time so youth are prepared for whatever comes NEXT.

#### Role Model Strategies: Encouraging Youth to Consider STEM Careers

This Role Model Strategies guide aims to change how youth think about science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM). Using gender equitable practices in STEM education, Twin Cities PBS has produced the SciGirls television series, online resources, and hands-on activities to address this goal. Why are role models important? Sharing your lived experiences (your background, hobbies, and career goals) with youth can motivate them to pursue a career in STEM. Research shows that these strategies work towards breaking stereotypes. Seeing the variety of backgrounds, experiences, and perspectives of STEM professionals can help inspire and motivate youth who might not otherwise “see” themselves in STEM. This booklet offers basic training for role models, introducing you to best practices for your volunteer efforts and answering questions you might have. Link: [Role Model Strategies: Encouraging Youth to Consider STEM Careers](#)

#### Scaling Youth Career Exploration

Jean Eddy from American Student Assistance (ASA) joins the Work Forces podcast to discuss why middle school is a critical window for career exploration and how to scale efforts effectively through community and policy engagement. Link: [Scaling Youth Career Exploration Podcast](#)

#### Jobs for the Future’s Work-Based Learning Framework

JFF has developed a new framework to guide the design and implementation of high-quality work-based learning experiences. This framework provides actionable strategies for educators, employers, and workforce leaders to ensure students build meaningful skills and connections through career-focused learning. Link: [JFF Work-Based Learning Framework](#)

#### Internships and Beyond: Strengthening Career Value Across Diverse Models of Work-Based Learning

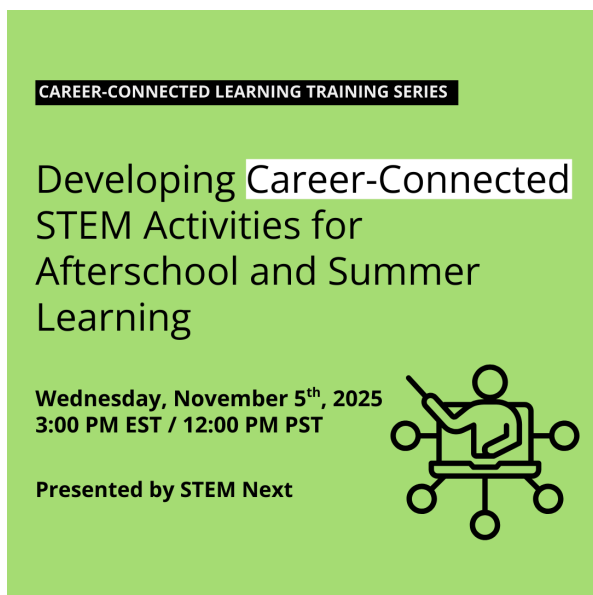
A Strada Education Foundation report that explores the value of internships and other work-based learning experiences for today’s college students. Based on national survey data, it emphasizes that these experiences are not only about exploration but also about building networks, gaining skills, and preparing for specific careers. Link: [Internships and Beyond](#)

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# NOVEMBER

## Professional Development Opportunities

### Developing Career-Connected STEM Activities for Afterschool and Summer Learning



Date: November 5, 2025

Time: 3–4 p.m. ET / noon–1 p.m. PT

For many youth, afterschool and summer programs are where sparks of interest in science, technology, engineering, and math begin. To help programs turn that interest into career pathways, STEM Next created the Career-Connected Learning Framework for Out-of-School Time Providers. The Framework helps programs explicitly embed career connections into their activities in ways that are practical, age-appropriate, and grounded in both research and real-world relevance.

In this training, attendees will practice developing career-connected STEM activities, exchange feedback with peers, and leave with three ready-to-use activities. Please bring one STEM activity to workshop during the training.

**Audience:** This training is designed for out-of-school time program providers and staff, including directors, professional development and quality specialists, and facilitators. It is also ideal for out-of-school time organizations, including museum and library staff.

**Attendees who complete the post-training survey will be entered into a raffle to win a \$100 Amazon gift card for their program.**

Register today! [https://bit.ly/CCL\\_Training2](https://bit.ly/CCL_Training2)




## Sample social copy to promote this opportunity

### *Long version (IG, LinkedIn, FB)*

Afterschool providers, join STEM Next for "Developing Career-Connected STEM Activities for Afterschool and Summer Learning," part of the Career-Connected Learning training series from @STEMNext.

Participants will practice designing career-connected STEM activities, share feedback with peers, and leave with three activities ready to implement with youth. Please bring one STEM activity to workshop during the session.

 November 5, 2025 | 12:30 p.m. ET / 9:30 a.m. PT

Register today: [https://bit.ly/CCL\\_Training2](https://bit.ly/CCL_Training2)

#STEM #Afterschool #CareerConnectedLearning #YouthDevelopment

### *Shortened for X*

Free training with @stemnext for afterschool providers: "Developing Career-Connected STEM Activities."

November 5, 2025 | 12:30 p.m. ET / 9:30 a.m. PT

Practice designing STEM activities and leave with 3 career-connected lessons you can use right away.

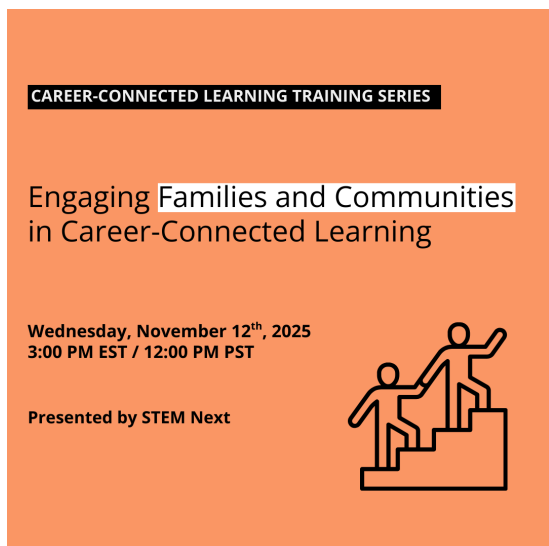
Register: [https://bit.ly/CCL\\_Training2](https://bit.ly/CCL_Training2)

#CareerConnectedLearning

Graphic [download here](#).

## **Engaging Families and Communities in Career-Connected Learning Part**

**I**



Date: November 12, 2025

Time: 3–4 p.m. ET / noon–1 p.m. PT

Families and communities play a vital role in helping young people see STEM as part of their future. In this training session, attendees will explore STEM Next's Career-Connected Learning Framework for Out-of-School Time Providers, with a focus on Family and Community Engagement. Participants will learn practical strategies to involve parents, caregivers, and community partners in STEM career exploration, with actionable steps to build ongoing family engagement and career-connected STEM activities to share with families and partners.

**Audience:** This training is designed for out-of-school time program providers and staff, including directors, professional development and quality specialists, and facilitators. It is also ideal for out-of-school time organizations, including museum and library staff.

**Attendees who complete the post-training survey will be entered into a raffle to win a \$100 Amazon gift card for their program.**

Register today! [https://bit.ly/CCL\\_Training3](https://bit.ly/CCL_Training3)

### Sample social copy to promote this opportunity

*Long version (IG, LinkedIn, FB)*

Parents, caregivers, and community partners play a powerful role in shaping youth interest in STEM careers. In this free virtual workshop, @stemnextopportunityfund will share practical strategies to engage families and communities in meaningful, career-connected learning.

Participants will take away actionable steps and three STEM activities that can be shared with families and community hubs like libraries and museums.

Register today: [https://bit.ly/CCL\\_Training3](https://bit.ly/CCL_Training3)

#STEM #Afterschool #CareerConnectedLearning #YouthDevelopment

*Shortened for X*

Nov 12 | Free virtual workshop for OST: "Engaging Families and Communities in Career-Connected Learning Part I."

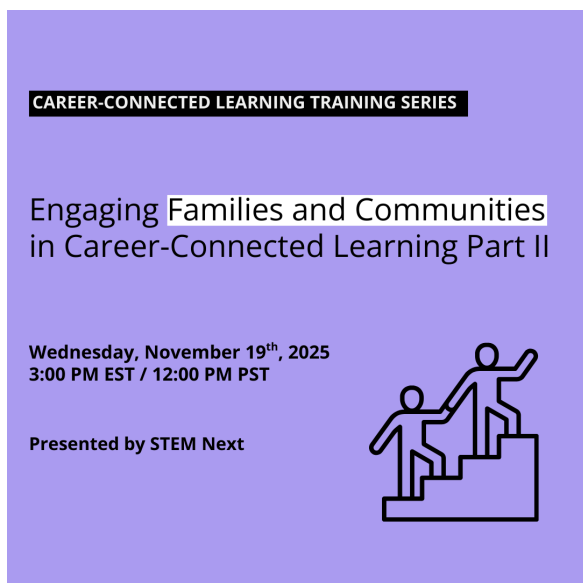
Discover practical ways to involve families and communities in youth STEM career pathways.

Register: [https://bit.ly/CCL\\_Training3](https://bit.ly/CCL_Training3)

#STEM #Afterschool #CareerConnectedLearning

Graphic [download here](#).

## Engaging Families and Communities in Career-Connected Learning Part II



Date: Wednesday, November 19, 2025

Time: 3–4 p.m. ET / noon–1 p.m. PT

In this follow-up session to the first *Engaging Families and Communities* training, attendees will focus on building community partnerships that bring STEM careers to life. Participants will learn how to connect with role models, professionals using STEM in everyday jobs, and hubs like libraries and museums. Attendees will leave with practical approaches for engaging local partners and three career-connected STEM activities to extend learning beyond the program.

**Audience:** This training is designed for out-of-school time program providers and staff, including directors, professional development and quality specialists, and facilitators. It is also ideal for out-of-school time organizations, including museum and library staff.

**Attendees who complete the post-training survey will be entered into a raffle to win a \$100 Amazon gift card for their program.**


Register today! [https://bit.ly/CCL\\_Training4](https://bit.ly/CCL_Training4)

[Sample social copy to promote this opportunity](#)

*Long version (IG, LinkedIn, FB)*

Community partners and role models are key to making STEM career pathways feel real for youth. In Part II of this @stemnextopportunityfund training, facilitators will share approaches for connecting with local STEM professionals, libraries, and museums to extend learning beyond the classroom.

Attendees will leave with three career-connected STEM activities to share with families and community partners.

 November 19, 2025 | 3–4 p.m. ET / noon–1 p.m. PT

Register today: [https://bit.ly/CCL\\_Training4](https://bit.ly/CCL_Training4)

#STEM #Afterschool #CareerConnectedLearning #YouthDevelopment

*Shortened for X*

Nov 19 | Free virtual workshop for OST: "Engaging Families and Communities in Career-Connected Learning Part II."

Learn how to connect with STEM role models, libraries, and museums to bring career pathways to life.  
Register: [https://bit.ly/CCL\\_Training4](https://bit.ly/CCL_Training4)

#CareerConnectedLearning

Graphic [download here](#).

## ACRES Training: Math Games and Fluency Activities



Date: Wednesday, November 13, 2025, 3–4 p.m. ET / noon–1 p.m. PT


Facilitators: ACRES

Description: Come engage in fluency math games and activities that support youth in learning math facts and becoming fluent in computation while having fun in the process! This is a free, LIVE, virtual workshop that will last 45 minutes. For more information email [acres@mmsa.org](mailto:acres@mmsa.org). To register, go to [ACRES 2025 workshops](#)

## Sample social copy to promote this opportunity

### *Long version (IG, LinkedIn, FB)*

Sign up for this new ACRES workshop! "Math Games and Fluency Activities" is a free, live 45-minute virtual workshop.

 November 13, 2025 | 3–4 p.m. ET / noon–1 p.m. PT

Participants will explore fun and engaging math games that help youth strengthen their fluency with math facts and build confidence in computation.


Learn more: [acres@mmsa.org](mailto:acres@mmsa.org)

Register: <http://bit.ly/4pgA2rK>

#MathEducation #STEM #Afterschool #SummerLearning

### *Shortened for X*

Free virtual workshop with ACRES: "Math Games and Fluency Activities."

 Nov 13 | 3–4 p.m. ET / noon–1 p.m. PT

Learn fun ways to help youth build math fluency and confidence through engaging games.

Register: <http://bit.ly/4pgA2rK>

#MathEducation #STEM #Afterschool

Graphic [download here](#).

## Activities for Youth

### Test-Drive These Exciting STEM Careers



Want to help youth choose which future STEM careers are for them? This resource from Science Buddies helps youth learn more about science and engineering careers and "test-drive" their interest in certain careers by trying one of these science experiments related to popular STEM career paths. Many kids are interested in popular science and engineering careers they hear about, but do they know what it's really like to go to work in that career? What kinds of tasks, projects, and experiments does someone in that job really do? Trying out projects, experiments, and activities related to specific career paths is a great way to help students more clearly understand different science and engineering fields. This kind of exploration also helps students see that within the umbrella terms "scientist" and "engineer," there are lots of interesting and exciting career paths and opportunities!

Science Buddies has paired 10 popular STEM careers with exciting hands-on activities that make it fun for kids to test-drive careers of interest. Which ones will they enjoy most? Link: [Test-Drive These STEM Careers](#)

### Sample social copy to promote this opportunity

*Long version (IG, LinkedIn, FB)*

Want to help youth explore future STEM careers through afterschool?

This resource from Science Buddies pairs 10 popular science and engineering careers with fun, hands-on activities that let kids "test-drive" different fields. Youth can see what tasks and experiments real scientists and engineers do while discovering which career paths interest them most.

Check it out here: <https://bit.ly/3VIBSEg>

#STEM #CareerConnectedLearning #YouthDevelopment #Afterschool

*Shortened for X*

Give youth a chance to “test-drive” STEM careers in afterschool!

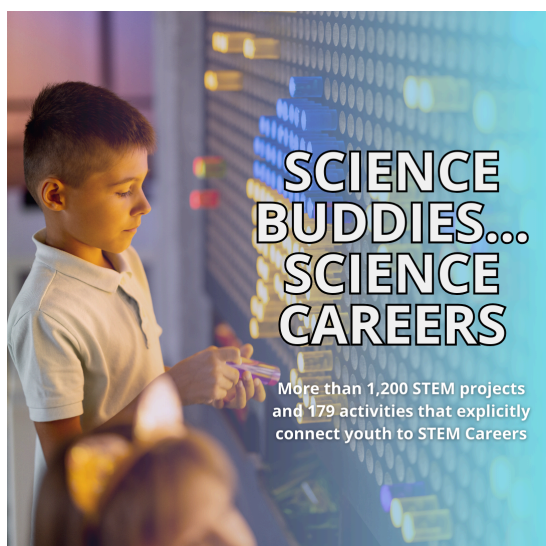
@ScienceBuddies pairs 10 popular careers with hands-on activities so kids can explore what scientists & engineers really do.

See more: <https://bit.ly/3VIBSEg>

#STEM #CareerExploration #Afterschool

Graphic [download here](#).

## Science Buddies...Science Careers



Science Buddies offers more than 1,200 STEM projects and 179 activities that explicitly connect youth to STEM Careers. Find videos of the week, creative ways to teach the Scientific Method and Engineering Design Process, and the latest science news. Link: [sciencebuddies.org](https://sciencebuddies.org)

Sample social copy to promote this opportunity [Science Buddies](#)

*Long version (IG, LinkedIn, FB)*

OST providers, did you know Science Buddies connects youth to STEM careers with more than 1,200 projects and 179 activities? Explore videos of the week, new ways to teach the Scientific Method and Engineering Design Process, plus the latest science news.

Check it out: [sciencebuddies.org](https://sciencebuddies.org)

#STEM #STEMEducation #CareerConnectedLearning #Afterschool

*Shortened for X*

Explore STEM careers with @ScienceBuddies!



Find 1,200+ projects, 179 career-connected activities, videos, and science news to inspire youth.

Discover more: [sciencebuddies.org](https://sciencebuddies.org)

#STEM #STEMEducation

Graphic [download here](#).

## Other Resources

### Research-Based Practices & Career Awareness and Exploration

STEM Next aims to raise awareness of research-based practices proven to increase the quality of STEM learning experiences for youth and is committed to strengthening career awareness and exploration in out of school time so youth are prepared for whatever comes NEXT.

#### Career Exploration Tool with a Playful Approach

Explore your career possibilities. Career paths aren't always straightforward, but your unique life experiences are a superpower. They're full of valuable skills that employers need. Career Dreamer helps you uncover those skills and explore new career possibilities in a simple, playful way. Link: [Career Dreamer](#) from Grow with Google

#### STEM Education Trends: Preparing Students for the Future of Work

What does it take to prepare students for a world that's constantly innovating? Education is no longer just about textbooks and memorization; it's about fostering skills that adapt to the pace of change. STEM education is evolving to meet this challenge, embracing fresh trends that inspire curiosity, creativity, and critical thinking. From integrating coding into curricula to leveraging interdisciplinary approaches, today's classrooms are becoming dynamic hubs for future innovators. Let's explore how STEM education trends are shaping the future of learning and ensuring students are well-prepared to excel in the workforce. Link: [STEM Blazers Blog](#)

## Ready, Set, Go: Career Navigation for High School Students

Modules are designed for high school educators and youth advocates to facilitate their students' learning about career training programs as postsecondary options. The modules are free and downloadable at

[www.sharedlane.co](http://www.sharedlane.co)

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## **DECEMBER**

### **Professional Development Opportunities**

#### **Making Connections to STEM Careers with Click2Science**



This series of short, online video tutorials help afterschool programs connect their STEM programming to the work of STEM professionals and help youth experience the practical application of STEM skills that professionals use on a day-to-day basis.

- [Connecting Learning Activities to STEM Careers](#) - Participants will brainstorm STEM careers and connect them to common out-of-school time activities.
- [Connecting STEM Activities to Future Careers](#) - Participants will watch the Trying Out Career Roles module to learn how to connect activities to STEM careers.
- [Creating an Action Plan for Connecting to STEM Careers](#) - Participants will watch the Connecting the Activity to a Career Video-Based Learning Module to learn to connect youths' experience to STEM pathways and careers.

#### Sample social copy to promote this opportunity

*Long version (IG, LinkedIn, FB)*

Want to help youth see the real-world value of STEM? Click2Science offers a free, online video series designed to help afterschool educators make strong connections between everyday STEM activities and real careers. Participants will explore how to identify STEM careers related to common out-of-school-time

experiences, learn strategies for connecting hands-on activities to future pathways, and develop an action plan to help youth see themselves in STEM fields.

Start using these tools to inspire future engineers, scientists, and innovators. <https://bit.ly/3ST5Mo8>  
#AfterschoolSTEM #STEMCareers

*Shortened for X*

@Click2Science offers free video modules to help afterschool educators connect STEM learning to real careers. It's a simple way to show youth how their curiosity today links to opportunities tomorrow. Try it out: <https://bit.ly/3ST5Mo8>  
#STEMCareers #AfterschoolSTEM

Graphic [download here](#).

## Activities for Youth

### Possible Futures Career Exploration Curriculum

#### POSSIBLE FUTURES CAREER EXPLORATION CURRICULUM

Health & Sciences

Information  
Technology

Lenses on the  
Future



Career Exploration Activities:  
Designed specifically for Out-of-  
School Time

jff.org

**Possible Futures — Career Exploration Curriculum**: Open source curriculum that complements and enriches both school and afterschool settings 1) expanding career awareness through authentic experiential learning opportunities; 2) encouraging students to explore their diverse interests, talents, and options; 3) enlivening STEM subjects by bringing in real-world and career contexts; 4) empowering students to develop vital employability skills; and 5) engaging students in making informed choices.

**Below are some adaptations of the Possible Futures Career Exploration Curriculum specifically for afterschool and summer programs:**

- Career Exploration Activities: Designed specifically for Out-of-School Time (OST) providers looking for engaging, hands-on, and collaborative activities:
  - [Health Sciences](#) (6 activities + career posters)
  - [Information Technology](#) (4 activities)
  - [Lenses on the Future](#) - Self (7 activities)

## Sample social copy to promote this opportunity

### *Long version (IG, LinkedIn, FB)*

Possible Futures: Career Exploration Curriculum is an open-source resource that expands career awareness, connects STEM to real-world contexts, and helps youth build employability skills.

Adaptations for afterschool and summer programs include hands-on activities in Health Sciences, Information Technology, and Lenses on the Future – Self. Each set includes engaging activities and career posters for OST providers.

Explore the curriculum here: <https://bit.ly/4m7AqpW>

#STEM #Afterschool #CareerExploration #YouthDevelopment

### *Shortened for X*

Possible Futures Career Exploration Curriculum offers free, open-source activities for afterschool and summer programs.

Explore Health Sciences, Information Technology, and Lenses on the Future – Self.

Learn more : <https://bit.ly/4m7AqpW>

#STEM #Afterschool #CareerExploration

Graphic [download here.](#)

## **Other Resources**

### **Research-Based Practices & Career Awareness and Exploration**

STEM Next aims to raise awareness of research-based practices proven to increase the quality of STEM learning experiences for youth and committed to strengthening career awareness and exploration in out-of-school time so youth are prepared for whatever comes NEXT.

## The ASA Center for Career Navigation at JFF: 1 Year Later

In just one year, the ASA Center for Career Navigation at JFF has advanced a national movement to support young people ages 16 to 24 in charting education and career paths. With youth voice at the center, this report shares progress on research, policy, community partnerships, and the upcoming launch of a new digital tool. Link: [A Year of Growth with Youth Voice at the Center](#)

## Connecting Math Education to Everyday Life-Ideas and Strategies

Discover learning resources, interactive games, and insightful articles that make mathematics approachable and enjoyable for everyone. This site offers a series of articles that help educators implement math in a relatable manner with youth and ways to teach even the most complex math concepts. Link: [Explore the World Of Mathematics with Math Curious](#)

## 15 Uses of Mathematics in Our Daily Life

Did you know math is everywhere? From cooking to sports and games to working out? It is important to highlight and share how math plays a role in youths' lives even in the unlikeliest of places. This article helps educators explore the 15 uses of mathematics in our daily life, where numbers prove their significance. Discover how math influences various aspects of our routines and decisions for enhanced functionality and efficiency. Link: [15 Uses of Mathematics in Our Daily Life](#)