The background features a 3D-rendered scene with several colorful arrows (blue, yellow, red) and a brick ramp. The arrows are pointing in various directions, some upwards and some downwards, suggesting movement and progress. The ramp is made of orange bricks and is positioned diagonally across the frame.

Stealthy STEM:

Unexpected and Alternative On-ramps toward STEM Careers

Facilitator:

Ruth Kermish-Allen – Maine Math and Science Alliance

Panelists:

Cat Stylinski – University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science

Lauren Birney – Pace University

Stacey Forsyth – University of Colorado Boulder Science Discovery

STEM???



STEM?



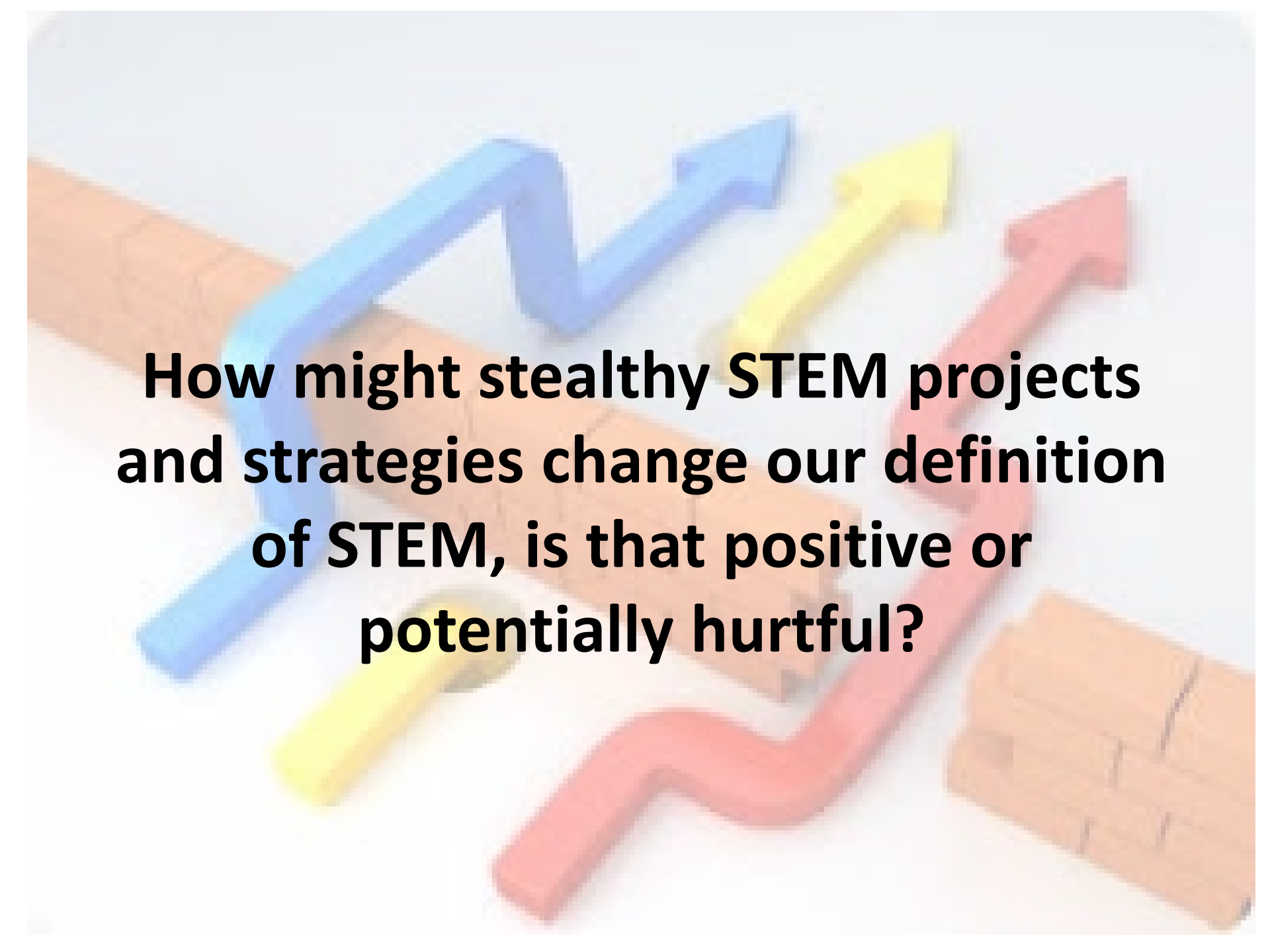
STEM?



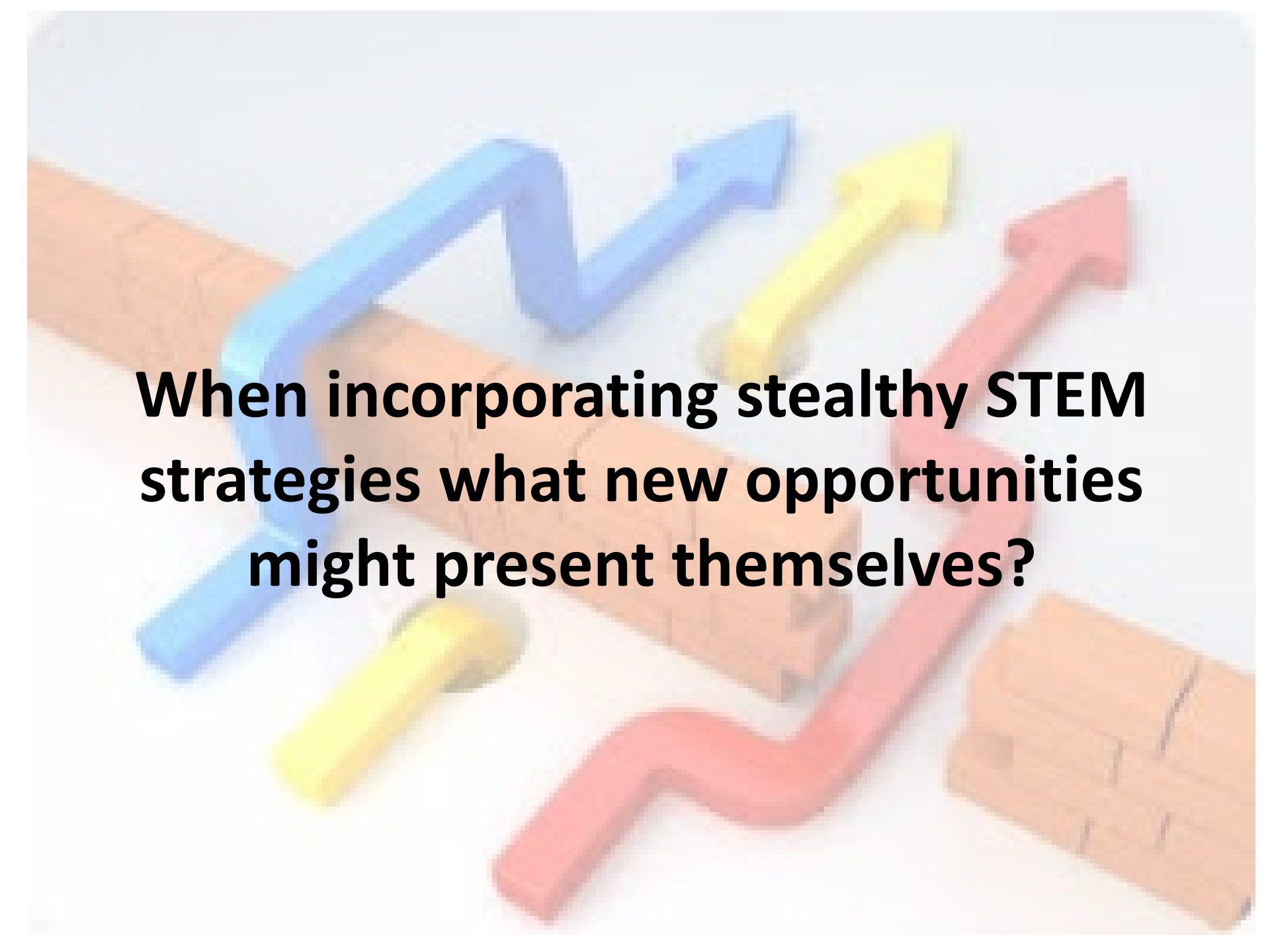
Talong

Bush Sitao

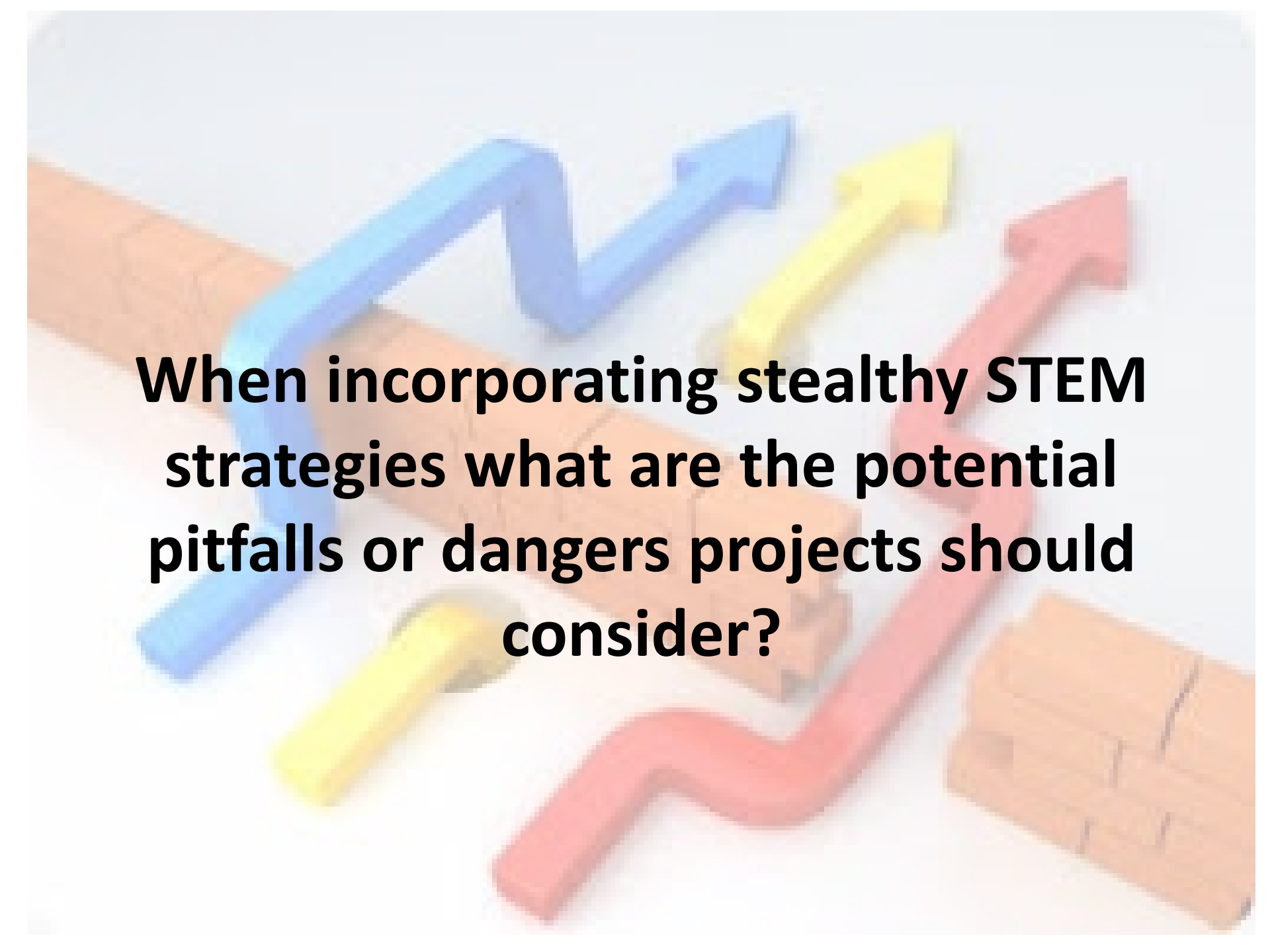
Kabas




How might stealthy STEM projects and strategies change our definition of STEM, is that positive or potentially hurtful?



When incorporating stealthy STEM strategies what new opportunities might present themselves?



When incorporating stealthy STEM strategies what are the potential pitfalls or dangers projects should consider?



What should the ITEST community be focusing on to incorporate new on-ramps to STEM careers?



**Which new audiences could stealthy
STEM approaches be most
influential for and why?**

Stealth Science to Open Doors to Science Encounters

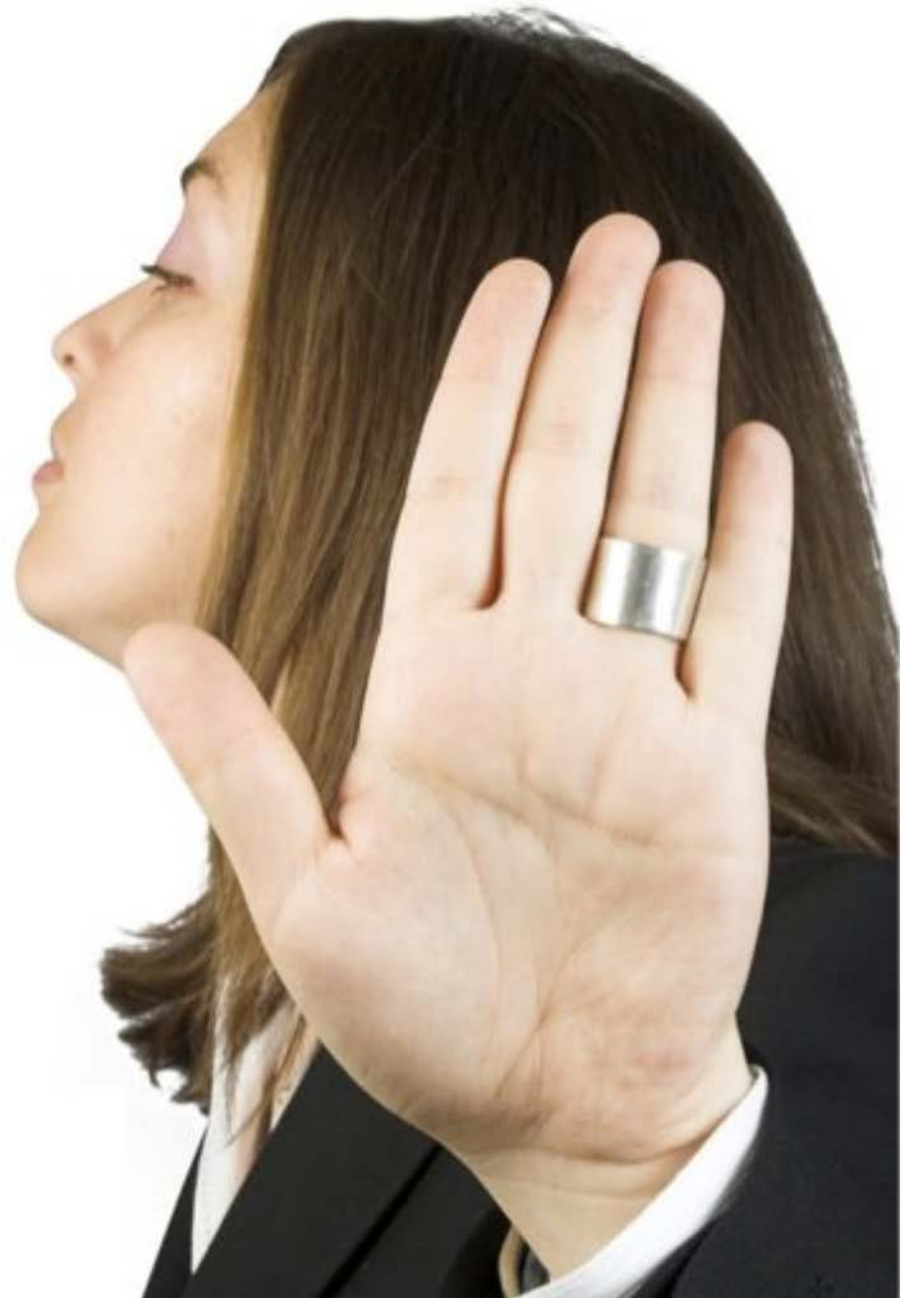


HELLO

I'm

Official Fantique

not interested
Science



Girls need opportunities to explore their interest and identity in science





Stealth
Science

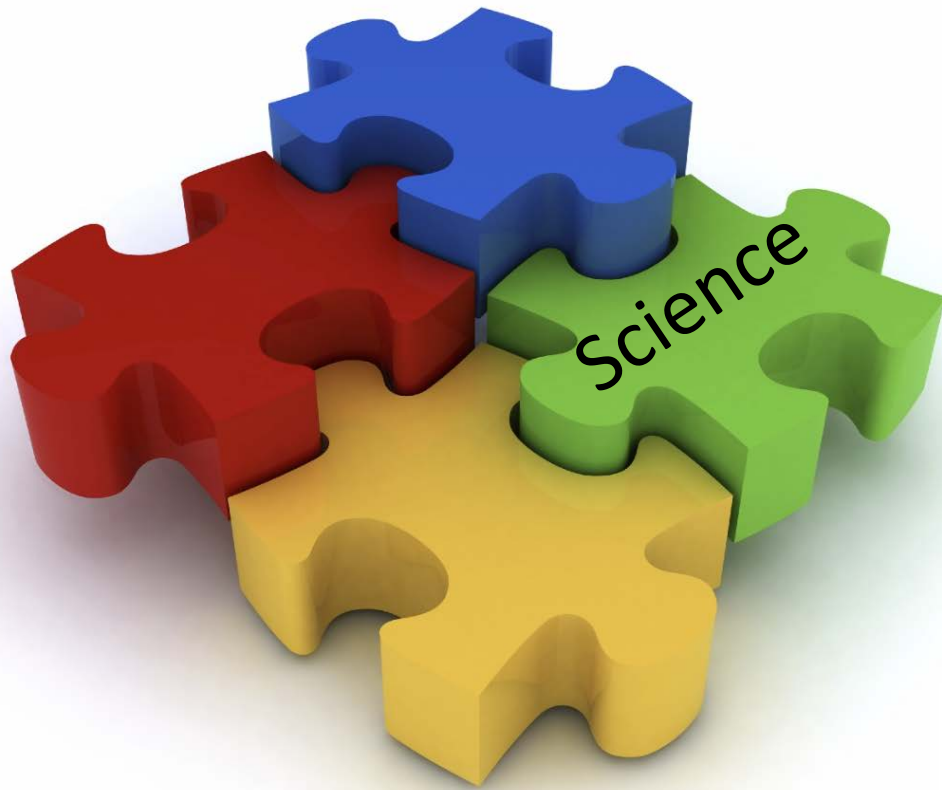
Meet audiences where they are



Figment NYC festival









Art-oriented teenage girls



Hang Out – Make Media Art – Design Digital Stories



- The summer intensive launches a brand new Augmented Reality (AR) digital storytelling club for girls that will continue from September – December.
- Work with other girls and community members to create your own interactive digital stories about your community.
- Plan a Showcase to present your AR Experience, and explore more ways to connect with other creators.

apply at www.mmsa.org/AR-Girls

apply at www.mmsa.org/AR-Girls





Community

Communication

Science

Digital design

ARIS

Create location-based games and stories

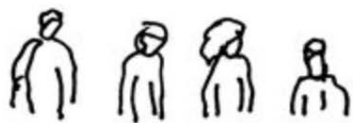




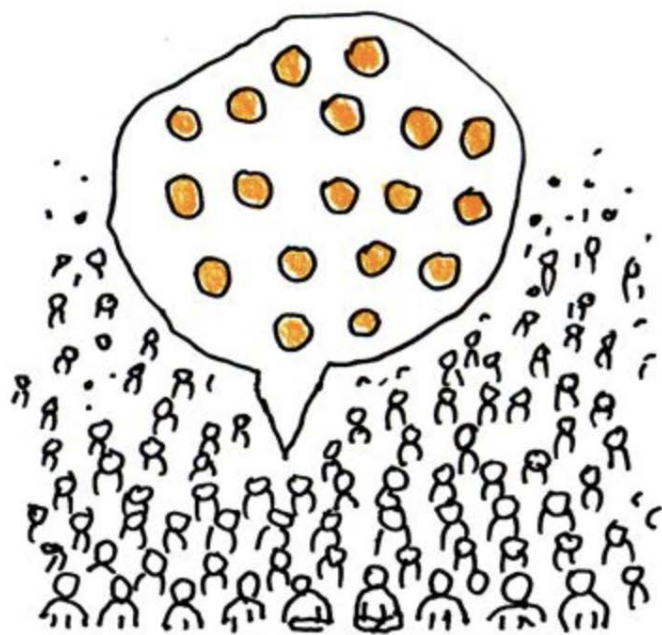




Science communication



scientists



the public







Cat Stylinski
cstylinski@umces.edu

Dr. Lauren B. Birney | Assistant Professor
Pace University | School of Education
CCERS Principal Investigator
NSF DRL 1440869
NSF DRL 1643016



Curriculum and Community Enterprise for Restoration Science in New York Harbor

Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY | EARTH INSTITUTE



THE RIVER PROJECT



Department of
Education



CENTER FOR ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

Manhattan, New York – New York Harbor 2018





Teacher Training



Student Curriculum



Digital Platform



After School Program



Community Exhibits



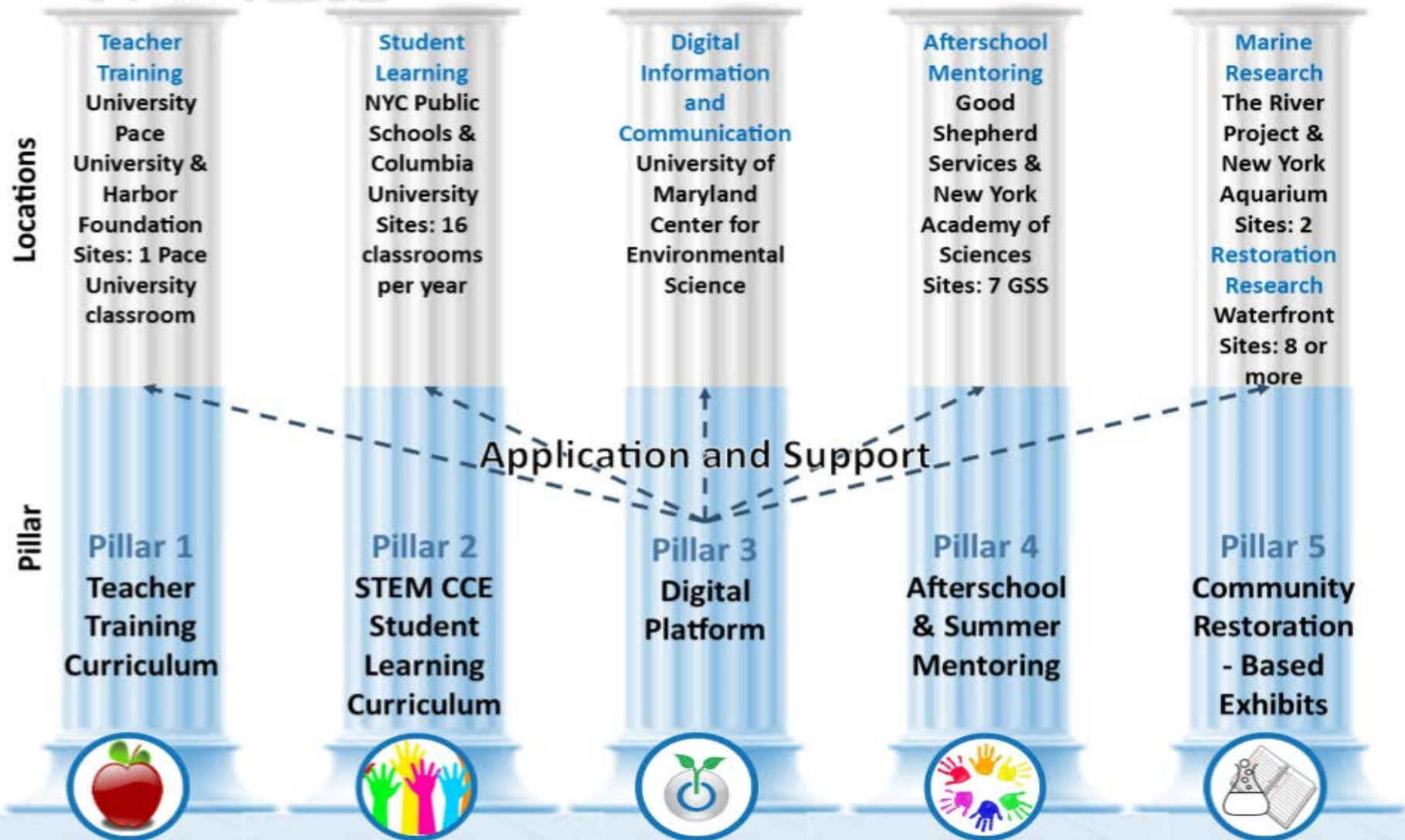
Design Educational Models incorporating CITIZEN SCIENCE Design Multifaceted Integrated Citizen Science through Environmental Restoration with Student Field Research and Inquiry Learning

New York Harbor Eco Dock – Governor's Island, New York





STEM Community + Curriculum Enterprise Restoration Science (STEM CCE-RS) Project



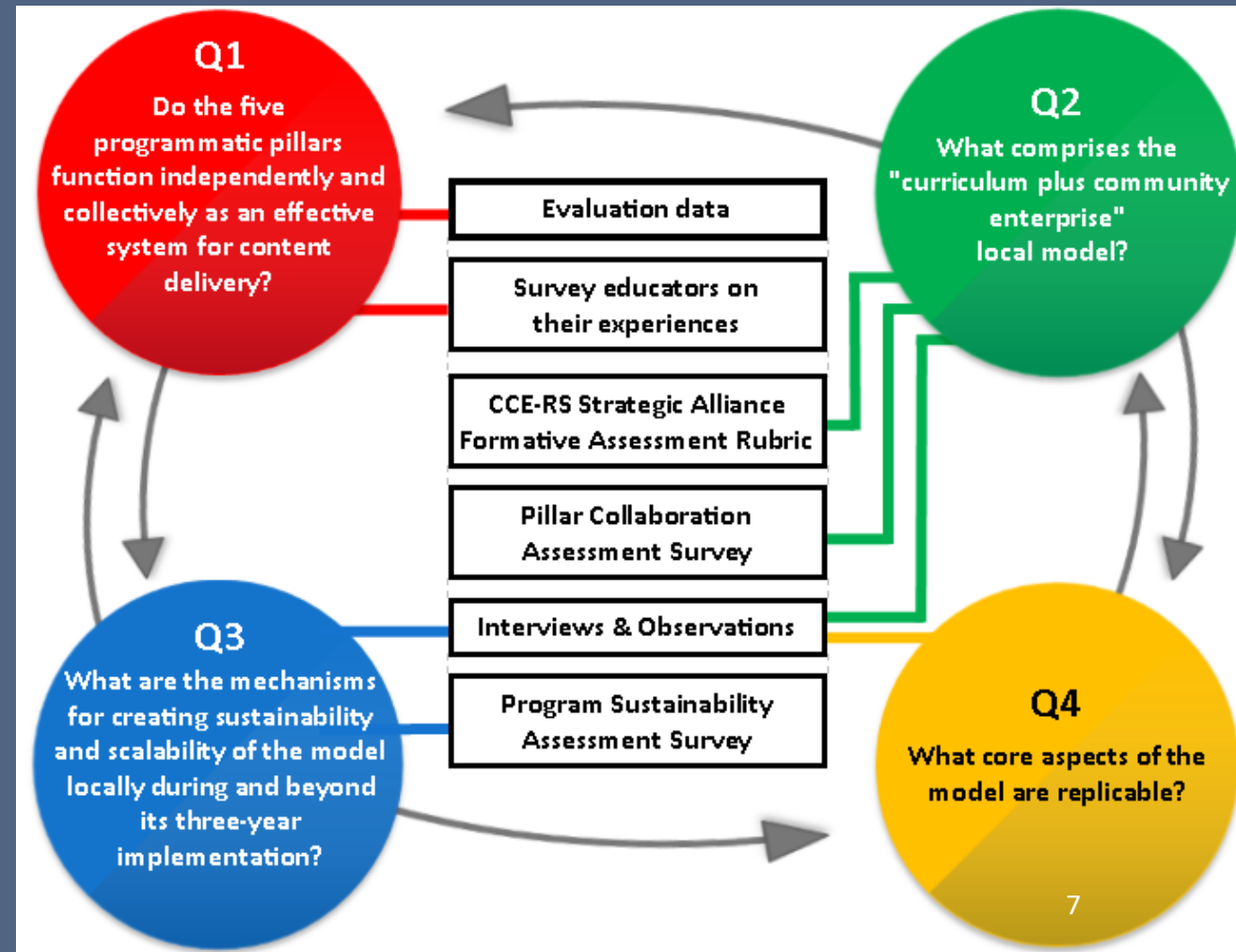
New York City Department of Education Middle School Students



Curriculum and Community Enterprise for Restoration Science Evaluation & Research

Mission:

Meaningfully connect teaching and learning to restoration of New York Harbor. Enhance life outcomes for students historically underrepresented in STEM-C fields.



ESTABLISH REPLICABLE EDUCATIONAL MODEL

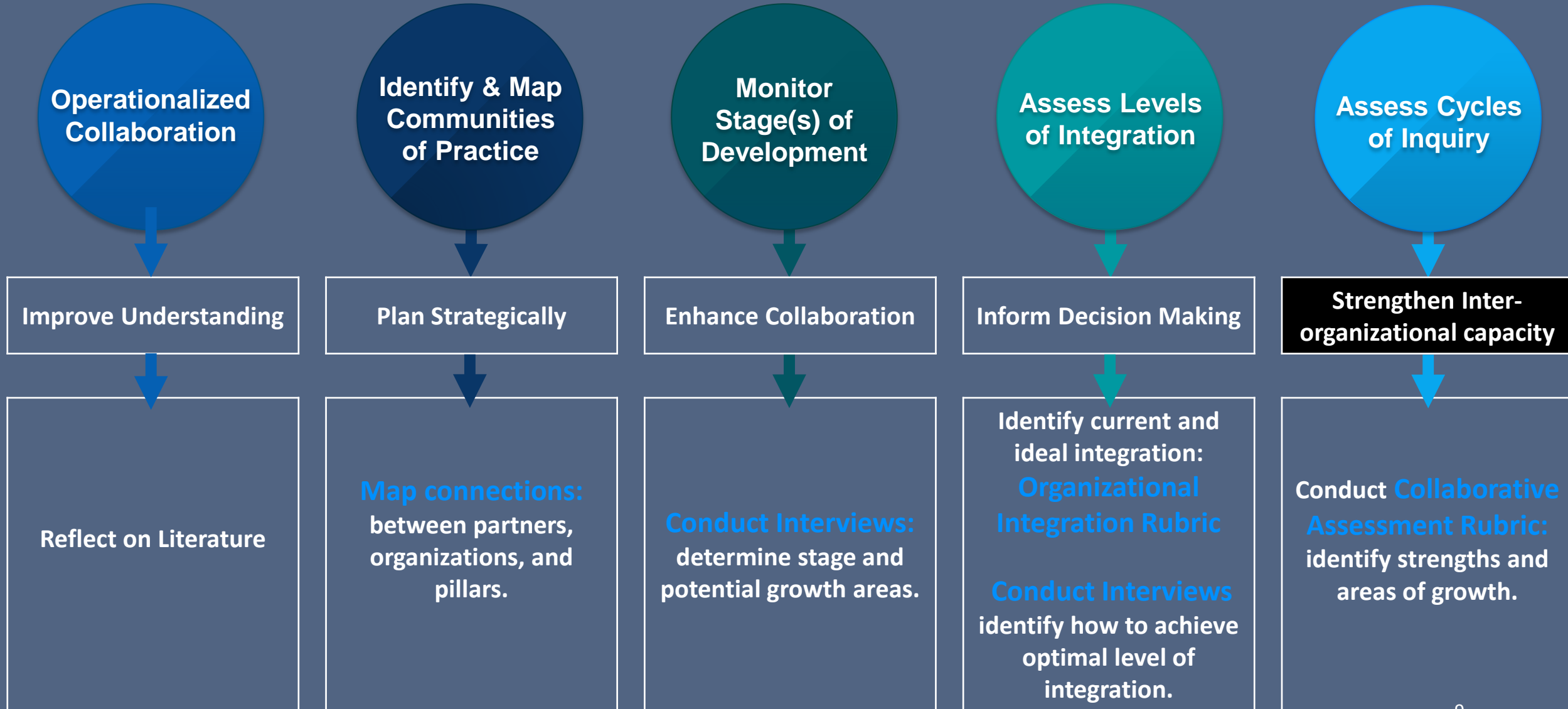
Designing an Effective and Efficient Environmental Restoration Model





CCERS Research Plan

What comprises the "curriculum plus community enterprise" local model?



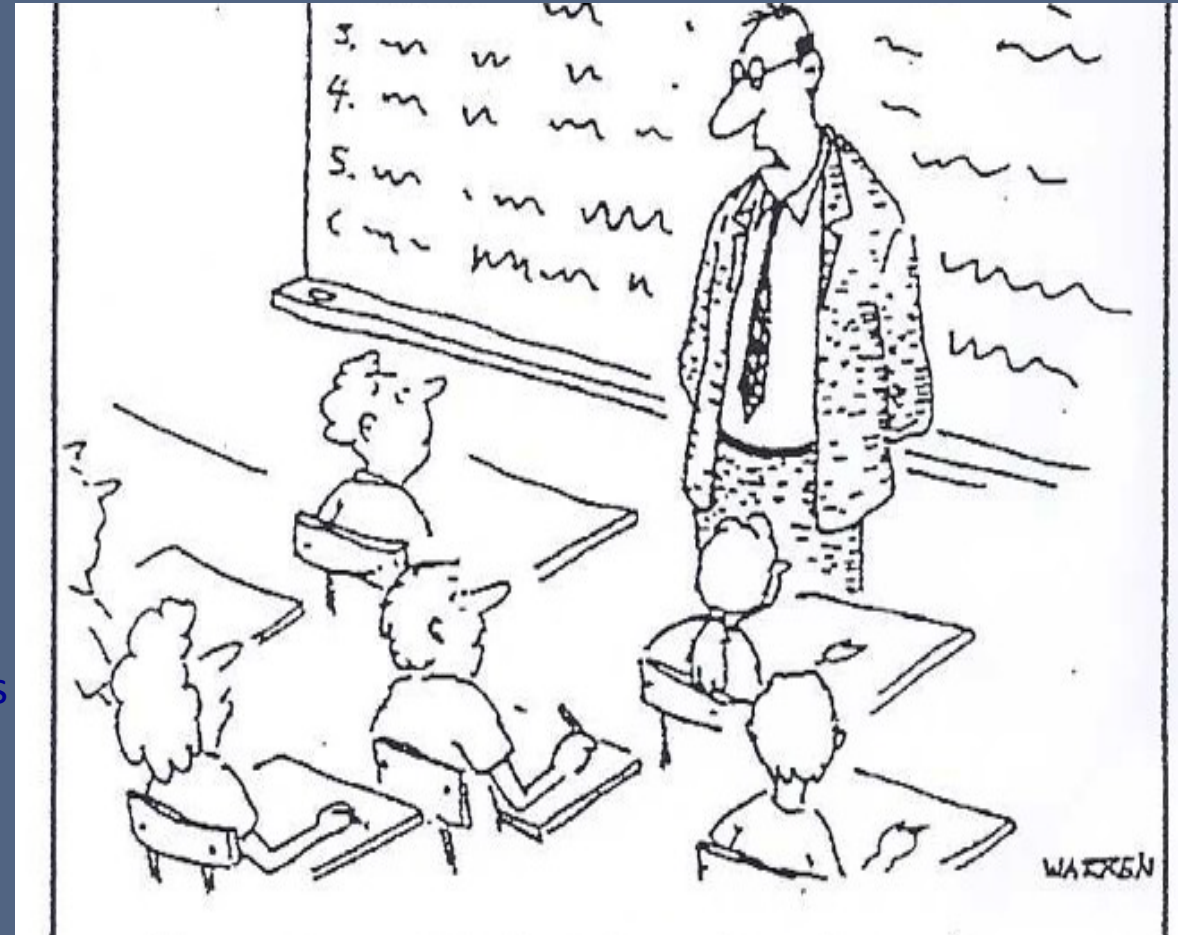
Citizen Science through Environmental Restoration New York Harbor, New York



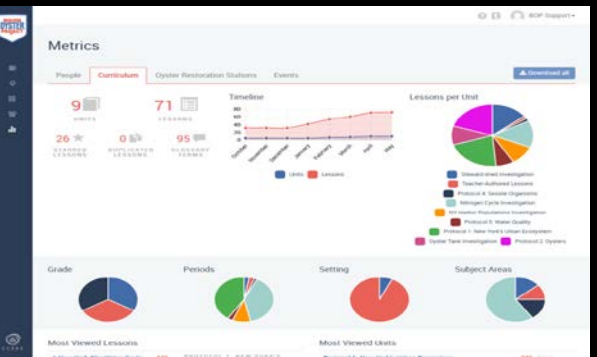
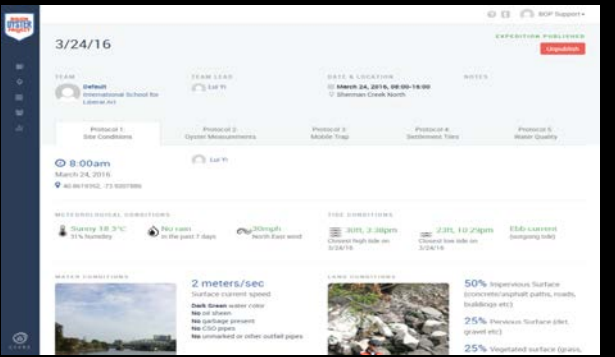
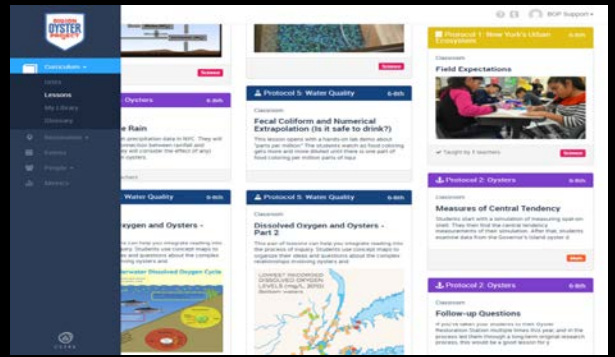
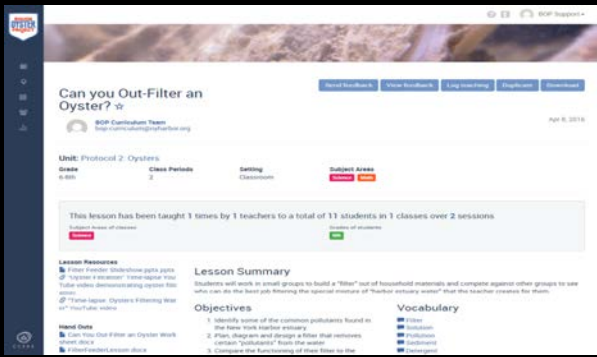
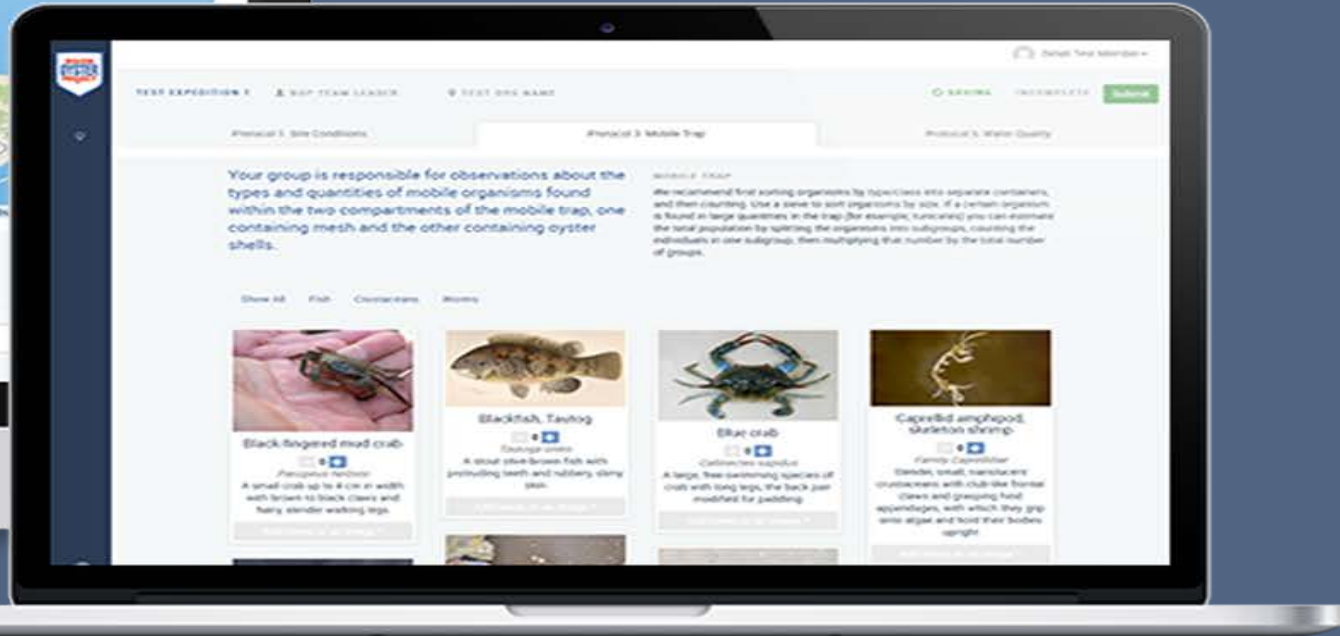
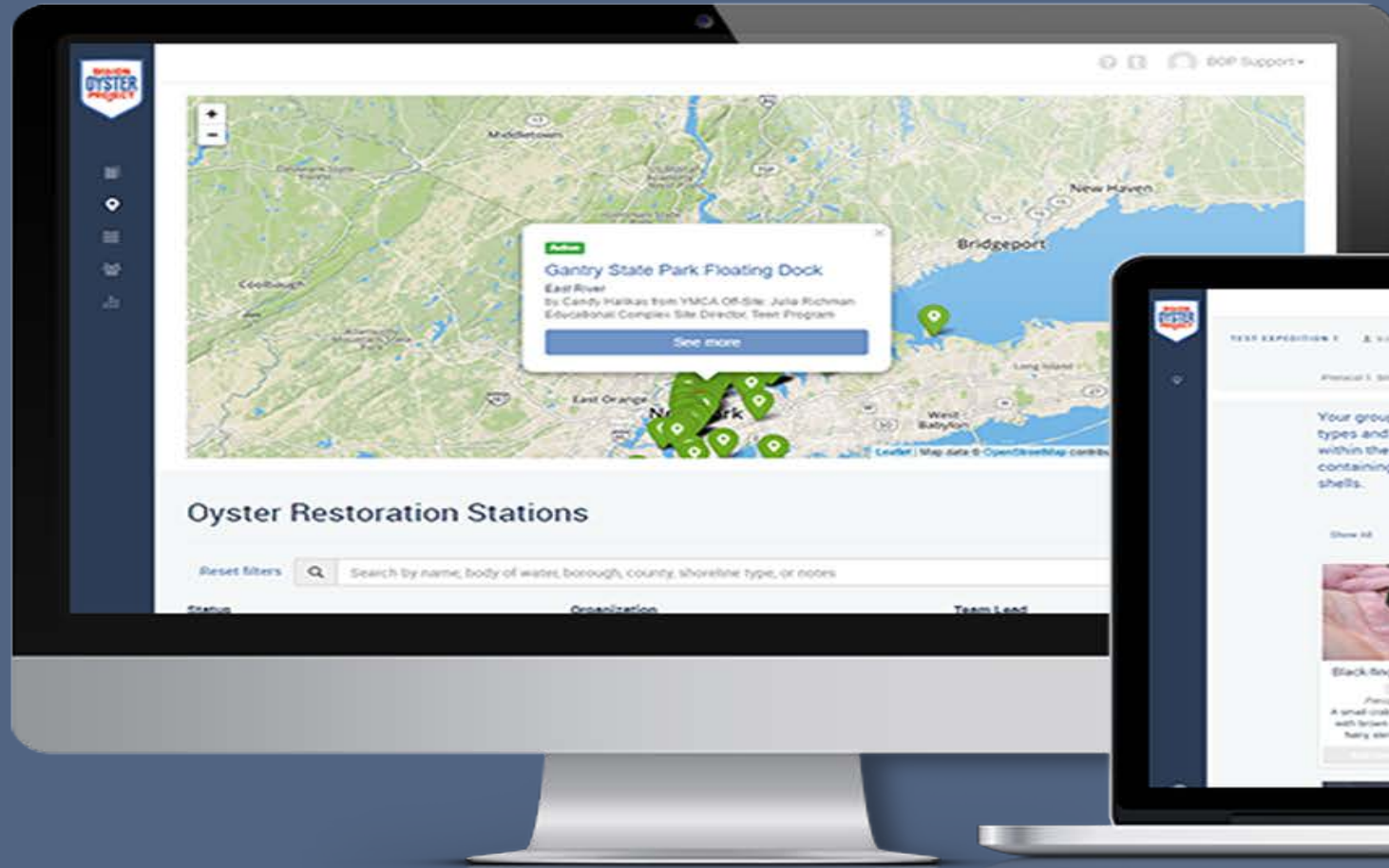
Project Footprint – Project Deliverables and Outcomes

Plan the Project's Footprint

- Curriculum for Middle School Teachers
- Field Science Manual for New York Harbor
- White Paper
- Journal Publications and Articles
- Presentations, Symposia and Colloquia
- Videos and Film
- **Digital Monitoring Platform**
- Permanent Displays and Exhibits at Institutions
- STEM Teacher Training Model
- STEM Mentoring Model
- Restoration Based Community Science Model
- Mobile Applications



'I expect you all to be independent, innovative, critical thinkers who will do exactly as I say'



Quantitative Poster CCERS

Pillar 1: Teacher Development

Professional development course trains middle school teachers in New York City public schools to develop and implement new CCERS curriculum to promote active learning of STEM-C with Project Based Learning (PBL) & Bybee's SE Model.



In accordance with research on effective pedagogical practices, project lessons connect learning activities to day-to-day life in the local community, so students see the effects their efforts have beyond school (Koussin & Doran, 2011). Project teachers interact directly with scientists to master techniques and principles, and develop strategies to implement lessons. This enables teachers to scaffold students' discovery process, empowering students to think critically, employ problem-solving strategies, and develop scientific research skills. (Bauerhauer & Zabin, 2020; Bybee et al., 2008; Gaudin, Blumhertz, Marx, & Schwegel, 1994).

- Teachers agreed their participation in the project enhanced their knowledge, skills, and confidence in teaching the principles and processes of restoration science (94%+).
- Baseline data indicate teachers can improve skills in incorporating all SE components to implement more effective pedagogical practices.

Pillar 2: Student Learning

Curriculum is aligned to Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS). Lessons incorporate harbor restoration activities with field site monitoring.



Project based learning activities have been shown to increase students' interest as they apply their knowledge to real-world problems (Zanis, 2006). The guided inquiry and shared discovery approach is consistent with NGSS, which emphasizes investigating to develop deep understanding, rather than memorizing facts (Marr et al., 2020). Students completed pre-surveys to assess their initial content knowledge, scientific interest, and self-efficacy. Post-surveys will be administered at the end of the school year.

- Baseline data show substantial room for students to improve their knowledge of harbor geography, restore science, and other project content (36-70% correct answers).
- Students' post-survey scores will be compared to baseline, and to a control group who continue to receive traditional science lessons.

Educational Models

Project Based Learning (PBL)

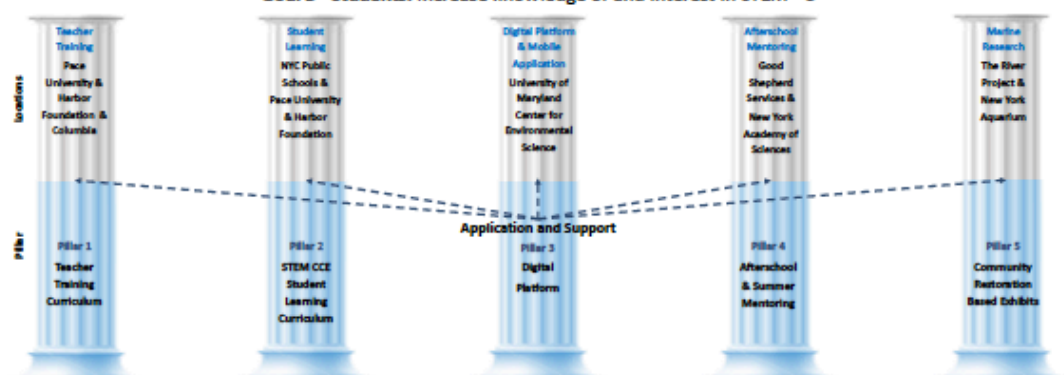


Bybee's SE Model



Goal 1 - The Educational Model: Increase quality and effectiveness of STEM-C teaching and learning

Goal 2 - Teachers: Increase knowledge and instructional skill
Goal 3 - Students: Increase knowledge of and interest in STEM-C



Pillar 3: Digital Platform

Teachers, scientists, and curriculum specialists try out and contribute to project-developed lesson plans, with learning activities, and optional resources using a standardized template. The database will also store measurements and observations collected by students on field site visits. Software is in development to record these in the field. Ultimately an online dashboard will enable students to analyze their own and others' data, and to create charts and graphs for scientific reports.

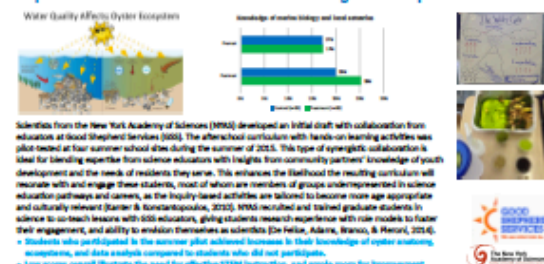


Project Description

Demand for job skills in scientific and technological fields continues to rise; however, the number of students entering higher education STEM-C pathways is low. Thus, employment opportunities in Science, Technology, Engineering, Math, and Computer Sciences (STEM-C) are swiftly outpacing supply of qualified applicants. New models for increasing students' interest, efficacy, and intentions to pursue STEM-C careers are being designed and tested. One multi-faceted approach currently being developed and refined is the Curriculum + Community Enterprise for Restoration Sciences (CCERS), funded by a grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF) for urban middle school students to explore restoration of the oyster population in New York Harbor. The partners are: Pace University, Columbia University Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory, New York Harbor Foundation, New York Academy of Sciences, University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science, New York City Department of Education, New York Aquarium, The River Project, and Good Shepherd Services. Extensive collaboration efforts are underway to develop this educational model and implement a sustainable project-based learning curriculum. Project-based science (PBS) emphasizes reforming pedagogy to motivate students to learn through long-term projects promoting inquiry and finding solutions to real world problems. Activities designed around Bybee's SE Model encourage students to act like scientists, building their critical thinking skills to construct meaningful understandings instead of memorizing facts. The goal is to enhance STEM-C education by engaging participants in long-term restoration ecology and environmental monitoring projects. Partners will develop a replicable model for other restoration projects as suited to local environmental conditions. The model has five programmatic pillars: 1) Teacher Training Continuing Education Fellowship in Implementing PBS lesson plans and activities; 2) Student participation in PBS curriculum and authentic

Pillar 4: Afterschool/Mentoring

Scientists and youth development experts collaborate on a STEM-C curriculum adaptable for afterschool and summer school settings with few provided resources.

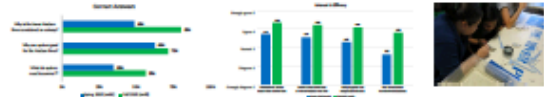


Scientists from the New York Academy of Sciences (NYAS) developed an initial draft with collaboration from education at Good Shepherd Services (GSS). The afterschool curriculum with hands-on learning activities was pilot tested at four summer school sites during the summer of 2023. This type of experiential collaboration is ideal for blending expertise from science educators with insights from community partners' knowledge of youth development and the needs of residents they serve. This enhances the likelihood the resulting curriculum will resonate with and engage these students, most of whom are members of groups underrepresented in science education pathways and careers, as the inquiry-based activities are tailored to become more age appropriate and culturally relevant (Kanter & Foucaultopolous, 2022). NYAS recruited and trained graduate students in science to co-teach lessons with GSS educators, giving students research experience with role models to foster their engagement, and ability to envision themselves as scientists (De Belle, Adams, Bracco, & Pearson, 2024).

- Students who participated in the summer pilot achieved increases in their knowledge of water quality, ecosystems, and data analysis compared to students who did not participate.
- Low scores overall illustrate the need for effective STEM instruction, and ample room for improvement.

Pillar 5: Community Exhibits

Student field trips incorporate content on biodiversity and local restoration efforts. Collaborative efforts produced interactive exhibits tied to the CCERS project.



Ecological education studies (e.g., Rogner, 1996) indicate experiential learning is effective in fostering positive environmental attitudes, such as stewardship intentions and conservation behaviors. Nadelson & Jordan (2012) suggest field trip experiences are related well and that positive attitudes will be maintained. Building connections between the local community and science education increases students' sense that the content is relevant to their lives (De Belle et al., 2024). Field trips to the River Project were offered to project participants during the spring and fall. These focused on project-related content developed in partnership with scientists and educators from Pillar 1. Students were surveyed after visits inquiring (initial teacher treatment) and fall (former teacher treatment). Students' interest in ecological learning, being outdoors' awareness, scientific efficacy and interest in STEM careers were measured on a 5-point Likert type scale. The comparison is a promising indicator that partners' combined efforts may produce effective outcomes.

- Full field trip students demonstrated greater knowledge recall than those surveyed in spring.
- Full students expressed greater interest in their local environment and rated their scientific efficacy and career intent higher as well.

Grant Information

Funded by a grant from the National Science Foundation
AWARD NUMBER: DRL 1440889

The CCERS partnership is a three-year education research project. Ten organizations are working together to develop a curriculum to enhance STEM education in public middle schools. The lessons engage students and teachers in long term restoration ecology and environmental monitoring projects in collaboration with peers, citizen scientists, STEM professionals, and community groups.

Principal Investigator: Lauren Birney, EdD
Co-Principal Investigators: Meghan Groomer, PhD; Jonathan Hill, MBA, DPS; Robert Newton, PhD; & Nancy Wood

Researchers: Erica Watson-Curie, Ph.D & Michelle Molina, M.A.
Evaluators: Gaylen Moore & Alexa Nicolas

Qualitative Poster CCERS

Pillar 1: Teacher Development

Promote active learning of STEM-C with Project Based Learning (PBL) & Bybee's SE Model



Partners are developing a curriculum, and training teachers to effectively integrate restoration science into their lessons. Teachers collaborate with scientists, sharing ideas for incorporating restoration science into their lessons. One partner said the aim of the project is:

What are teachers saying about fellowship?



To create a cohort of middle school teachers who are capable, both in terms of intellectual capacity and organizational skills, of taking their classes outdoors.

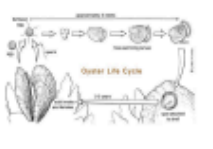
Pillar 2: Student Learning

Harbor restoration activities & monitoring for science research



Partners seek to increase students' STEM-C content knowledge through classroom lessons related to restoration science and students' local environments. The aim of this component is:

[To] increase the scientific and STEM knowledge [of students and teachers]... [For this project to be a success it has to] continue to grow and reach more students in and outside of school... It has to be advertised. There has to be more funding... [We want to make] kids aware of how important it is to be science literate citizens.



Methodology

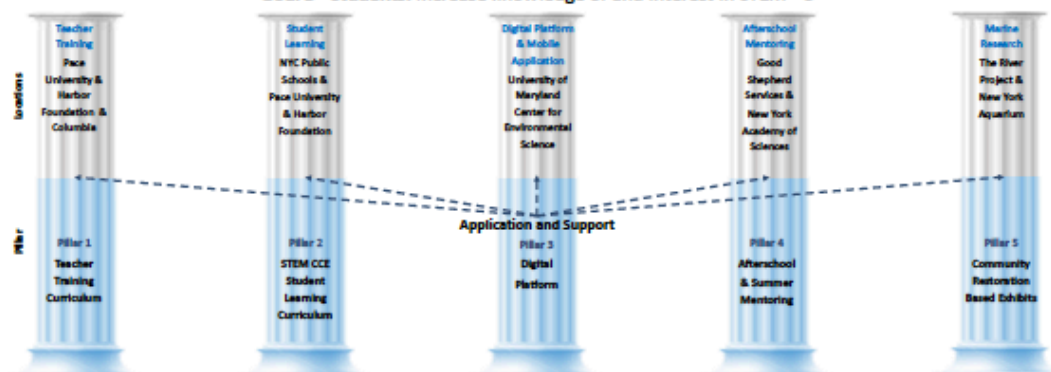


Twenty-one project leaders from the partner organizations were interviewed on their experience collaborating on this project at two different time points of the project. During Phase I, Summer 2015, 15 project leaders participated in interviews. 21 project leaders participated in Phase II during Winter 2015-16. Thirteen project leaders participated in both phases.

Goal 1 - The Educational Model: Increase quality and effectiveness of STEM-C teaching and learning

Goal 2 - Teachers: Increase knowledge and instructional skill

Goal 3 - Students: Increase knowledge of and interest in STEM-C

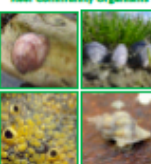


Pillar 3: Digital Platform

CCERS Restoration Stations



Reef Community Organisms



- Field Protocols (e.g. weather, wind, humidity)
- Oyster measurement (e.g. count & measure system)
- Mobile app (e.g. identify organisms)
- Settlement site (e.g. document each site)
- Water quality (e.g. water temperature, salinity)

Partners are developing a digital repository where materials and data can be shared, discussed, and reviewed by teachers, students, and citizen scientists. Students will collect data at restoration stations and upload it to the digital platform. Teachers and students will be able to compare data across school sites and time points.

The aim is to develop a digital platform that is student based for science, technology, and computer education. It's supposed to be used across all five settings of the project... to enhance their use of technology, as well the facilitation of the project in general. It's a technical thing but it's an educational thing as well.

Social Network Analysis



Graph Legend

Synergistic Collaboration

Partners have developed synergistic partnerships to benefit and build on each other's experience and expertise.

It's actually an exchange of skills... You're partnering with an organization that hopefully has a skill set that you need to make your curriculum shine.

I'd say it's not that some of the items we couldn't do on our own, but having the partners, that helped the ideas certainly be improved upon them.

I am coming at this with an expertise of teaching, and teaching science in the field, and Columbia is coming in with an expertise of more in-depth knowledge of science.

Clear communication is crucial to developing effective partnerships.

Pillar 4: Afterschool/Mentoring

STEM-C lessons & activities for settings with few provided resources

Partners are enhancing student knowledge of restoration science in out-of-school-time settings by expanding curriculum to low resource settings. A partner stated:



Our long-term vision is to write a curriculum that can be scaled up in any afterschool program - to get kids excited and interested in the topic... We want this to be able to be used anywhere... Our challenge is to really try to replicate the skills that the kids would learn by [using] nifty gadgets and web pieces without them... we're creating something for a really ultra-low resource setting.



Pillar 5: Community Exhibits

Interactive exhibits on ecosystem, biodiversity, & restoration efforts

Partners seek to promote students' inquiry on biodiversity in their local environment, as well as increase connections between schools and cultural institutions. Partners want to educate students and the public through useful and relevant exhibits. The aim of this pillar is:



To educate the general public and field trip participants about the history and importance of oysters in New York Harbor and the ecosystem services they provide.



Grant Information

Funded by a grant from the National Science Foundation
AWARD NUMBER: DRL 1440869

The CCERS partnership is a three-year education research project. Ten organizations are working together to develop a curriculum to enhance STEM education in public middle schools. The lessons engage students and teachers in long term restoration ecology and environmental monitoring projects in collaboration with peers, citizen scientists, STEM professionals, and community groups.

Principal Investigator: Lauren Birney, EdD
Co-Principal Investigators: Meghan Groome, PhD; Jonathan Hill, MBA, DPS; Robert Newton, PhD; & Nancy Wood

Researchers: Michelle Molina, M.A.; & Erica Watson-Curie, Ph.D.

Short-term process

- Professional development for teachers, afterschool staff, mentors
- Digital lesson repository
- Mobile application for citizen scientists
- Educational public exhibits
- Demonstrate real world use of STEM-C



Teacher Training

Promote active learning of STEM-C with PBL & 5E Model



Student Curriculum

Harbor restoration activities & monitoring for science research



Digital Platform

Lesson repository, mobile app for data collection & display



Afterschool Mentoring

STEM-C lessons & activities for low resource settings



Community Exhibits

Interactive exhibits on ecosystem, biodiversity, restoration efforts

- Database of STEM-C lessons and activities for various educational settings
- Replicate model in different locations
- Tailor curriculum to wide variety of restoration projects
- Increase STEM-C knowledge
- Promote environmental awareness and stewardship

Long-term vision of model

Smart and Connected Communities

Connect restoration STEM with environmental policy and law

Components to be funded by Smart & Connected Communities grant

Provide advanced training in environmental sensing-based technology

Expand Digital Platform

Strengthen afterschool STEM mentoring engagement with smart & connected technology

Increase community connections through Summer STEM institutes

Locations

Teacher Training

Pace University & Harbor Foundation & Columbia

Student Learning

NYC Public Schools & Pace University & Harbor Foundation

Digital Platform & Mobile Application

University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science

Afterschool Mentoring

Good Shepherd Services & New York Academy of Sciences

Marine Research

The River Project & New York Aquarium

Pillar

Pillar 1
Teacher

Pillar 2
STEM CCE

Pillar 3
Digital

Pillar 4
Afterschool

Pillar 5
Community

Existing CCERS Project Pillars and Partners (DRL 1440869)

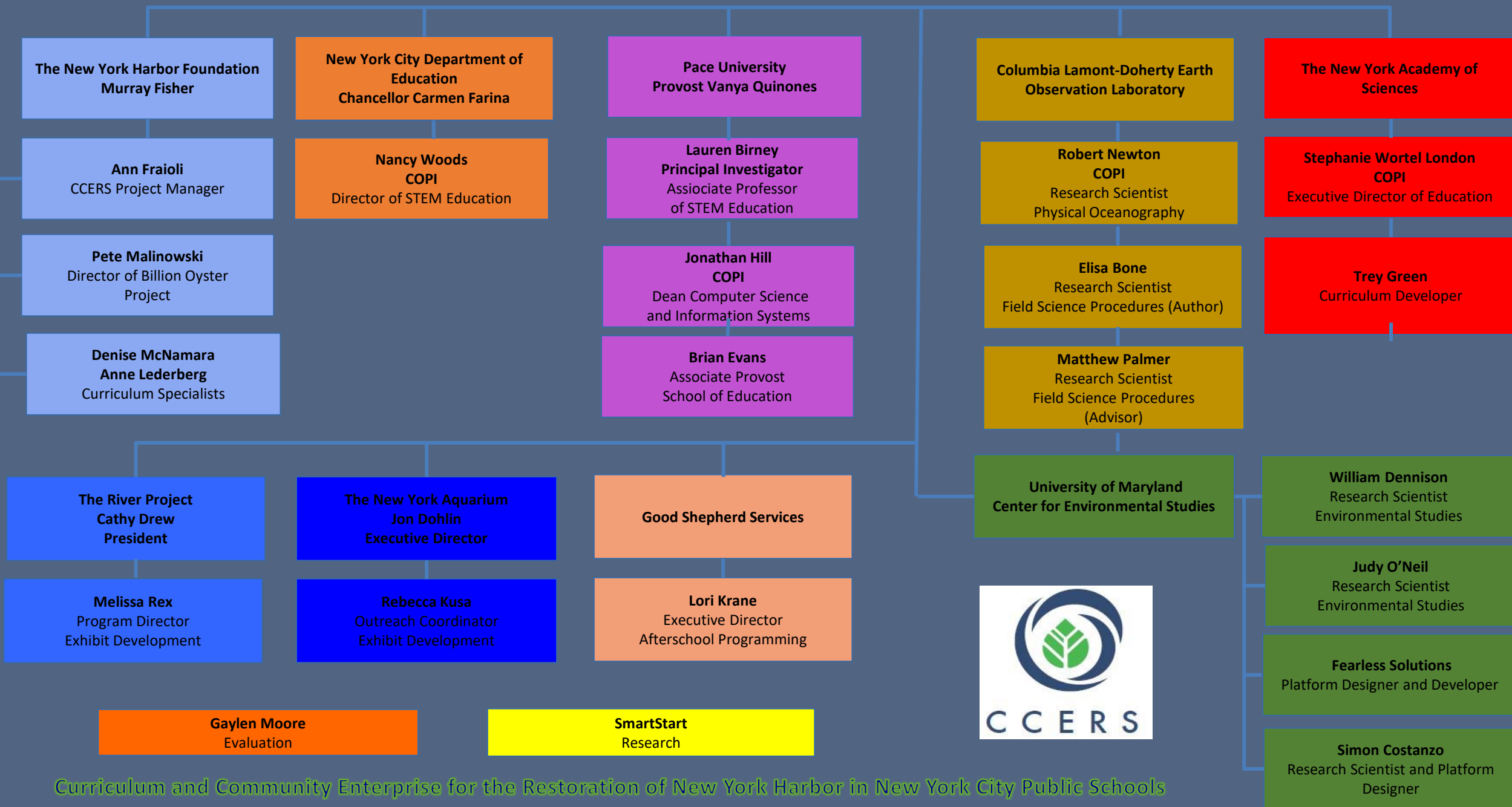
Future Landscape New York Harbor 2019



The Living Breakwaters 2020

Designed by Scape





The STEM Collaboratory NYC®

Lauren Birney, Pace University New York lbirney@pace.edu



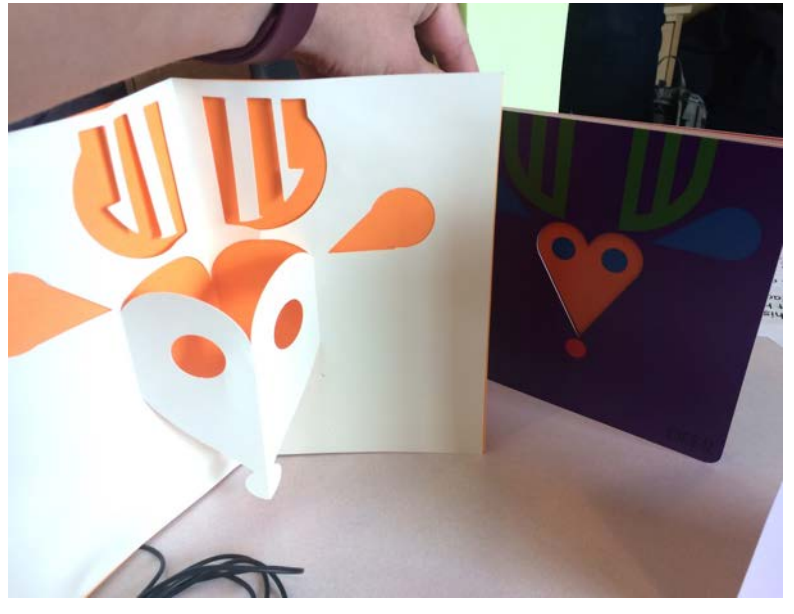
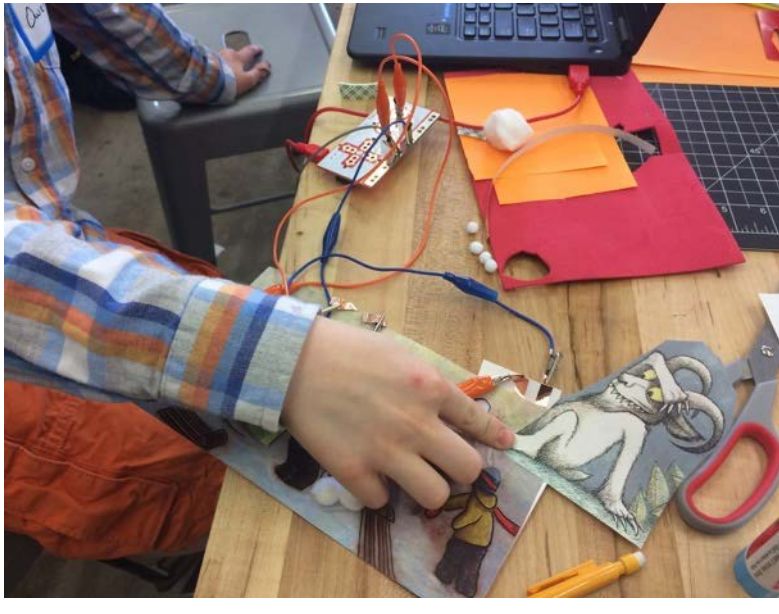
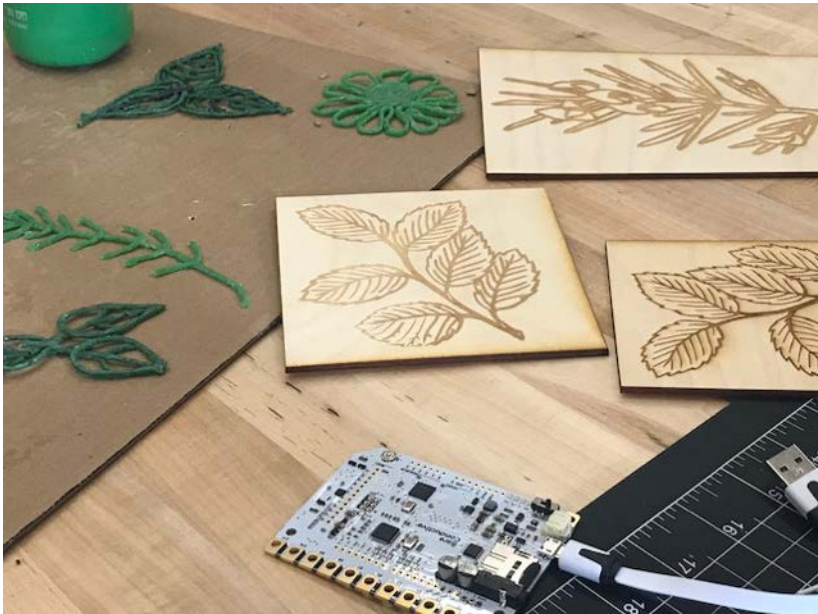
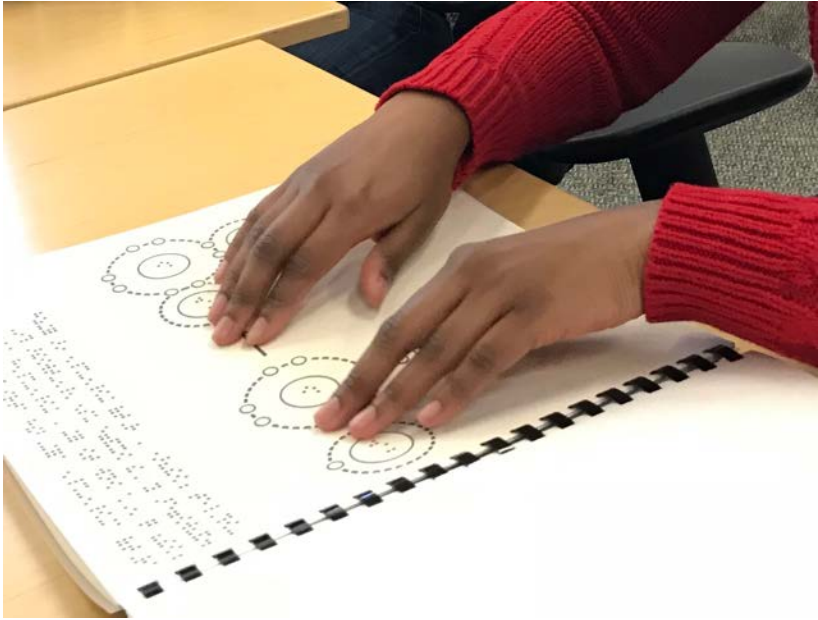


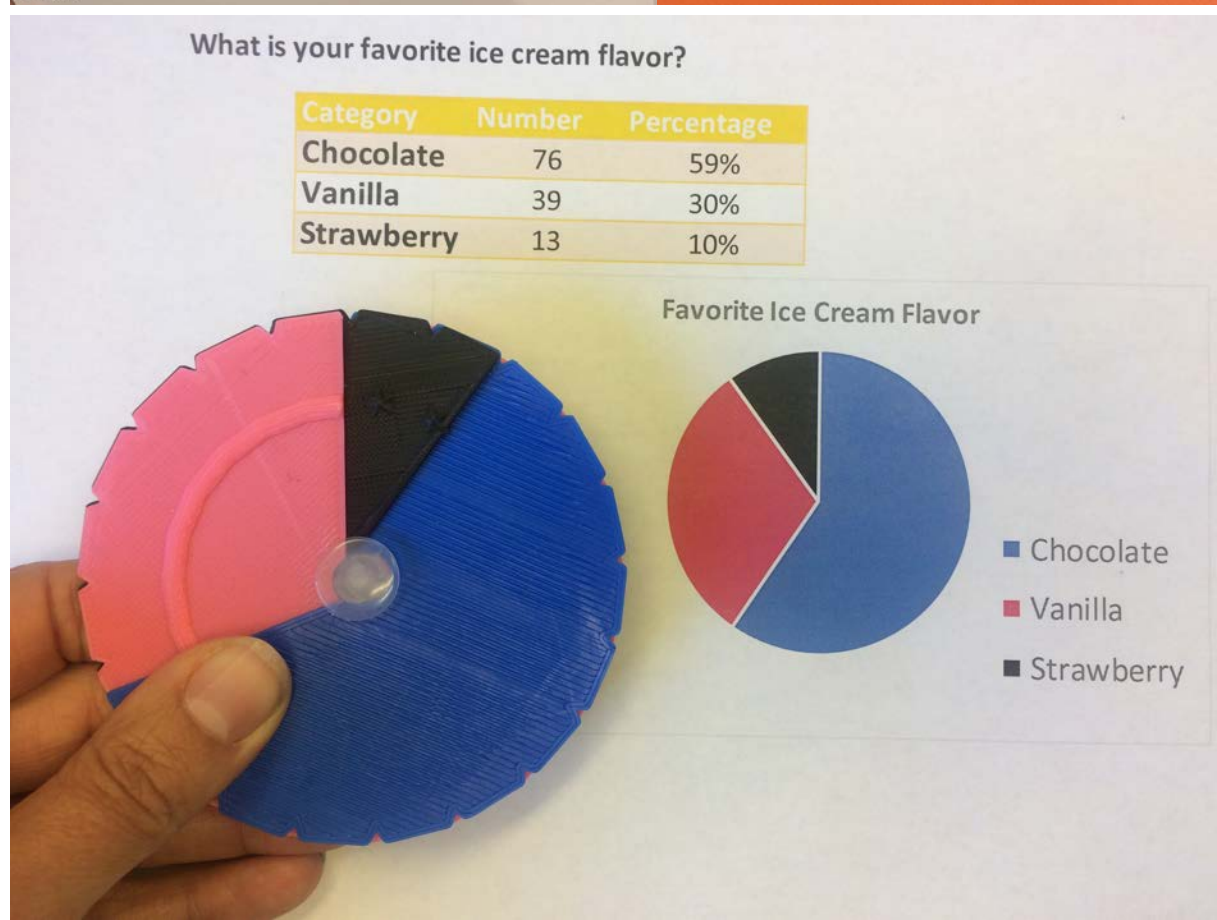
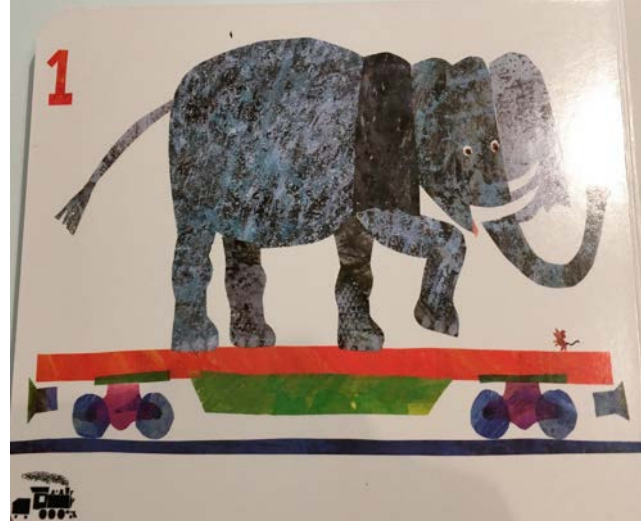
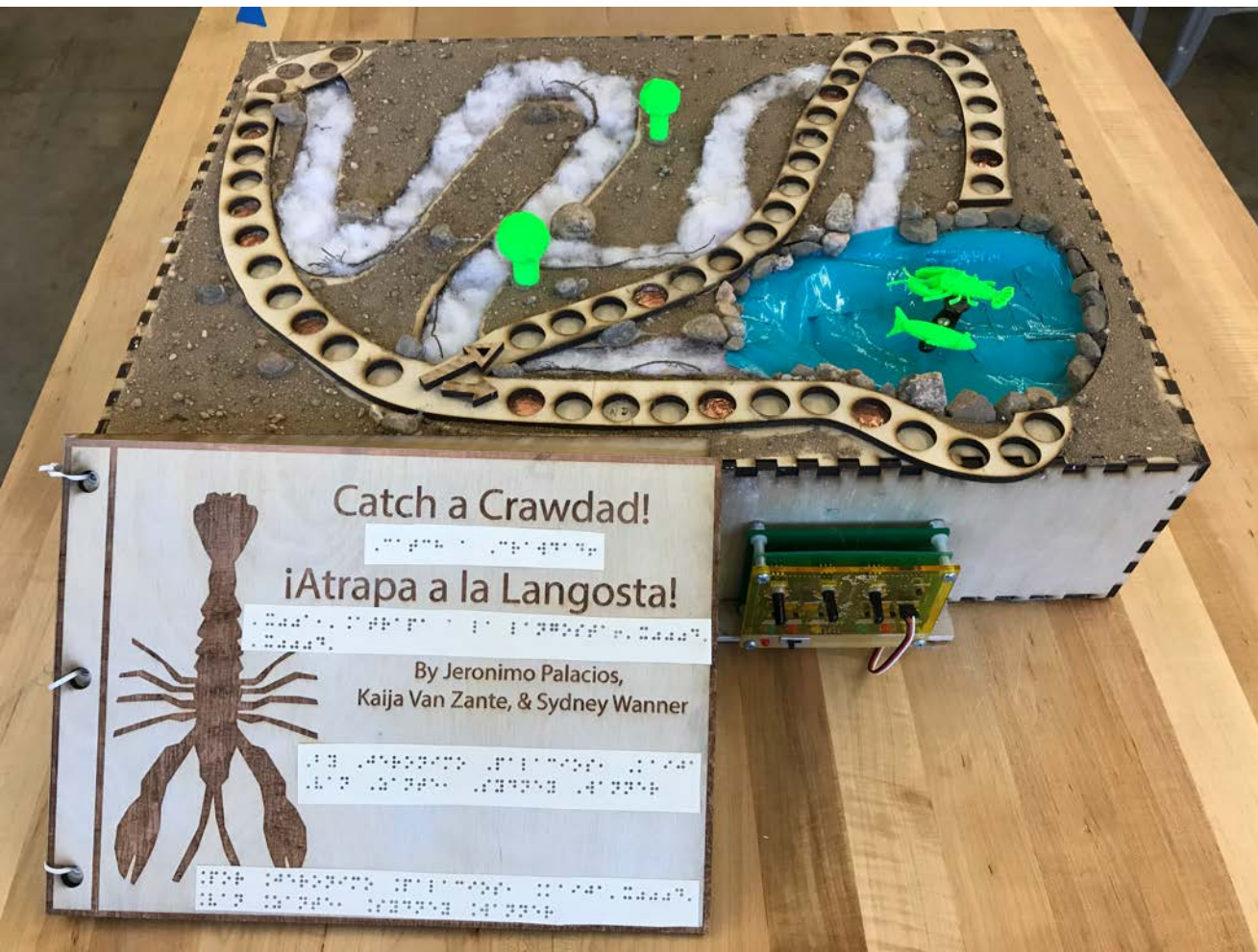
University of Colorado
Boulder

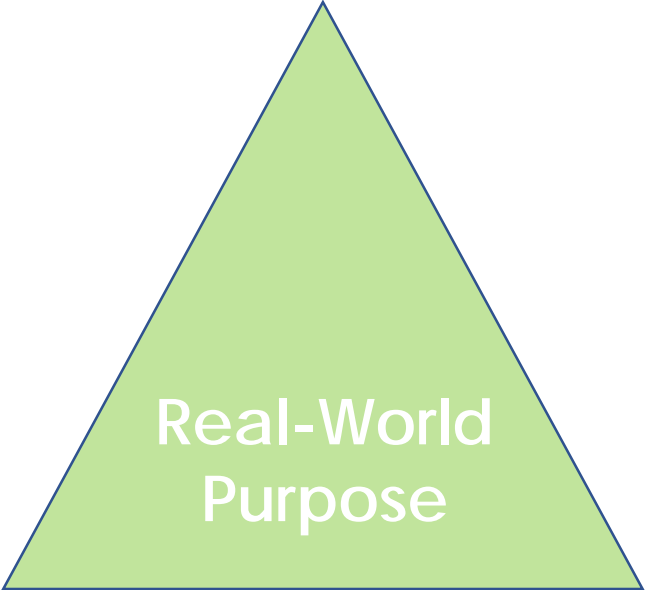
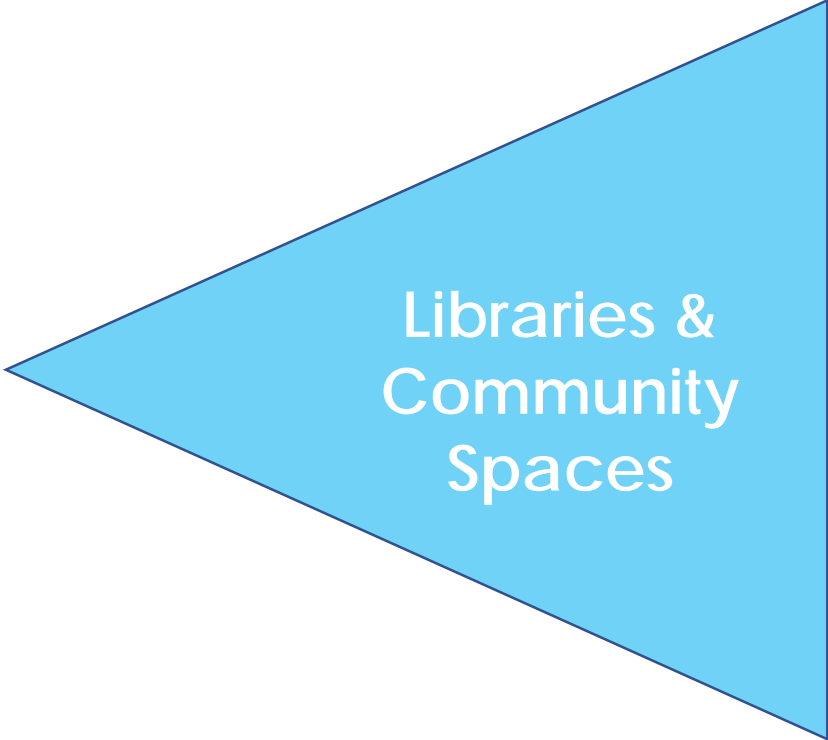
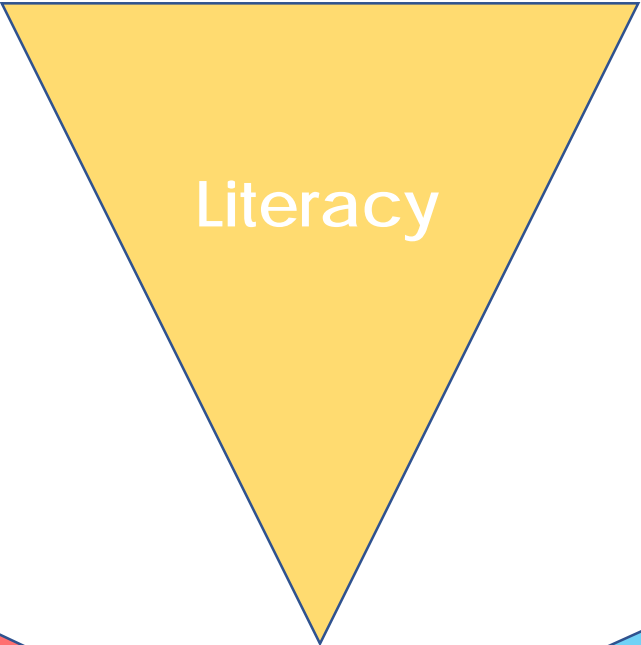
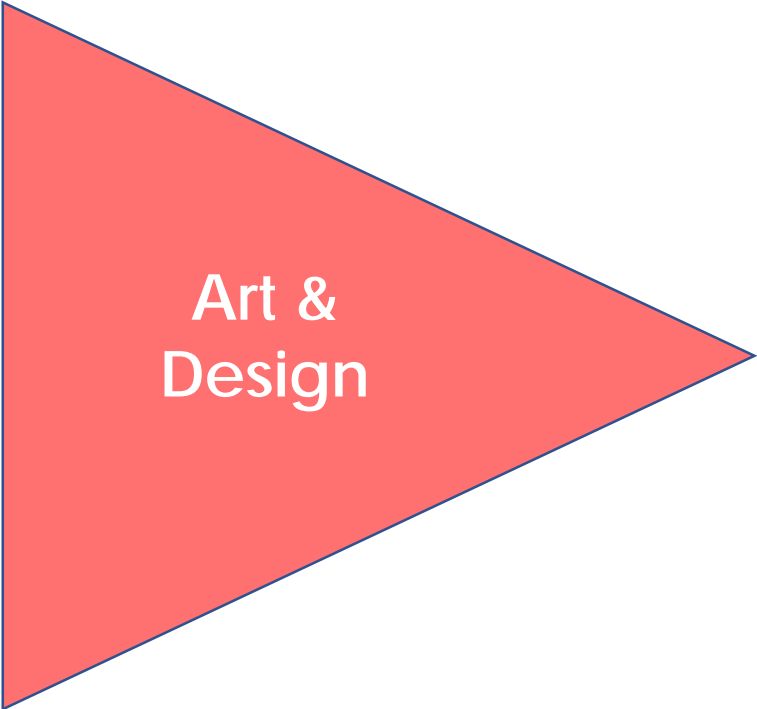




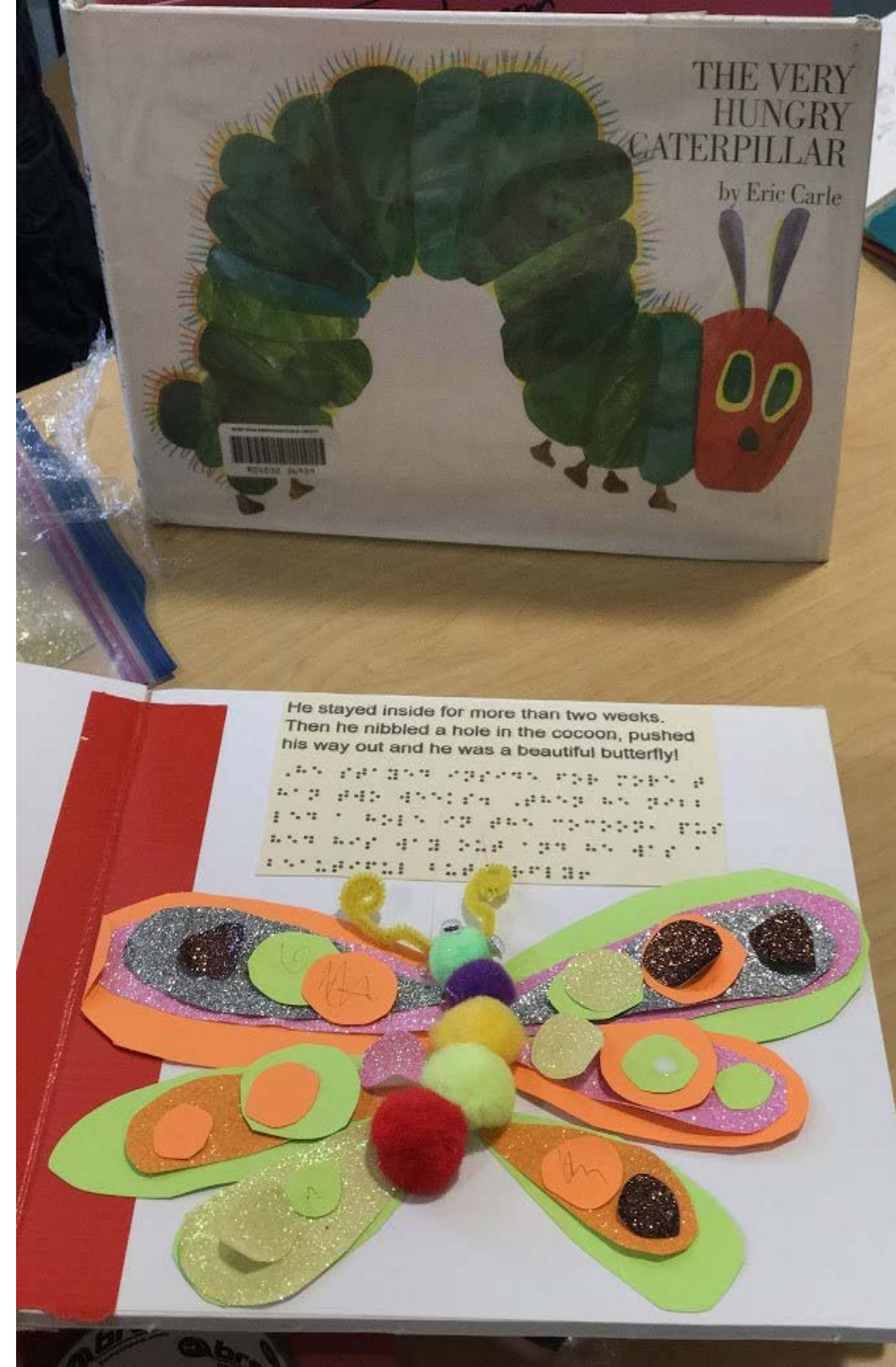




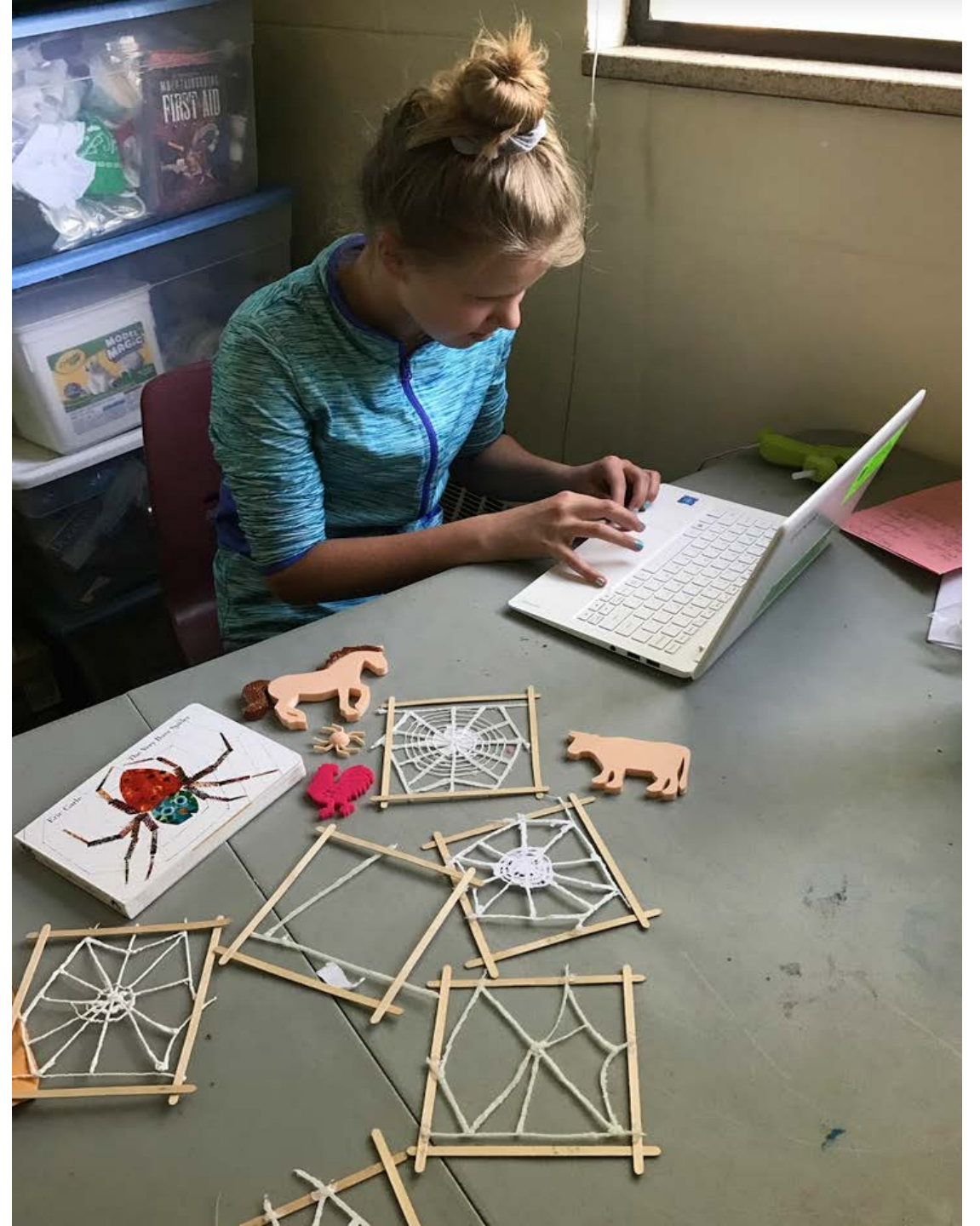




Art & Design



Storytelling



Purpose



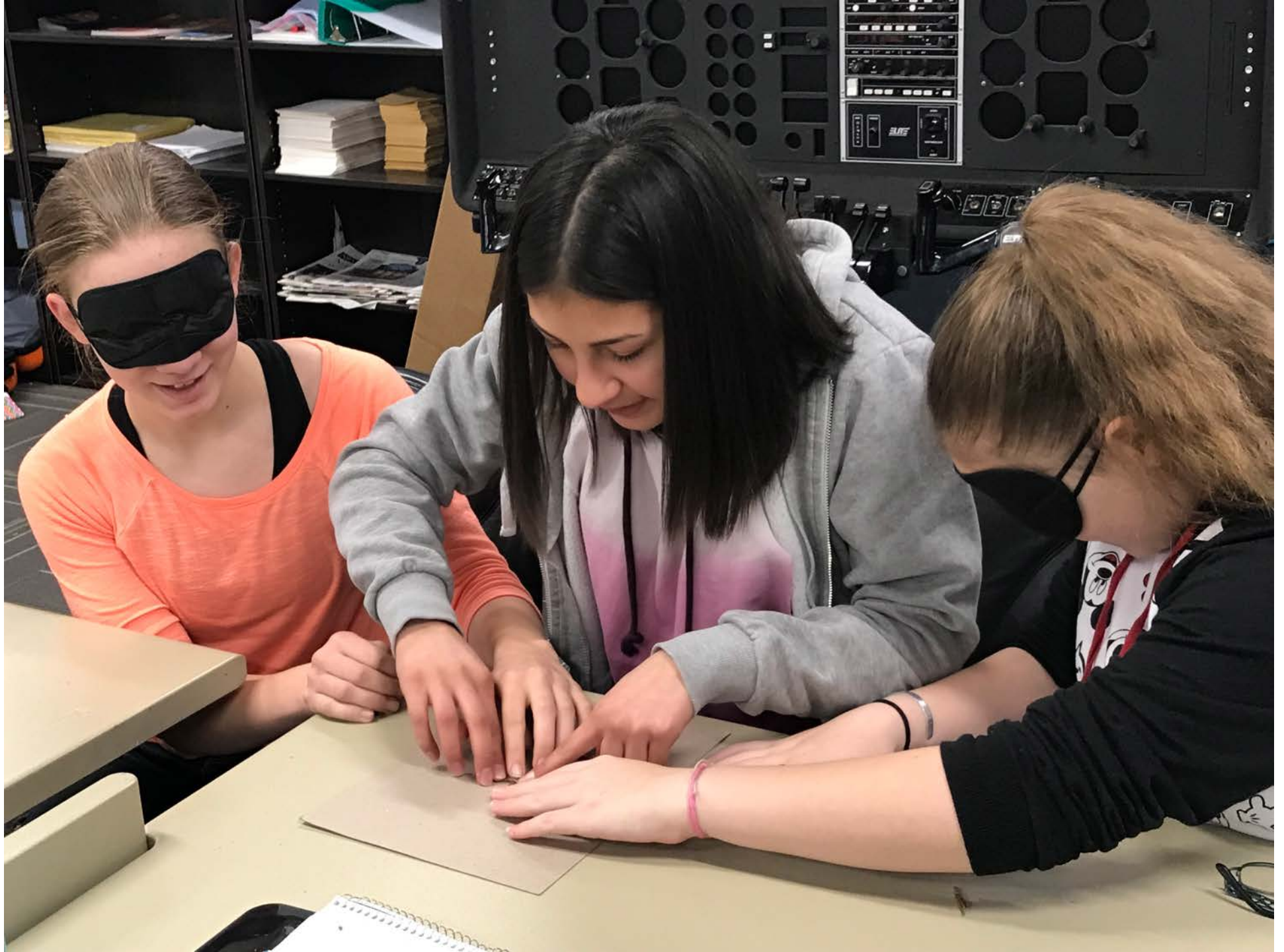
Libraries

**Without libraries,
what do we have?
We have no past and
no future.**

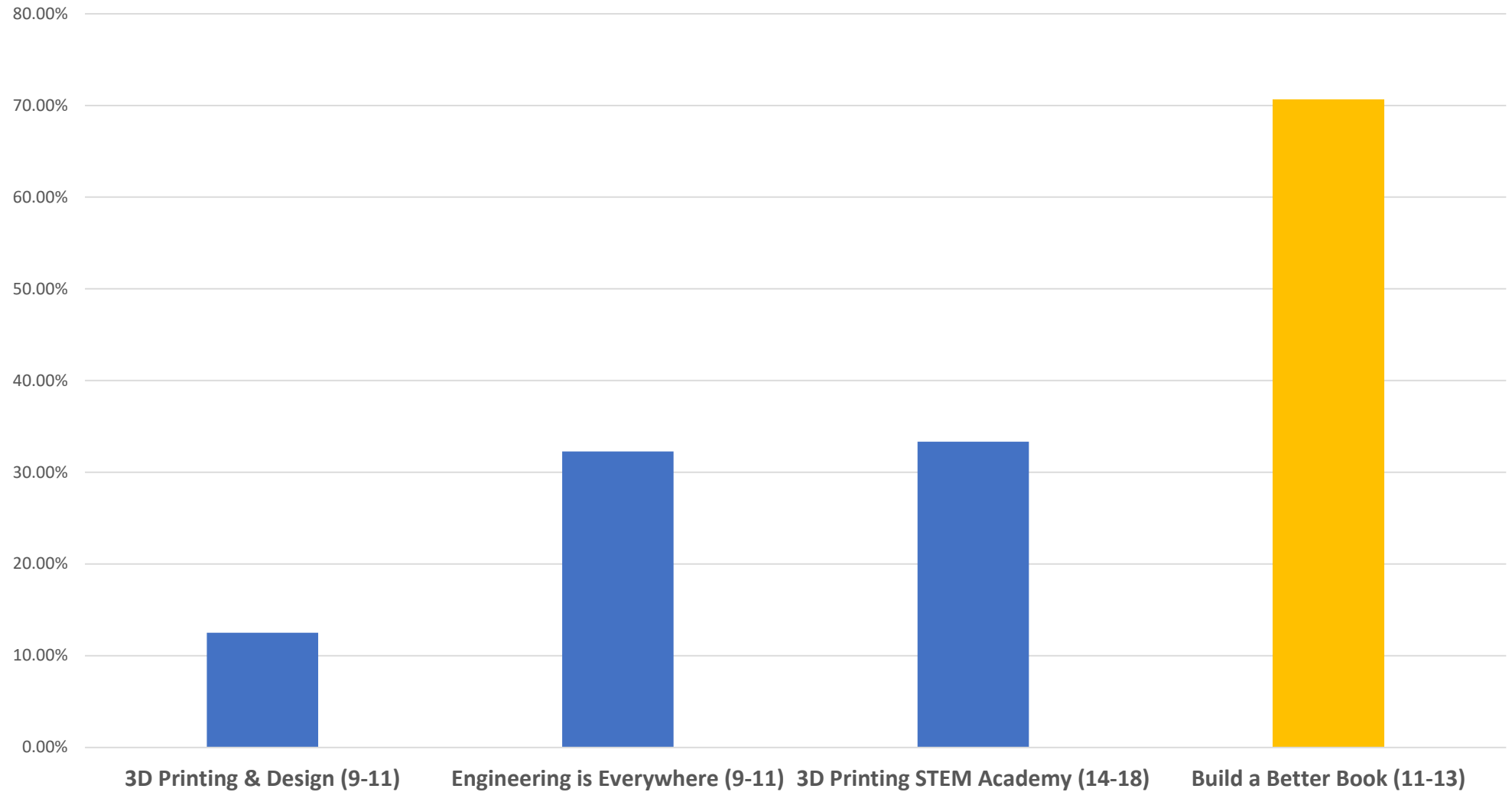
Ray Bradbury



Girls



% Female Enrollment in Summer Tech Classes





Mentors







Librarians

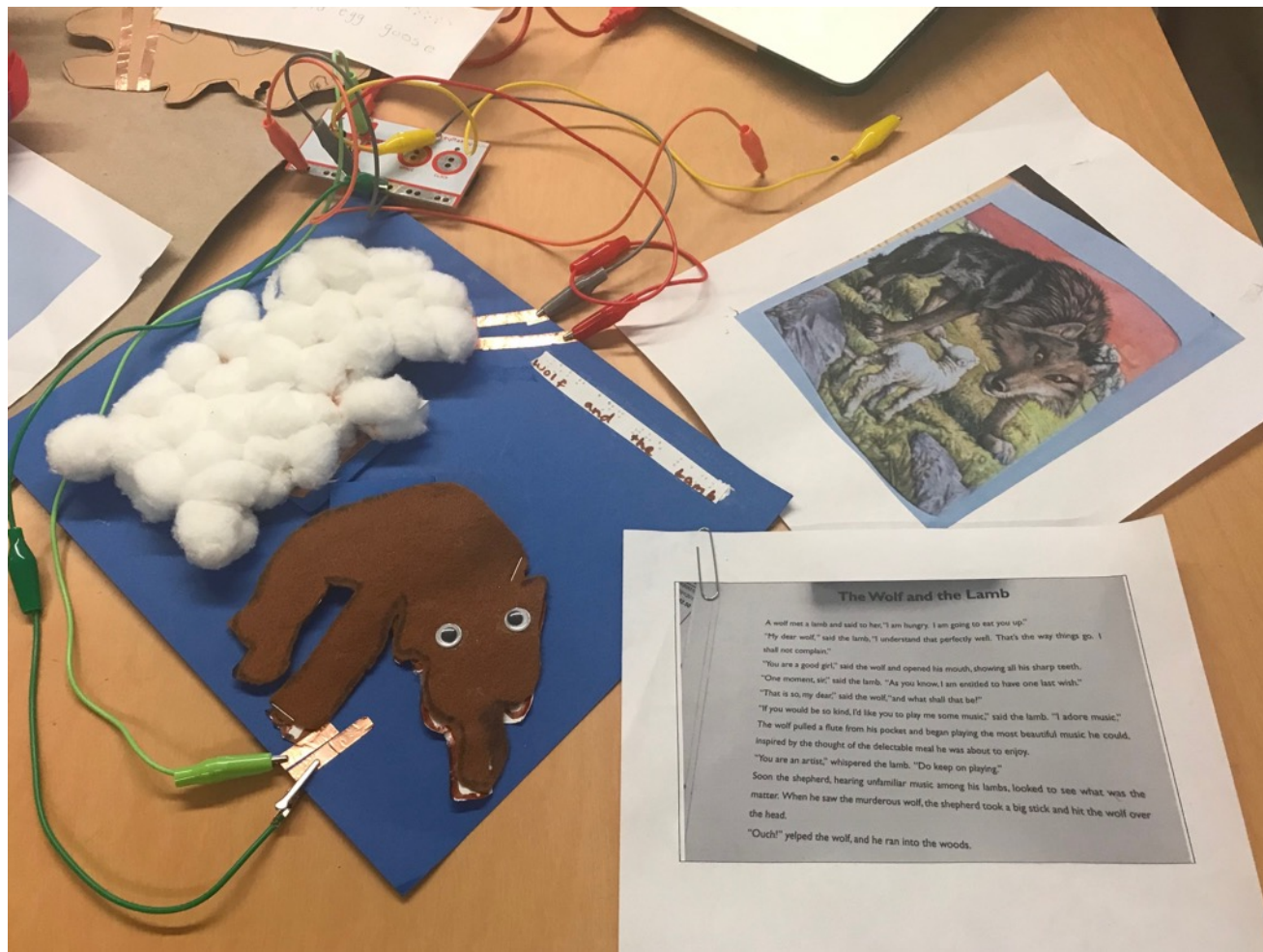


"We are excited to have a real-world purpose for our Makerspace... That has a lot of value for us."

-- Librarian, AnyThink Libraries



ELA Teachers







BuildaBetterBook.org