



## Title

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Project Overview: This collaborative project aims to establish STEM career identity among Latinx youth and help them identify the academic pathways needed to best position themselves for the future workplace. The project team leverages previously developed curriculum in the context of a network science lens and designs an evidence-based personalized career development curriculum.

Youth develop STEM career identity when activities are interactive and engaging, respond to the cultural context of youth, and enable youth to connect themselves with learning and their future.

## Lessons Learned & Insights Gained

After the network science and career lessons, the youth began to reflect more complex and concrete ideas with respect to career goals, what skills they possess, and what their next steps are to reach their goals. Impact on their knowledge and skills increased when the lessons were combined with role models and civic engagement activities.

## Equity

We are gradually moving away from the traditional evaluation method using surveys to effectively engage the population who speaks English as a second language. We have been implementing various visuals and apps, such as Pixton (comic strips) and Powtoon (video clips), in understanding youth career identities as well as their social and emotional learning skills.

## New Challenges & Next Steps

It is our hope that more youth can access our curriculum, develop STEM skills and career identity, and identify educational and/or training pathways after high school. Due to the pandemic, the opportunities to expand our efforts have been limited. We are searching for more partners in the community who are interested in adopting our STEM career development strategies.