

Afterschool Science Networks Program Survey

The Afterschool Science Networks (ASN) project at SRI International was a five-year research study (2009-2014) focused on science in publicly funded elementary school grantees of California's Afterschool Education and Safety (ASES) program.

This program survey was one of the main components of the study, and gathered information regarding science offerings, science materials, and partnership. The questions in the survey addressed site practices and capacity in offering science, including:

- Frequency of science offerings and features of typical science activities
- Types of instructional materials used
- Partnerships and external supports for science activities
- Number of staff, staff turnover rate and staff backgrounds

The survey was sent to 600 ASES site coordinators (i.e., the on-the-ground program supervisors). These sites were randomly selected from among over 3,700 elementary ASES sites during the 2010-2011 school year and 415 complete surveys were returned, yielding a 71% response rate.



After-School Site Coordinator Survey - Fall 2010

SRI International is conducting a survey of ASES Site Coordinators as part of a project funded by the National Science Foundation. The purpose of this project is to explore the connections between afterschool providers and people or organizations with science expertise like museums, County Offices of Education, or school-day science teachers.

Learning about your program and the science activities you offer will help us understand how afterschool programs can best be supported in providing quality opportunities for children to learn science. Even if your program does not offer science or have any science support, it is very helpful for us (and quick for you) to complete the survey anyway - it helps us describe the extent of science offerings across the state.

Your site is one of 600 randomly selected ASES (After School Education and Safety) programs invited to participate in this study. If this survey reached you in error and you are not the site coordinator of an ASES program, please either forward this link to the appropriate person or send an email to Hannah Lesk at hannah.lesk@sri.com notifying us of the error. If there is someone else who is better suited than you to answer the survey questions about your program, working together or sharing the survey is just fine.

Your participation in this survey is completely voluntary. As a thank you for completing the survey, we will send you an online \$30 gift certificate from Amazon.

All your answers will be kept strictly confidential. We will never share the information we collect and your name will never appear in reports of any kind.

We hope you choose to answer this survey. If you decide you cannot, please let us know. That way, we will not follow up with you when we don't receive your survey.

The survey will take approximately 45 minutes to complete. If you have questions about this survey, please contact Hannah Lesk at hannah.lesk@sri.com or at our toll-free number: 877-371-5508. If you have questions about the project in general, you may contact Carlin Llorente, co-study director at 650-859-2381 or by Email at carlin.llorente@sri.com. For questions about your rights as a participant in this study you may contact SRI's Human Subjects Committee, at 650-859-2686.

Please complete this survey within one week.

While most participants are completing the survey on-line at http://afterschoolsciencestudy.org/sitesurvey.html, if you would like to complete this survey on paper please feel free to print out a copy to complete.

If you complete a paper survey, it may be returned by fax (650) 859-4605, or by mail to the address below. If you would like us to send you a return envelope (stamped and addressed) that you can use to return the completed survey, please call us toll free at (877) 371-5508 and leaving a message with your request and mailing address.

ASN Survey/Hannah Lesk SRI International 333 Ravenswood Avenue BN344 Menlo Park, CA 94025

Please indicate your willingness to participate in this survey by	signing in the space below.
Signature	Date (MM/DD/YYYY)



Important Note: Please use a BLACK pen to complete this survey. Blue or red pens and pencil cannot be read by our scanners. When asked to mark a choice, make an "X" through the box. If you wish to change a response, mark the correct response and CIRCLE it. Use block printing when you complete text or numeric responses.

To start off, please provide the following information.

Di	stric	t n	amo	e:																				
Sc	hoo	ol na	ame	: :																				
Sc	hoo	l ci	ty:																					
Na	me:	firs	st								las	t												
Tit	le:	•	-		•			•		-			•					•	•	•	•			



Afterschool Program Information, Participation, and Activities

1. How important is each of the following objective or goal for your afterschool program?

(Mark [X] ONE in each row.)

	Not at all	A little	Some	A lot
a. Provide a safe environment for children				
b. Help children improve their academic performance (e.g., grades, test scores)				
c. Provide opportunities for youth development (e.g., social and personal development)				
d. Provide opportunities for academic enrichment (e.g., interesting and exciting learning opportunities)				
e. Provide sports and/or other recreational activities				
f. Provide children with positive adult guidance and/or mentors				
g. Help connect children to their community through service or other special projects				
h. Other (please explain):				

2. What type of organization operates your ASES program? (Mark [X] ALL that apply.)

- a. School or school district
- D. Community Based Organization
- C. Other (please specify):
- 3. How many children from each grade participate in your program during a typical school day (either before or after school)?





4. About how often does a typical student in your afterschool program participate in the

ollowing activities? (Mark [X] ONE in each row.)	Not offered in program	Less than once a month	1-3 times a month	Once a week	2-4 times a week	Every day
a. Homework time/Study hall						
b. Tutoring (one-to-one or peer)						
c. An academically oriented activity, project, or field trip in any subject except science						
d. A science-related academically oriented activity, project, or field trip (e.g., to a local science museum)						
e. Sports, outdoor games, or recreation activities						
f. Arts activities (e.g., crafts, theatre, music)						
g. Individual counseling, mentoring, or other type of service						
h. Community service						
i. Other (please explain):						

follo

5. When does your program offer services at this site? (Mark [X] ALL that apply.)

- a. Before school
- b. After school
- C. Saturdays
- d. School holidays (during the school year)
- e. Summer (or session breaks for year round schools)

6. How long have academically focused (activities designed to promote academic development) before or afterschool services been offered at this particular site (including any years before the ASES grant)? (Mark [X] ONE only.)

- a. Less than 1 year
- b. 1-2 years
- C. 3-5 years
- d. 6-10 years
- e. More than 10 years
- f. Don't know / not sure







7. Where is your program located? (Mark [X] ALL that apply.)

- a. On school grounds
- b. At another location in the community
- 8. Approximately how many Internet-connected computers are available during program hours? (Write in a number in each box. Best estimates are fine, if you are not sure.)

Available for use by children only:	
Available for use by afterschool program staff only:	
Available for use by both children and afterschool program staff:	

Staffing

si	ow many staff work at this afterschool program te (including you)? (Please enter the number of staff in ach column for each category.)	Number of Staff (including you):	Number of Staff involved in science activities (including you):
	a. Certified teachers:		
	b. Other school staff (e.g., paraprofessionals):		
	c. Afterschool program staff (not employed at the school):		
	d. Unpaid volunteers:		
	e. Other (please describe their position/role):		

- **10.** Do you have a staff member in charge of the science activities at this site? (*Mark* [X] ONE only.)
 - ☐ a. Yes ☐ b. No
- 11. How many staff members were new to your afterschool program site for the 2010-2011 school year (including you)?

Number of new staff:			
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12. How long have you coordinated afterschool programs at this or any site? (Please enter number of years/months including the current year.)

At this site:	years	months
At any other site:	years	months

Opportunities to Learn in Science

For the next eleven questions (Questions 13 through 23), we would like you to focus on the science activities offered by your afterschool program site.

- 13. Has your program offered any science activities so far in the 2010-2011 school year? (Mark [X] ONE only.)
 - □ a. Yes ► Proceed with question 14
 - □ b. No ► Please skip ahead to Question 29 on page 15
- 14. How long have science activities been offered at this particular site (including any years before the ASES grant)? (Mark [X] ONE only.)
 - a. Less than 1 year
 - b. 1-2 years
 - C. 3-5 years
 - d. 6-10 years
 - e. More than 10 years
 - f. Don't know / not sure
- 15. Who is primarily responsible for selecting the science curriculum and/or science activities that are used in your afterschool program? (Mark [X] ALL that apply.)
 - a. Site coordinator
 - b. Program staff (including school day staff employed by your program)
 - c. School staff (not employed by your program)
 - d. District science specialist or coordinator
 - e. Other (please explain):

16. For the science curriculum or science activities currently used in your program, which of the following factors were most important to their selection? (Mark [X] ALL that apply.)

🗌 a. Free

- b. Easily available
- c. Already familiar with curriculum
- d. Already available at site/school
- e. Available from a local resource not at your site/school
- f. Recommended by a trusted source
- g. Available on internet
- h. Quality of content
- i. Ease of use





17. Please describe your main sources of science curriculum or science activities (e.g., books, web sites, workbooks) used in your afterschool program during the current school year (e.g., since September 2010). If you have used more than four, please describe the four that are most typical of your program's science offerings (activities and curriculum).

1 Name of science curriculum or activity: Publisher or location (URL, web site) of this curriculum or activity: Describe an activity you used from this curriculum:

Name of science curriculum or activity:

Publisher or location (URL, web site) of this curriculum or activity:

Describe an activity you used from this curriculum:

Name of science curriculum or activity:

Publisher or location (URL, web site) of this curriculum or activity:

Describe an activity you used from this curriculum:

4 Name

2

3

Name of science curriculum or activity:

Publisher or location (URL, web site) of this curriculum or activity:

Describe an activity you used from this curriculum:





18. To what extent are the *science offerings* at your program intended to:

(Mark [X] ONE in each row.)

	Not at all	A little	Some	A lot
a. Increase children's awareness of and knowledge about science				
b. Build children's interest in and engagement with science				
c. Improve children's attitudes about science				
d. Encourage children to participate in science activities and conduct scientific inquiry				
e. Build children's skills in science and the processes of scientific investigation				
f. Other (please explain):				

19. During this school year (2010-2011), how many of the science activities in your program have covered the following topics or concepts? (Mark [X] ONE in each row.)

	None	A few	Some	nearly all
a. Life Sciences (e.g., plants)				
b. Earth/Space Sciences (e.g., clouds)				
c. Other Physical Sciences (e.g., light)				
d. Health Sciences (e.g., nutrition)				
e. Engineering/Design/Robotics (e.g., Architecture, Mindstorms Lego Robotics)				
f. Environmental Science (e.g., ecosystems, habitat, climate)				
g. General Science (no specific domain focus)				
h. Other (please explain):				



20. Typically, how many of the science activities at your afterschool program include the following features? (Mark [X] ONE in each row.)

	None	A few	Some	All or nearly all
a. Working on extended investigations or projects (e.g., a week or more in duration)				
b. Working in small groups or teams				
c. Following specific instructions in an activity or investigation				
d. Participating in hands-on activities				
e. Watching a live demonstration				
f. Watching an educational video				
g. Designing or implementing their own investigation				
 h. Using computers, calculators, or other educational technology to learn science 				
i. Reading science-related materials (either children or teachers)				
j. Posing questions or setting up a scientific investigation				
k. Recording and/or representing data				
I. Analyzing data				
m. Writing up results or preparing a presentation				
 n. Doing a science-related activity outside the program classroom (e.g., nature area, stream, pond) 				
 Presenting findings or conclusions to others (e.g., peers, parents, or outside guests) 				
p. Participating in a science-related field trip				
q. Visits by scientists or other professionals				
r. Allow for children to choose their own activities				
s. Providing leadership opportunities for children				
t. Making connections to children's interests				
u. Enabling children to connect science to their real lives				
v. Other (please explain):				



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21. To what extent have you seen increases in the following outcomes in the children you serve as a result of their participation in the science-related activities in your afterschool program? (Mark [X] ONE in each row.)

	Not at all	Some	A little	A lot
a. Awareness of and knowledge about science				
b. Interested in and engagement with science				
c. Attitude about science				
d. Participation in science activities and conduct of scientific inquiry				
e. Skills in science and the processes of scientific investigation				
f. Other (please explain):				



Supports for Program Activities

In the next two questions, we would like you to describe the organizations (Question 22) and individuals (Question 23) from which you get curricular materials and/or support for the **SCIENCE** offerings in your afterschool program. If you cannot answer questions 22 or 23, please contact your program director or other staff members to get the requested information.

22. Please tell us about the main <u>organizations</u> who provide your afterschool program with curricular materials or support (excluding basic supplies) for SCIENCE offerings. If you received materials or support from more than four organizations, please select those that are most typical of your program.

	Organization's name:
	City: Name of contact person (if available):
	Typically how often are you in contact with this organization during the year?
	How long has your program received support from them?
	What type of support have they provided? (Mark ALL that apply.) Leading activities for children on site Training and/or coaching for staff Ideas for lessons or activities Information, advice, or referrals to resources Science knowledge or expertise
	How much influence has this contact had on your science offerings?
	How much does this contact provide materials and/or support for non-science offerings (e.g., other academic subjects or youth development activities)?
,	
	Organization's name:
	City: Name of contact person (if available):
	Typically how often are you in contact with this organization during the year?
	How long has your program received support from them?
	What type of support have they provided? (Mark ALL that apply.) Leading activities for children on site Training and/or coaching for staff Ideas for lessons or activities Information, advice, or referrals to resources Science knowledge or expertise
	How much influence has this contact had on your science offerings?
	How much does this contact provide materials and/or support for non-science offerings (e.g., other academic subjects or youth development activities)?
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How long has your program received support fro Less than a month One month - less tha What type of support have they provided? (Mark	1+ times m them? n a year 1-2 yrs 3-5 yrs 6+ yrs Don't kn ALL that apply.) ading activities for children off site r lessons or activities Supplies for lessons or activities Science knowledge or expertise Science curricula/mater
 □ 1-5 □ 6-10 □ 11-20 □ 21-50 □ 5 How long has your program received support fro □ Less than a month □ One month - less tha What type of support have they provided? (Mark □ Leading activities for children on site □ Leading activities for children on site □ Leading and/or coaching for staff □ Ideas for □ Information, advice, or referrals to resources How much influence has this contact had on you □ None at all □ A little □ Some □ A lot How much does this contact provide materials a 	1+ times m them? n a year 1-2 yrs 3-5 yrs 6+ yrs Don't kn ALL that apply.) ading activities for children off site r lessons or activities Supplies for lessons or activities Science knowledge or expertise Science curricula/mater
Less than a month	n a year 1-2 yrs 3-5 yrs 6+ yrs Don't kn ALL that apply.) ading activities for children off site r lessons or activities Supplies for lessons or activities Science knowledge or expertise Science curricula/mater
 □ Leading activities for children on site □ Leading and/or coaching for staff □ Ideas for □ Information, advice, or referrals to resources How much influence has this contact had on you □ None at all □ A little □ Some □ A lot How much does this contact provide materials a 	ading activities for children off site r lessons or activities
None at all A little Some A lot How much does this contact provide materials a	r science offerings?
None at all A little Some A lot Organization's name:	
City: Name of co	ontact person (if available):
Typically how often are you in contact with this of 11-5 1-5 6-10 11-20 21-50 5	organization during the year? 1+ times
How long has your program received support fro	
What type of support have they provided? (Mark Leading activities for children on site Leading and/or coaching for staff Ideas for Information, advice, or referrals to resources	ading activities for children off site r lessons or activities
	r science offerings?
How much influence has this contact had on you I None at all A little Some A lot	

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23. In addition to people from organizations described in question 22, please tell us about any other <u>individuals</u> who provide your program with curricular materials or support (excluding basic supplies) for SCIENCE offerings. If you received materials or support from more than three people, please select those that are most typical of your program.

1	Name of individual:	City:
	Person's employer (if known): Typically how o individual durin	ften are you in contact with this a the year?
		-10 11-20 21-50 51+ times
	How long has your program received support from them?	
	Less than a month One month - less than a year 1-2 yrs	🗌 3-5 yrs 🛛 🗍 6+ yrs 🗌 Don't know
	What type of support have they provided? (Mark ALL that apply.)	
	Leading activities for children on site Leading activities for children	
] Supplies for lessons or activities
	☐ Information, advice, or referrals to resources ☐ Science knowledge or e	
	How much influence has this contact had on your science offerings?	
	How much does this contact provide materials and/or support for non-sci	
	subjects or youth development activities)?	Some A lot
2	2 Name of individual:	City:
		ften are you in contact with this
		-10 11-20 21-50 51+ times
	How long has your program received support from them?	🗌 3-5 yrs 🔲 6+ yrs 🔲 Don't know
	What type of support have they provided? (Mark ALL that apply.)	
	Leading activities for children on site Leading activities for children	off site
		Supplies for lessons or activities
	☐ Information, advice, or referrals to resources ☐ Science knowledge or e	expertise Science curricula/materials
	How much influence has this contact had on your science offerings?	None at all
	How much does this contact provide materials and/or support for non-sci	
	subjects or youth development activities)?	
L		
3	3 Name of individual:	City:
	Person's employer (if known): Typically how o	ften are you in contact with this
	individual durin	
		-10 🗌 11-20 🗌 21-50 🔲 51+ times
	How long has your program received support from them?	
		🗌 3-5 yrs 🗌 6+ yrs 🗌 Don't know
	What type of support have they provided? (Mark ALL that apply.)	
	□ Leading activities for children on site □ Leading activities for children □ Training and/or coaching for staff □ Ideas for lessons or activities □	Supplies for lessons or activities
	□ Information, advice, or referrals to resources □ Science knowledge or e	
	How much influence has this contact had on your science offerings?	
	subjects or youth development activities)?	



- 24. Have you attended any conferences or meetings in the last year (either local, statewide, or national) from which you gained information or support relevant to offering SCIENCE at your afterschool program? (Please answer about conferences in the last year regardless of when you became director of this afterschool program).
 - □ a. Yes ▶ Please proceed with question 25
 - □ b. No ► Please skip ahead to question 28 below
- 25. How many conferences did you attend in the last year that were relevant for your afterschool science program/activities?

Number of conferences:		
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26. Which conference that you attended was the most relevant to you?

Conference/meeting name:
Month/year attended: Location:
Type of information/support provided: (Mark ALL that apply)
a. Training for staff
b. Ideas for lessons or activities
c. Curriculum for lessons or activities
d. Supplies for lessons or activities
e. Coaching for staff
f. Referrals to resources
g. Other (please explain):

27. How influential was that conference for you? (Mark [X] ONE only.)

- a. Not at all influential
- b. A little influential
- c. Somewhat influential
- d. Definitely influential

28. Which of the following has your afterschool program site ever provided to another afterschool program? (Mark [X] ALL that apply.)

- a. Conducted workshop, inservice or other training
- b. One-on-one coaching
- c. Run activities at other site
- d. Posted information on our web site
- e. Other (please specify):





Program Challenges

29. How much are each of the following issues a challenge to implementing high-quality SCIENCE activities at your center? (*Mark* [X] ONE in each row.)

	Not at all challenging	A little challenging	Somewhat challenging	Definitely challenging
a. The space available for science activities is inadequate, inappropriate, or unsafe				
b. We cannot find staff with an interest in teaching science-related activities				
c. We lack adequate science related instructional materials				
d. Children are not interested in participating in science activities				
e. Our program is focused primarily on non-science topics (e.g., reading, math, or homework help)				
f. There is too much competition for children's time from activities outside the afterschool program (e.g., sports, classes, or family obligations)				
g. Science is not a priority at our school				
h. We lack training and support for our staff in leading science activities				
i. We cannot afford science materials or supplies				
j. There are too many other activities during our program hours, so there is insufficient time for science activities				
k. There are no laboratory facilities available				
I. It is difficult to get enough quality supplies				
m. We have inadequate computers or internet access to conduct science-related activities				
n. It is difficult to offer field-based science activities outside school premises				
o. Other (please explain):				



30.	How would you describe the knowledge of your
	staff in these areas? (Mark IXI ONE in each row)

staff in these areas? (Mark [X] ONE in each row.)	Not at all adequate	Fairly adequate	Adequate	More than adequate	Doesn't apply
a. Deep knowledge of science domains.					
b. Understands the nature of afterschool activities (e.g., objectives, challenges peculiar to this environment).					
c. Knows about existing high quality science activity curricula/resources.					
d. Familiar with state science curriculum standards.					
e. Knows how to design science activities for afterschool learning settings.					
f. Knows how to help English-language learners with science activities.					
g. Other (please specify):					

31. Is there anything else you would like to share about the science or any other program offerings in your program?

32. <u>And finally</u>, please provide your contact information in the spaces below. This contact information will be used to provide you an online \$30 gift certificate for completing the survey, and may be used to follow up with you about your survey responses. If you prefer, you can contact us toll-free at 877-371-5508 to make alternative gift certificate arrangements.

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Thank you for your participation.



