

Project Name: STEAM in Action: Co-created environmental health science for Learning, Justice and Action

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Website:

https://steamaction.arizona.edu

If SEPA project, URL for project on https://nihsepa.org/

https://ramirez-andreotta.arizona.edu/projects/building-culture-health-green

Brief Program Description (50 – 60 words): The Integrated Environmental Science and Human Risk Laboratory at the University of Arizona is working alongside communities that neighbor resource extraction activities to create an educational model that addresses community-identified environmental justice and public health issues. Through the collaborative engagement of scientists and local community members, this project includes informal science learning activities, community and youth advisory boards, co-created community science, and youth/adult trainings.

Program and Participant Characteristics

Program type (Please check all that apply):

- _x_ Curriculum _x_ Out-of-school program
- __ Exhibit __x_ Interactive multimedia
- x Teacher PD
- _x_ Research experiences for students or teachers
- Other (describe):

Setting(s): ____ Formal _x_Informal

Types of participants

- _x_ Students _x_ Teachers __ Scientists
- x Families x Public
- __ Other (describe):

Grade level(s) of participants

- PreK __ Elementary (K-5) _x_ Middle (6-8)
- _x_ High (9-12) _x_ Adult

Characteristics of the populations you serve relative to DEIA: Rural, EJ, living near legacy/active resource extraction, tribal community



Community Advisory Board

Represent YOUR community and have YOUR voice heard!











Program Activities

- Hold monthly STEAM community events with community partners
- Strong presence at community events for promotion and recruitment
- Youth and Community Advisory Board meeting quarterly
 - o Pre-survey data collected
- Two adult trainings completed
 - Micro credential for participants (n=12)
 - Pre/post-survey data and artifacts collected from each site
- Youth trainings will kick off in June
 - Pre/post survey data and artifacts will be collected
 - Youth environmental monitoring
 - Focus groups will be conducted
- Planning and preparation for participants to conduct trainings in future years

Evaluation	Key Accomplishments and/or Findings
Constructs measured _x_ Content knowledge _x_ Skills _x_ Nature of science _x_ Career awareness _x_ Attitudes (e.g., interest, identity, belonging) _x_ Quality or fidelity of implementation _ Other (describe):	 Implemented four Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) documents between the University of Arizona and participating community-based organizations and school districts Conducted community listening sessions and a teacher survey as formative evaluation, and incorporated feedback into programmatic planning and training elements Established a monthly community STEAM event in a participating community Undergraduate and graduate students participate in activity development and implementation Built a program website in English and Spanish Tracking tool for participation and collection of forms Data management of participant attendance Artifact posting (e.g., PhotoVoice) Environmental monitoring data report back Set up a Youth and Community Advisory Board Currently building the governance model and establishing leadership dynamics Developing a mission statement and code of conduct Directly informing training and environmental health monitoring efforts Gathered pre-survey data from the Youth and Community
Methods _x_ Tests/surveys _x_ Interviews/focus groups _x_ Observations _x_ Artifacts (e.g., student work) Other (describe): Design characteristics	
Comparison or control group _x_ Pre/post surveys or assessments _x_ Longitudinal tracking of participants Other (describe):	
Project Lessons Learned	Advisory Board participants
 Despite sustained work in these communities, there are challenges related to working in rural areas Recruitment Travel for the team Hiring personnel Tech literacy and internet access Extended time needed to establish MOUs It is necessary to have protocols in place to support the mental health of the team and handling microaggressions Management of tension with mining companies/money in communities and schools A careful approach is needed for teaching about social justice issues to adults in particular because of deeply engrained 	 Built and implemented a 20-hour adult training program focused on environmental health and justice in two communities Set up a University of Arizona micro credential for participants who complete training Collected pre and post survey data and artifacts (including photovoice projects) Built a 40-hour youth training aligned to local and national standards and focused on environmental health and justice Set up a University of Arizona micro credential for participants who complete training Graduate students assisted in module development and will lead selected modules Incorporating local leaders in training

stereotypes