

Project: APEX Science
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Project Website: <http://www.miamisci.org/apex>

Project Categories: Staff/Professional Development, Curriculum Development

Primary Target: Youth Workers

How to Reach Primary Target: The APEX Science Curriculum can be delivered by staff in afterschool programs run by schools or CBOs (YMCA, YWCA, etc), or by staff at informal settings like science museums. Professional development for staff is recommended but not required.

Secondary Target: Youth (Elementary)

How to Reach Secondary Target: same as above

General Demographics: APEX was developed for afterschool programs for children in grades K-5

Project Dates: 7/1/2004 - 6/30/2008

Evaluation Strategy: This will be available after June 30, 2008

Project Descriptions

Summary: APEX Science brings the excitement of hands-on science exploration to children in afterschool programs. Developed by the Miami Museum of Science, with funding from National Science Foundation, APEX Science also includes a training model for staff of local community-based organizations, such as the YMCA, YWCA, and FCAA, preparing staff to make hands-on science an integral part of their program. The APEX Science curriculum addresses age-appropriate science concepts, including life science, nature of science, energy, processes that shape the Earth, nature of matter, environmental science, forces of motion, and Earth/space science. The 32 inquiry-based lessons provide opportunities for indoor and outdoor investigations throughout the school year. Each APEX Science Trainer's Guide includes lesson-specific background information for activity leaders, an Activity Leader Card that provides detailed instructions for delivering each thematic hands-on activity, and a set of Expedition Learning Cards for children, all designed to meet the needs of afterschool programs.