**STEM Practice List**

**Definition**

In the context of K-12 education, the term **STEM** refers to teaching and learning in the science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) content areas.

| **STEM Practices** |
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| 1. ***Opportunities to Engage in Project-based Activities***   Examples that may be used when identifying site(s):   * Students in the 21st CCLC program are engaged in hands-on, experiential activities * Students in the 21st CCLC program lead investigations to solve authentic problems * Students in the 21st CCLC program are engaged in projects that end with a product * Students in the 21st CCLC program use technology to support their work in STEM-related projects (for example, using a GPS for a mapping project or cameras/PDAs to document a science project) * Staff in the 21st CCLC program are intentional about the design of the activities to incorporate STEM knowledge and skills |
| 1. ***Alignment with the School Day***   Examples that may be used when identifying site(s):   * There is a structure in place for 21st CCLC staff and school day teachers to communicate about students * There is a structure in place for 21st CCLC staff and school day teachers to share resources * Activities/Curricula in the 21st CCLC program are aligned with national standards * Activities/Curricula in the 21st CCLC program are aligned with state standards * Activities/Curricula in the 21st CCLC program are aligned with school-day instruction |

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| 1. ***Community Partnerships***   Examples that may be used when identifying site(s):   * The 21st CCLC program uses scientists, engineers, or mathematicians (e.g., statisticians, accountants, actuaries) to provide activities * The 21st CCLC program uses scientists, engineers, or mathematicians (e.g., statisticians, accountants, actuaries) to expose students to STEM careers * The 21st CCLC program uses professional STEM educators or features professionals from STEM-oriented educational organizations to provide activities * The 21st CCLC program is engaged in a relationship with and uses resources from local institutions such as museums, parks, and nature preserves |
| 1. ***Professional Development in Content Area***   Examples that may be used when identifying site(s):   * Professional development/training on how to teach in any of the STEM areas * Professional development on how to teach using technology to support instruction (e.g., running virtual experiments, running simulations, using GPS technology for mapping) * Professional development on how to differentiate instruction for all levels of STEM learners |