**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
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| 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
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| 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
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