

Family Engagement Project

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Structure of the backpacks

- Each backpack has a book to read at the beginning about a STEM topic (typically fiction), then an activity related to the book, then another book (non-fiction) to read at the end
- 12 of the backpacks have two books at the end, one for older readers and one for younger readers
- The supplies needed for the activity are included
- Liquid supplies are in containers and handed to families as they check out the backpacks

Goals

- To have families engage in STEM activities and reading together
- To help families who don't speak English as their first language have high-quality STEM activities to participate in with their children
- To help engage families through after school programs and other expanded learning opportunities in new ways

Program

- 12 of the backpacks have been through at least one round of evaluation by families and the sites that use them
- 7 are being piloted with families last fall and this spring
- They are currently being used in several out of school time sites and literacy programs
- Opportunity to reach over 30 counties in Nebraska with program
- Families can check out a backpack for 1-2 weeks
- Supplies are refilled and then backpacks can be checked out again
- Each site gets one set of either 6 or 12 backpacks

Stats

94

MINUTES (AVERAGE)
SPENT DOING
ACTIVITIES

64

MINUTES (AVERAGE)
SPENT READING BOOKS

415

BACKPACKS
PRODUCED

1,552

REFILLS PRODUCED

