



Increasing Student Participation With Quality Programs

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ILLINOIS QUALITY AFTERSCHOOL

SEDL

Participants will...

- Discuss benefits of afterschool participation
- Discuss common barriers to participation
- Learn about recruitment strategies used by high quality programs
- Discover what it takes to keep students engaged in the afterschool program

Student Participation

- Recruitment
- Regular Attendance
- Active Engagement
- Retention



Why Students Participate

1. FUN!
2. Friends
3. Connection With Afterschool Staff
4. Homework Help/Tutoring
5. Parents

Benefits of Afterschool Participation



Activity

- Quickly jot down as many benefits as come to mind
- Stop writing when time is called
- Compile a list of all the different benefits captured by everyone at your table
- List on chart paper the different benefits identified at your table

Benefits of Afterschool Participation

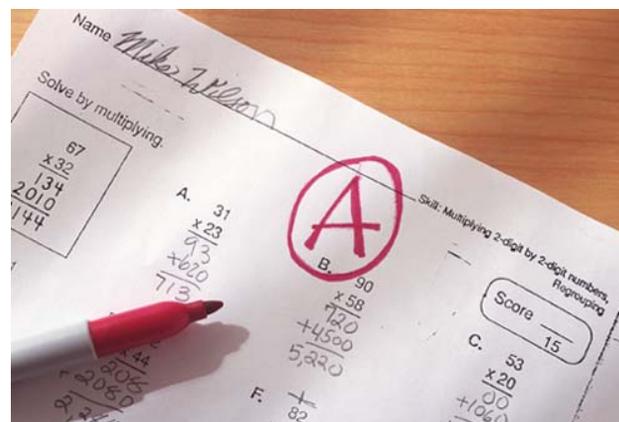
- Safe, nurturing environment
- Greater self-confidence
- Socialization and problem solving skills
- Fewer disciplinary actions during school hours





Benefits of Afterschool Participation

- Improved homework completion
- Improved study habits and motivation
- Better academic performance



Barriers to Afterschool Participation



Activity

- Quickly find a partner
- Together identify common barriers to participation
- Share what you are currently doing to overcome those barriers
- Be prepared to share during large group discussion

Common Barriers to Afterschool Participation

- Access
 - Transportation
 - Cost
 - Lack of knowledge about the program
- Lack of interest/not fun/not cool
- Lack of connection with program staff





Common Barriers to Afterschool Participation (Older Youth)

- Family responsibilities
- Desire or need to work
- Desire to have free time with friends



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