Hands-On, Minds-On Instructional Practices

A Twist on Science Nights: STEM Family Challenge

The Science House (TSH) and the Center for Inquiry-Based Learning (CIBL) created the STEM Family Challenge program to provide schools, after school programs, and other youth-serving organizations the opportunity to build and enhance relationships with family members and to engage and inspire young people to explore STEM in a fun way. Planning an event like a Science Night or STEM Family Challenge is a BIG undertaking and requires a lot of resources and time to plan and execute effectively. Further, the event should be fun, hands-on, accessible, cover different topics and interests, and give families opportunities to design, build, compete and take home something fun! This is where we come in. We provide a turnkey kit that uses limited volunteers to get families competing together in three exciting activities: It is Rocket Science, No Bones About It, and Whatever Floats Your Boat.

Presentation Target:

Elementary

Presenter(s):

- 1. Jason Painter, Director, The Science House, NC State University
- 2. Todd Guentensberger, Director, Center for Inquiry-Based Learning (CIBL)
- 3. Rachael Polmanteer, Director of Resource Development, CIBL