



PROGRAM OF SESSIONS

NOVEMBER 21, 2025

SESSION 1 (9:10 – 10:25 A.M.)

Dramatic Science: Playful Learning in the Classroom (PreK-1)

Arizona Science Center

Brenna Follett, Director of Professional Learning

Discover imaginative dramatic play activities that inspire kids to see themselves in exciting STEM careers. Learn hands-on strategies to make STEM fun and engaging for young learners!

Nurturing Wonder: Authentic Research in Early Childhood (PreK-1)

Arizona Science Center

Jen Petersen, Manager of STEM Competitions and Outreach

Young children are natural scientists, full of questions and curiosity about the world around them. In this workshop, you'll practice simple strategies to spark wonder in your preschool - 1st grade students and guide them through age-appropriate investigations. Experience the process yourself as we dive into an inquiry activity you can easily adapt for your classroom.

From Doodles to Discoveries: Integrating STEM and Arts in Early Learning (PreK-1)

Arizona Science Center

Rebecca Zier, Professional Development Facilitator

Unleash a swirl of science, splashes of paint, and a sprinkle of imagination! In this hands-on session, you'll discover fun, age-appropriate ways to blend STEM and the arts to spark curiosity, creativity, and big ideas in little learners. Walk away with fresh ideas to turn everyday moments into exciting STEAM adventures!

SESSION 2 (10:35 – 11:50 A.M.)

Early Skills Through Play: The Six Bricks Way (PreK-5)

Arizona Science Center

Ashley Brooks, Director of CAMP INNOVATION | Maddy Rohm, Senior Scientist of Science Communications

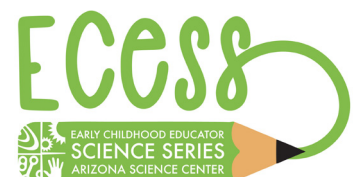
From Testing to Tinkering - How to use LEGO® Six Bricks in your Early Childhood Classroom. In this hands-on session explore ways to make assessments more interactive, encourage social interaction and communication skills, ease test anxiety, and create a positive, collaborative, and exciting learning environment.

5 Senses for Little Learners (PreK-1)

Arizona Science Center

Noortje Nelissen, Professional Development Facilitator

Step into the world of wonder with 5 Senses for Little Learners! In this hands-on workshop, educators will experience the power of sight, sound, smell, taste, and touch as tools for discovery and learning. Along the way, we'll connect sensory-rich activities to early learning standards, highlight the benefits of sensory exploration in early development, and share strategies for supporting diverse learners. You'll leave inspired and equipped with fresh ideas to make learning come alive through the magic of the senses!



SESSION 2 (10:35 – 11:50 A.M.)

Designing the Learning Lab: How Space, Play, and Interaction Shape Science Experiences (K)

Arizona Science Center

Lauren Pool, Senior Manager of Science Experiences | Melody Blachowicz, Senior Scientist of Astronomy and Physics

Learn what goes into creating the activities that the public engages in — and how to design spaces that spark curiosity and make science come alive, whether you're working with an after-school room, a classroom, or a non-traditional space. The Learning Lab was built by starting with the space itself and letting it shape the activities. Inspired by Scandinavian design, this playful approach features quirky details and interactive elements, such as dress-up and real microscopes, allowing kids to step right into the role of a scientist. Activities are intentionally non-consumable, sensory-rich, and intuitive, inviting children to ask questions, play, and discover without instructions. Each month, the Learning Lab transforms into a new hands-on adventure, showing how flexible design and Learning through Play practices can turn any space into a place for exploration and imagination.

SESSION 3 (12:50 – 2:05 P.M.)

Edison's (K-2)

Arizona Science Center

Brenna Follett, Director of Professional Learning

Discover how to use Edison robots to teach coding, robotics, and problem-solving in your classroom. This hands-on workshop covers basic programming, lesson ideas, and interactive activities—no prior experience needed!

Universal Design (K-5)

Arizona Science Center

Rebecca Zier, Professional Development Facilitator

The way we learn is as unique as our fingerprints. Together, we will discuss how to use the Universal Design for Learning framework to plan and implement purposeful science instruction that supports all learning styles, removes barriers, and creates a more inclusive learning environment.

Dino-mite! (PreK-K)

Arizona Science Center - Science on Wheels

Vanessa Gutierrez, Science on Wheels Manager

We bring science to your classroom! Science on Wheels Workshops consist of hands-on, grade-specific content based on Arizona State Education Standards. Explore paleontology as we transform into dinosaur detectives!