



## Family Participation in Citizen Science

Offering multiple ways for families to participate will enhance citizen science efforts in your program. Fill out the spaces below for each strategy, including specific ways families can participate, the steps that are involved in implementation and a few tips to make it easy. Use the blank template to think of additional strategies.

Strategy 1: Add families as additional “eyes and ears” for data collection.  
Benefit: Families can get involved in helping solve problems in their own community.

**How can families participate?**

**Steps Involved:**

**What tips will you apply to make it easy for family participation?**

Example: Give clear directions and make them aware of your expectations

Strategy 2: Invite families to a citizen science project kick-off, project activity or culminating event.  
Benefit: Families have an opportunity to bond with their children while they share in the citizen science activities.

**How can families participate?**

**Steps Involved:**

**What tips will you apply to make it easy for family participation?**

Example: Ask ahead of time about their schedules and interests to see what might fit well



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Strategy 3: Provide guidance for families to extend citizen science learning at home.  
Benefit: Families brush up on their own knowledge in a nonthreatening learning environment.

**How can families participate?**

**Steps Involved:**

**What tips will you apply to make it easy for family participation?**

Example: Provide easy to use worksheets or materials to guide them

Strategy 4: Send youth home with talking points they've created to describe the project and the steps they are taking.  
Benefit: Families get a sense of what their children are doing in the out-of-school time program.

**How can families participate?**

**Steps Involved:**

**What tips will you apply to make it easy for family participation?**

Example: Provide discussion prompts that are translated in the home language



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Benefit:

**How can families participate?**

**Steps Involved:**

**What tips will you apply to make it easy for family participation?**

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