



## Program Case Scenarios

High-quality summer programs incorporate a variety of instructional approaches and engaging activities to help students learn while they have fun. These descriptions of sample summer learning programs may spark ideas and strategies to enrich your program.

### Camp Fun in the Sun

This camp has a Wacky Water Week unit, during which students practice active reading strategies while reading water-related books such as *One Fish, Two Fish, Red Fish, Blue Fish* and *All the Water in the World*. Science activities include making water filters, learning about water pollution, and exploring fresh and saltwater habitats. Students learn to measure using cups and ounces. Each student also researches and writes about a favorite water animal. Arts and recreation offerings include watercolor painting, water bubble painting, games with water balloons and sponge bombs. The theme enables the staff to integrate activities in a focused way, keeping kids engaged, learning and having fun!

### Full STEAM Ahead

Full STEAM Ahead uses project-based learning and focuses on careers in STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) to introduce postsecondary options while students build relationships with peers, adults and professionals. Each week focuses on a STEM field. During Architecture and Design week, students work with staff mentors to design a building space; they do a basic computer drawing, make a physical model from foamcore, and create a showcase of interior design with magazine photos and samples from local paint and fabric stores. Each afternoon students hear from a local architect or design professional during “popsicles with professionals.” Students take a field trip to a local skyscraper, learn about green design and go to a local art school to hear about the interior design program. Students present their projects each week and receive feedback and awards. Each day, students can participate in free-choice activities such as basketball, arts and crafts, and gardening.

### The 3C Summer Program

The 3C (College, Community, Career) program works with students all summer to prepare them for employment, place them in a community-focused internship, and link their interests to career goals. Students begin by participating in career assessments, compiling an employment portfolio and conducting mock interviews. Program staff work with local organizations and businesses to match summer internships to student interests. Students work two or three days a week with their organizations, and spend the other days working in groups using their new knowledge to assess the needs of their community or school and design ways to address those needs. If necessary, students spend two half-days in academic remediation. College visits and local field trips supplement the learning and make connections to postsecondary career opportunities.