



Virginia Informal Environments: Cultivating Vines of Commitment for STEM

FREE Professional Development Workshop for education specialists at museums, zoos, parks, and historic sites across Virginia.

Informal learning environments offer tremendous potential for educators and parents to have meaningful conversations with children about who they are and who they may become in our STEM-reliant society. Equipped with the knowledge that exploration and commitment towards STEM-related aspects of identity significantly impact the decision to pursue STEM-related career skills that are almost universally needed in today's society, Dr. Garner has drawn on cutting-edge research to develop program and exhibit enhancement strategies that educators and parents can use in any informal learning environment.

Workshop Facilitator: Joanna K. Garner, Ph.D., Research Associate Professor, The Center for Educational Partnerships, Darden College of Education, Old Dominion University

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION:

Learn to harness the power of transformative learning experiences in order to get, keep, and grow member and community commitment to your programs, summer camps, and exhibits!

This highly interactive, day-long workshop is brought to you by the Virginia Space Grant Consortium in collaboration with The Center for Educational Partnerships at Old Dominion University. Attendees will take away strategies and materials to promote enduring personal connections with and commitments to STEM as related to the mission and values of their organization.

IN THIS WORKSHOP YOU WILL:

- Connect the mission and values of your organization with STEM-related concepts and skills.
- Learn about how transformative learning experiences and role exploration promote children's motivation to pursue science, technology, engineering and math.
- Adapt a program, exhibit, or summer camp curriculum to encourage transformative learning.
- Identify strategies to assess the impact of your design.

Space is limited to 55 participants. Register online by May 5, 2014 at:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/VINES>

For further information regarding this professional development opportunity, please contact Priscilla Hill at 757-766-5210 or aphill@odu.edu

EVENT DETAILS:

When: Monday May 19, 2014

Where: Virginia Space Grant Consortium
600 Butler Farm Road, Hampton, VA 23666
(2nd Floor/Room 2235)

Time: 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

TAKE HOME:

- Materials to share with your colleagues.
- A plan for implementing the VINES approach.
- New connections with other informal educators.

ADDITIONAL INFO:

- Send a team of two if possible.
- Bring mission statement as well as program and exhibit information for your own reference and to share with others.
- Lunch will be provided.

