

# WHY DOES SUMMER MATTER?



The STEM Alliance is committed to providing quality summer programming because research shows summer matters in the academic, social and emotional growth of all children.

## THE NEED

Decades of studies show that students suffer a “summer slide” – a loss of academic skills over the summer months. A lack of summer enrichment experiences makes this slide more significant for low income students. Worse still, this negative impact is cumulative leading to an increasingly severe opportunity gap over time. Research shows that more than half of the gap in reading scores between low-income 9th graders and their middle-income peers can be attributed to differences in summer learning loss that originated between first and fifth grade.



90%

of Co-Op campers receive free or reduced lunch

48%

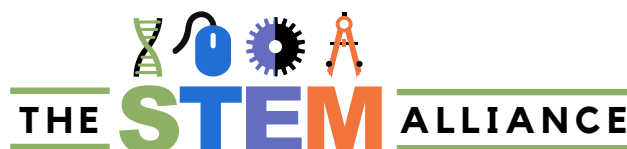
of Co-Op campers indicated that they had never taken a hands-on STEM class before

## OUR SOLUTION

Established over 40 years ago, *Co-Op Summer Enrichment* provides 5 weeks of academic and recreational experiences for 300+ students. The camp provides intensive STEM majors allowing kids to take week-long deep dives into topics like:

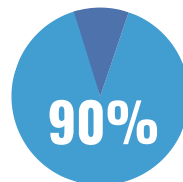
- *Chemistry Chaos*
- *Inside/Out* (dissection)
- *It's Electric*
- *Newton's Playground* (physics)

Specialized programs for 6th graders focus on the design thinking process while 7th and 8th graders can participate in the *RISE* Leader-in-Training program. Co-Op also employs a diverse group of young adults to give them professional employment experience and a full week of pre-program job training.

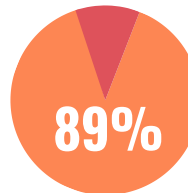


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## OUR IMPACT



of campers said that attending Co-Op will make them a better student when they go back to school in September



of families indicated that they chose Co-Op so their child could continue learning during the summer



of professional staff agreed that Co-Op programming integrates, extends and complements school year activities

At Co-Op, all campers engaged in 30 hours of hands-on STEM learning



... and an additional 21 hours of daily reading