

## **Organizing & Implementing Informal Science Education & Community Events**

1. Identify community events where you can easily incorporate informal science activities, such as:

- Church or Community Fairs
- Library-based programs
- Shopping Mall Tables
- Grocery Store Tables
- Scouts Program
- Presentations in Preschool Programs
- Presentations in After-school Programs
- Presentations in School Assemblies

2. Decide on which activities you will do for the event. Examples of activities for use with large groups include make-and take activities such as:

- Seeing is Deceiving
- Butterfly Color Explosion
- Twelve Spot

Other activities that can be set-up as stations include:

- Batteries & Bulbs
- Tangrams
- Estimation Challenge
- Inhale & Smell

3. Complete & return a SEE Chapter Reflection Form for each community event that you conduct.

## Suggested Suppliers of Hands-On Science & Mathematics Materials

There are many good sources of hands-on materials for use with science and mathematics activities. In fact, most materials can be found at a local grocery, drug, or hardware store. Also, places like Costco, BJ's and Sam's Club, are excellent for buying items such as Cheerios, coffee filters, Ziploc bags, cups, and other household items in bulk.

For other materials, however, it is helpful to know of a good supplier who provides materials at a reasonable cost. As we have purchased materials for workshops, schools, and youth-serving organizations, we have found a few suppliers that merit a special notation, either because they offer a hard-to-find product, a good price, or both. Special mention goes to Burt Harrison and Company/Science Depot as the best place for Electricity Supplies, magnets, and physical science supplies, but also being able to find other items, such as tangrams, and get excellent prices. They are willing to look and bid on any items you need. We have also found Creative Publications to be a great resource for mathematics manipulatives and tangrams.

Certainly this list of suppliers is not exhaustive, nor do we imply that these suppliers are the only good ones to use. We can only say that we have received good service and/or a good price and have been very pleased with the service.

**1.) The Wright Group  
(Formerly Creative Publications)**

19201 120th Av. NE  
Suite 100  
Bothell, WA 98011  
800.624.0822

**5.) Delta Education, Inc.**

PUB 3000  
Nashua, NH 0306 1-3000  
800.442.5444 phone  
800.282.9560 fax  
[www.delta-education.com](http://www.delta-education.com)

**2.) Burt Harrison & Co.,  
Inc. /Science Depot**

PUB 732  
Weston, MA 02 193-0732  
800.628.4724

**6.) Carolina Biological Supply Co.**

2700 York Road  
Burlington, NC 27215  
800.334.5551  
[www.carolina.com](http://www.carolina.com)

**3.) Pearson Learning  
Dale Seymour Publications**

PUB 2500  
Lebanon, IN 46052  
800.321.3106

**7.) Nasco Science**

901 Janesville Ave  
PUB 901  
Fort Atkinson, WI 53538-090 1  
800.558.9595  
[www.eNasco.com](http://www.eNasco.com)

**4.) Sargent-Welch**

PUB 2500  
Buffalo Grove, IL 60089-5229  
800.727.4368 phone  
800.282.9560 fax  
[www.sargentwelch.com](http://www.sargentwelch.com)

## Other Organizing Tips

- Develop a list of upcoming Delta Sigma Theta Events where the SEE training can be conducted, such as regional or state meetings.
- Also, develop a list of other places that might be willing to provide a site for the SEE training, such as schools, churches, libraries, community centers, colleges & university site, the mayor's office or a city agency.
- Develop a list of local science places (zoos, museums, aquariums, botanical gardens, planetariums, etc.) and find out if they are interested in presenting at the workshop or hosting a field trip. Be sure to find out if they have a grant or can provide free admissions.
- Develop a list of local scientists and science educators who might be willing to participate in the training. Be sure that they are good presenters.
- Develop a list of other organizations in your city, state, or region that are already running science or mathematics programs, including colleges & universities, science places, schools and school districts, community centers, church, etc.
- Develop a list of local print & broadcast partners.

# SEE Coordinator Reflection Form

(For Use after A Community Science Event)

Please help us learn more about SEE and its impact by completing the following survey AFTER each

Informal Science Training you do and returning it to: SEE Project Office; Delta Research & Education Foundation (DREF); 1703 New Hampshire Ave NW, Washington, DC 20009, 202 833-3782, 202 293-7730 (fax). All information is confidential and no individually identifiable information will be released. Thank you for your help.

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_ Chapter Name \_\_\_\_\_

Location of SEE session \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Time Session Began \_\_\_\_\_ Time Session Ended \_\_\_\_\_

Approximate # Attending \_\_\_\_\_

# of Women \_\_\_\_\_ # of Men \_\_\_\_\_

# of Girls \_\_\_\_\_ # of Boys \_\_\_\_\_

1. Activity Done \_\_\_\_\_

Please rate the activity in each of the following areas:

	Strongly Agree			Strongly Disagree	
The directions were hard to follow	5	4	3	2	1
The science connections were clear	5	4	3	2	1
Those attending liked the activity	5	4	3	2	1
The activity was fun to do	5	4	3	2	1
The materials were hard to find	5	4	3	2	1
Boys were more involved than girls	5	4	3	2	1

2. What did you feel were the strongest parts of the session?

3. What did you feel were the weakest parts of the session?

4. If you did this session again, what, if anything, would you do differently?

5. By doing this activity, do you feel participants gained a better understanding of:  
informal science education? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ Unsure \_\_\_\_\_  
the science inquiry process? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ Unsure \_\_\_\_\_

If yes what do you feel they learned?