After School Clubs
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Abstract
Do’s and Don’ts of holding an after school science club are addressed.

Keywords:

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Do:

- Provide snacks if your school doesn’t.
- Decide when to meet, how often, and for how long each time then stick to it.
- Make rules for your club and make sure all students know what they are.
- Invite other teachers and students from other classes to join if the size is manageable.
- Plan an activity for each time, but encourage students to go beyond or deviate from what is planned to explore their own ideas (as long as it is safe and appropriate of course).
- Try to make it as hands on as possible.
- Have enough materials for each student to work alone if they want (if practical).
- Get ideas from students on activities they want to try; then try some.
- Have some projects that students can take home.

Don’t:

- Expect the students to know the rules if you don’t tell them.
- Change days or times of the club; parents need to know the schedule.
- Have activities that require a lot of sitting still or writing; the students have done that all day long.
- Worry if the students don’t finish the activity. We did several activities over the course of two meetings.