

Parent Focus Group Protocol

- 1) Let's begin by going around and saying your names and the number/age of children who participate in the program (or at home, if there is no associated student project).
- 2) How did you hear about the ITEST project?
 - a. What motivated you to participate?
 - b. Do you participate with other parents from your neighborhood? school?
 - c. Have you ever done anything else similar to this type of a project? If so, how does this compare?
- 3) What activities are you engaged in as part of the project?
 - a. How often do you attend?
- 4) What specific things have you learned, or gotten interested in, as a result of your work with this project? Probe for each of the following:
 - a. Knowledge of STEM careers/STEM career pathways
 - b. Knowledge of STEM learning opportunities for you or your children
 - c. Hands-on activities to do with your children
 - d. Connecting with other parents/community members
 - e. Ability to support your child's STEM learning/career goals
 - f. Use of technology
 - g. Content knowledge
 - h. Other?
- 5) Have you done anything since participating in this project that you think is related to the kinds of things you did with the project? Ask for SPECIFIC EXAMPLES.
 - a. How, if at all, have you used what you learned in your home/neighborhood?
 - b. What, if any, new roles or activities have you taken on at home or in your community as a result of your participation in this project (e.g., more frequent museum trips, more active involvement with child's STEM homework)?
 - c. Have you seen any changes in your children or community related to this work (e.g., better grades, more positive affect, new or newly utilized community resources)?
- 6) As a result of your work with this project, do you think differently about the role that STEM or STEM learning plays in your life or that of your children?
- 7) What do you like most about the project?
- 8) What do you dislike about the project?
- 9) Have you been able to share what you learned with friends/other parents who did not participate?
- 10) Would you participate in another similar project if you had the chance? Why?