# VIRTUAL AFTER-SCHOOL ACTIVITY OF THE WEEK









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## THE MISSION

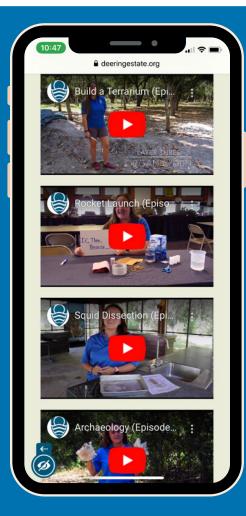
Each week, Project RISE will send out an activity that you can do virtually with the children and/or families in your program, either in a live, online session or by sending a video with instructions to parents. The activities are intended to give children opportunities to learn, express themselves, and feel connected to you and their after-school friends. Providing this on a weekly basis during this difficult time can also help to strengthen your relationship with the children, families, and communities you serve.



### PREPARATION

Summer is almost here, and whether your program will be open for in-person or virtual activities, it is the perfect time for your program to learn about science and nature. This week's activity will allow your staff to plan and lead a virtual field trip that allows the youth in your program to experience nature and experiment using the scientific method without actually having to go anywhere.

### MATERIALS



- Video chat tool such as Zoom, Google Hangout, or Facebook Messenger Rooms if not in-person
- Phone or device with video capability
- Virtual field trip choice
- Materials needed to do the experiments

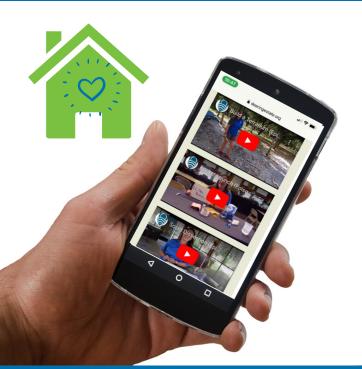
#### OVERVIEW

Science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) education is focused on preparing our youth for the future. After-school and summer programs can help youth practice STEM-related skills with activities and experiments. <u>The Deering Estate</u>, a historic cultural site located in South Dade, is offering virtual opportunities for students to learn through engaging activities about South Florida's rich cultural and natural resources.

## **CHOOSE IT**

The Deering Estate offers a variety of <u>virtual field trips</u>, so it is up to you and your staff to figure out which virtual experiences are most appropriate and interesting for the youth in your program. Remember: if you choose an experiment, your staff will need to make sure that they have all required materials. For example, if your program chooses to do the <u>Rocket Launch</u> experiment, you will need film canisters and Alka–Seltzer tablets. If you don't have these items, or find it difficult to obtain them, you will need to choose a different virtual field trip for this to be successful.





#### JOIN US ON A VIRTUAL FIELD TRIP

#### Science Fun for Families with Deering Estate

- 1. Once your program selects a virtual field trip, you should schedule a time and date for your program to "go" on the virtual field trip.
- 2. Make sure to rehearse before the date of the field trip to work out any potential issues or add some things that might make the virtual field trip more beneficial for your particular program.
- 3. Make sure to engage the youth with questions and give them room for their own input and predictions. For example: In the Rocket Launch experiment, ask the students which rocket design will launch the highest, and why, to begin a constructive and educational discussion.
- 4. Send your program's families a link to your virtual activity (i.e. the Rocket Launch YouTube video) so they can choose to do it with their children at home as well.





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#### FAMILY INSTRUCTIONS

Our after-school program will be participating in Virtual Field Trips related to Science. You will receive an email from us with information before our virtual learning experience so that your child can participate with us.

Our first virtual field trip will be with The Deering Estate. This Miami landmark is located on the coast in South Dade and offers a wide range of science-related learning activities. After the virtual field trip, we will send you a follow up email to describe the experience and give you the link to try it at home!

