

ACE Program Accolades from 2019-2020 ACE Teachers Impressive Program Outcomes!

Improved attendance:

Last school year, we did the ACE program after state testing, at the end of April and all of May. Typically, this is when attendance really wanes as the kids are just "done" with the year (in terms of attitude, desire and willingness to attend). Instead, attendance maintained its stability during these times! Once the word got around that we would all be doing activities involving flight, no one wanted to miss it!

~ Renee Wells, Science Lab Teacher, Zephyr Lane Elementary, Bakersfield, CA (ACE Teacher 2018 & 2019)

STEM career option awareness:

Students enjoy learning more about science and STEM-related activities. Teaching the ACE curriculum has them excited about the possibility of STEM careers.

~ Sarah Mudd, Special Education Teacher, Friendship Elementary School, Buford, GA (ACE teacher, 2016-2019)

Improved reasoning and critical thinking skills:

The kids love ACE! They improved a great deal in their reasoning and critical thinking skills. For many students, it has been their favorite part of the week and they often ask when we can do these activities again. I cannot thank you enough for these wonderful resources that have made my students want to learn more about science and engineering! I love your program; it has done SO much for my students.

~ Amber Johnson, 1st grade teacher, Madeleine Choir School, Salt Lake City, UT (ACE Teacher 2015-2019)

Increase in CAP cadet membership:

We have had a significant increase in CAP cadet membership due implementing this program in our school corporation (in both the Grissom and Ft Wayne CAP squadrons). We have also be able to implement an aerospace class that builds off of the ACE and other stem programs.

~ Mendi Hornbuckle, R.J. Basket Middle School, Gas City, IN (ACE Teacher 2016-2019)
***Also, the AE and Cadet Officer for GLR-IN-086, Grissom Cadet Squadron

Success in STEM careers and in CAP:

Through the years I have facilitated ACE and CAP school squadron programs in my school and in other schools throughout our district. Through the ACE program and CAP school squadrons we have had multiple students who have made significant academic and behavioral improvements. We have had countless students who have chosen STEM careers in the private sector and in the military. Multiple students are A&P certified, pilots, and engineers, or, are studying in these fields.

We had one specific (challenging) student who started in the ACE program in 2008. Results? He went on to join a CAP school squadron; recently graduated from West Point Military Academy; and completed his studies as a Rhodes Scholar. How do you define success? This is IT!

~Brainard Harris, Technology Resource Specialist and Aerospace Engineering Technologies 1 Teacher, Stewart Middle Magnet School, Tampa, FL (**ACE Teacher from the beginning: 2007-2019**) * Also, CAP Group 3 Chaplain, FL Wing

State science test scores increase:

Having access to this program has brought my students out of the textbook and into reality. They are able to apply true engineering application to the science classroom. *My state scores have improved from an average of 80% passing to 95% passing the 5th grade science test.* I have used the leadership lessons to develop a classroom student council body. The physical education activities are used during a family fun night. The program has encouraged many students to continue a focus on a science specific education.

~ Gwynn Bray, 3rd-5th grade teacher, Walt Disney Elementary School, Alvin, TX (**ACE Teacher from the beginning: 2007-2019** **2019 National ACE Sustained Excellence Awardee**)

Relevance to reading/library:

The students at WSE & ME were engaged in every lesson. This year's students have requested the lessons because they saw what the previous years' students studied. This year, as I was ordering books for the library, my theme was STEM and aviation. I'm sure it will augment learning through book check out. Thanks!

~ Wendy Snyder, Library Technology Teacher, West Snyder & Middleburg Elementary Schools, Beaver Springs, PA (ACE Teacher 2016-2019)

Used for summer STEM camp, as well as enhancing the classroom:

The materials provided by the ACE program, as well as the lesson plans, are excellent! My students are engaged and challenged every time I do an ACE lesson. The lessons are age appropriate and easy to teach (i.e. the lesson materials are easily accessible and inexpensive). I love the hands-on nature of the lessons and how they spark student curiosity and involvement. As the elementary STEM lab teacher, I have found lessons for all grade levels that align with our topics of study. I especially enjoy the rocketry and flight lessons progressing through all grade levels. This past summer, I taught a summer camp with about 50 students, and many of my lessons came from the ACE material. THANK you for partnering with teachers to make these learning opportunities available to our kids!

~ Julie Scott, STEM Lab Teacher, Tattnall Square Academy, Macon, GA (ACE Teacher 2017-2019)

Tied to academic standards & connection with CAP STEM Kits:

Flight is something that is intriguing to most all students. The activities and materials you provide help explain the mystery of flight. In each grade level, there is a standard that can be tied to flight, whether it is push and pull for kindergarten or Newton's Laws for fifth grade. All have benefitted from the additional curriculum from ACE. Students have loved the rockets and flight simulator provided in the STEM Kits that augment the lessons. All were in attendance during those lessons.

~ Michelle Bobo, Gifted Teacher/Challenge Facilitator, Washington School District, Washington, MO (ACE Teacher 2016-2019)

More rigor for high-achieving students:

The ACE curriculum helped me differentiate instruction to be more rigorous for my high achieving students. We were able to expand our content knowledge in science, and, explore many new aerospace topics.

~ Jeanette Gonzales, Kindergarten teacher, Ranchito Avenue Elementary School, Panorama City, CA (**National First-year Outstanding ACE Teacher Awardee 2018-2019**)

Opportunity for older students to mentor younger students:

I have been an ACE teacher since the program began in 2007. I am now teaching at the high school, but using my high school students to help teach the younger students at our feeder elementary schools.

~ Nina Corley, Kindergarten teacher, O'Connell College Preparatory School, Galveston, TX (**ACE teacher from the beginning: 2007-2019**)

Increase in after-school interest and academic performance:

The implementation of the CAP ACE program increased student engagement during after school and assisted in academic performance (our school had a 15.2% increase in proficient learners)!

~ Justina Fox, 6th grade teacher, Crisp County Middle School, Cordell, GA (ACE teacher 2018-2019)

Practical application of math and science concepts:

My students love doing the ACE program each year and really look forward to our "CAP Days." They truly get so much out of seeing and being immersed in the practical application of the math and science concepts they have been learning through the year. Thank you so much for providing this wonderful program!

~ Amy Kane Kranich, Second grade teacher, Teacher, Kenwood Elementary School, Ft Walton Beach, FL (**ACE Teacher from 2008-2019 2008 National ACE School of the Year**)

School-wide STEM integration:

I have created a special Take Flight Day and we have a celebration of all we have learned. We hope to have a helicopter and a hot air balloon this year. We have had CAP here to assist during the events. We have also had the Birmingham Museum of Flight participate in our day as well. We also use the manipulatives this day after we have taught the lessons throughout the spring. Students are exposed to aerospace education through our unit on Space for nine weeks. In addition, we have a special time during testing that we have an egg drop and kite/flight day where we teach it more specifically. We use the lessons throughout the year.

~ Geri Evans, Science Lab teacher, Bluff Park Elementary, Birmingham, AL (ACE teacher 2010-2019)

DO YOU have an ACE Accolade to share?

Send it to ace@capnhq.gov!