

# OKLAHOMA NSF EPSCoR

## Education, Outreach & Diversity Program Highlight: Girl Scouts of Western Oklahoma STEM Initiative

Presenter:

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# OKLAHOMA NSF EPSCoR EOD HIGHLIGHT

## Girl Scouts of Western Oklahoma STEM Initiative

### Goals of the Project

- STEM Coordinator added to Girl Scouts staff (sustained by GS post-RII)
- Develop environmental science curriculum & science kits-in-a-box
- Increase Scout Leaders' STEM knowledge + train on kits/curriculum
- Bring grade-appropriate hands-on-science experiences to Scouts

### Why Girl Scouts?

- Existing network in the state
- 12,000 Scouts & Troop Leaders in 39 counties
- Covers breadth of the K-12 pipeline
- Girl Scouts' recent (national) commitment to STEM



# OKLAHOMA NSF EPSCoR EOD HIGHLIGHT

## Girl Scouts of Western Oklahoma STEM Initiative

### STEM Curriculum, Training & Mentorship: Year 1

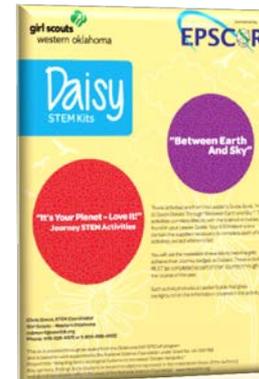
- STEM Coordinator (licensed science educator) & STEM interns hired
- STEM oversight committee provides guidance
- Environmental science curriculum & STEM kits-in-a-box developed w/Oklahoma EPSCoR researchers
- Troop leaders, teachers and volunteers trained (in-person + online videos)
- EPSCoR summer research experience for Coordinator

# OKLAHOMA NSF EPSCoR EOD HIGHLIGHT

## Girl Scouts of Western Oklahoma STEM Initiative

### Environmental Science Curriculum & Kits-in-a-Box

- Supports the “It’s Your Planet-Love It!” Girl Scouts Journey
- Curriculum for Scouts at all grade levels
- Pilot testing of curriculum: *“I can see myself working in STEM in the future.”*  
*Presurvey (47% agree); Postsurvey (83% agree)*
- All necessary hands-on science materials are provided



A national audience issued,  
*“Unanimous praise for the kits’ simplicity & perceived ease of use.”*

# OKLAHOMA NSF EPSCoR EOD HIGHLIGHT

## Girl Scouts of Western Oklahoma STEM Initiative

### STEM Coordinator: Mentorship & Education

- Curriculum & EPSCoR research mission shared with National Girl Scout Convention audience
- Y1: 1,900 directly participated in STEM programming



# OKLAHOMA NSF EPSCoR EOD HIGHLIGHT

## Girl Scouts of Western Oklahoma STEM Initiative K-12 Students & Educators

### STEM Curriculum, Training & Mentorship

#### Next Steps

- 12,000 Scouts & troop leaders in 39 counties
- 180 kits @ 6 grade levels distributed to 30 troops
- Scouts earn OK EPSCoR STEM badges
- Coordinator position sustained by Girl Scouts



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