



Announcing a New Partner Grant Opportunity!

Rural Gateways: Fostering the Development of Rural Librarians as Informal Science Facilitators

The [Califa Library Group](#) is accepting applications for mini-grants to librarians in rural public libraries who are interested in providing STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) programming for adults. The project, which is funded by the National Science Foundation, will build your capacity to plan and facilitate science-based library programs. The library programs use videos and popular books to engage audiences and promote discussion. The professional development provided will include interactive webinars, online learning materials, peer support, and video case studies of similar adult STEM programs.

Participating libraries will receive program materials, a planning guide, marketing and promotional templates, up to \$3,500, and an avenue for new patrons to find your library. Communities will receive a series of engaging, thought-provoking programs and find another reason to love their local library!

For more information and to apply, visit <http://califa.org/rural-gateways/>

New Blog Posts Available!



New Life for an Ancient Tool – Making and Using Abaci With Elementary Age Kids

What can you do with a group of kids, corrugated cardboard, a lot of beads, pipe cleaners, and some masking or decorative duct tape? Make abaci, of course!..to continue reading click [here](#).



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Community Collaborative Rain, Hail and Snow (CoCoRaHS) Network Library needs assessment

The Community Collaborative Rain, Hail & Snow Network (CoCoRaHS), a non-profit, community-based network of volunteers working to measure and map precipitation across the United States, is seeking feedback from librarians about opportunities to deliver climate science programming at libraries.

If you are a librarian involved with public programming at your library, please follow this link to complete a short anonymous survey about your interest level in partnering with CoCoRaHS to bring climate literacy opportunities to your library: <http://www.tinyurl.com/GRGCoCo>

Your feedback is greatly appreciated!

STEM Activity Corner



This month we are bringing you a fun hands-on activity from the STAR_Net Community website (click [here](#)).

This earth science activity can be found in the Discover Earth Activities page in the Resources section.

In this activity, *Earth: Artistically Balanced*, teens depict the science behind Earth's climate system as art, which may be created on a large scale and displayed at the library or made on a smaller scale to take home. For more information about this activity click [here](#).



Join mISSion imaginaTion!

The @Space_Station plays an important role in preparing us for a #JourneyToMars. Want to help us get there? Students can join NASA and Texas Instruments to put science, technology, engineering and mathematics to work. It's time to take the next big leap!
www.missionimagination.com

The STAR Library Education Network (STAR_Net) is supported by a grant from the National Science Foundation and other funders. **STAR** stands for **Science-Technology Activities and Resources**. This ground-breaking initiative includes a traveling STEM exhibition program, the development of STEM activities for public libraries, a comprehensive training program that includes in-person workshops and webinars, the development of the *STAR_Net Online Community*, and a research and evaluation program. STAR_Net is led by the Space Science Institute's *National Center for Interactive Learning*. Partners include the American Library Association, Lunar and Planetary Institute, and the Afterschool Alliance along with many other organizations.



Contact [Anne Holland](#)

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