

AFTER SCHOOL SCIENCE CLUBS

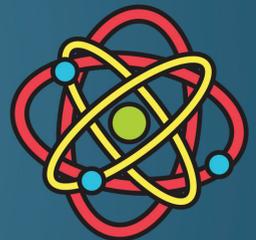


CALLING ALL CURIOUS MINDS!

Are you curious about the world around you?
Do you love exploring new ideas and concepts?
If so, then the After School Science Clubs
is the perfect place for you!



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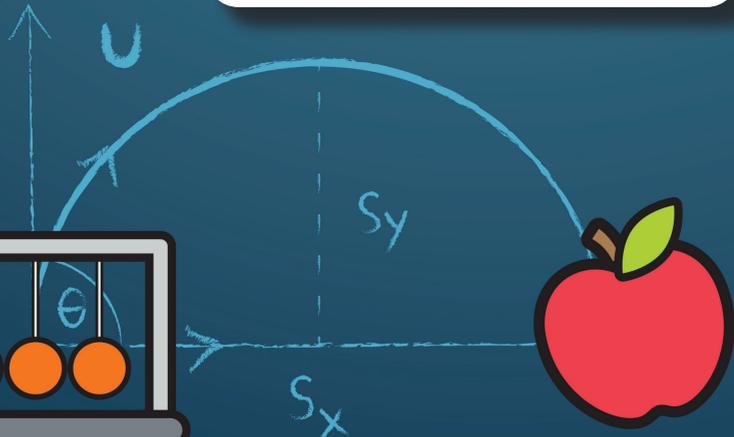



science & innovation
Department:
Science and Innovation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA




NRF SAASTA
National Research Foundation | South African Agency for Science and Technology Advancement

$$E = mc^2$$



WHAT IS AFTER SCHOOL SCIENCE CLUB

It is an organised group or a program that engages learners in hands-on scientific activities, experiments, and projects outside regular school hours. It may be facilitated by a teacher and lead by learners or a selected learners forming a committee looking to learn more on topics of interest. After School Science Clubs offers a structured curriculum or set of activities that align with the learner's grade level and promote critical thinking, problem-solving skills, teamwork, and a deeper understanding of scientific principles.

The club aims to foster interest in STEM promote critical thinking, and provide a fun, interactive learning experience in various scientific fields. These clubs are typically hosted on school premises

HOW TO START THE AFTER SCHOOL SCIENCE CLUB

The following steps will assist in establishing the After School Science Club:

1. Seek approval from the Principal
2. Assign at least one committed teacher for facilitation
3. Market/promote your club to attract members
4. Publicise the club's establishment in a public gathering, such as an assembly
5. Involve parents and community scientists in the club's formation
6. Select a suitable meeting location
7. Choose an appropriate name for the club
8. Engage parents in the club's activities
9. Decide the club's areas of focus and interest
10. Select five learners to serve as the executive committee.
11. Complete the club registration process

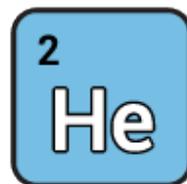
To successfully register your club, please supply the following necessary information

- School Name, Province, District Municipality and quintile level
- Principal's name, email address and phone number
- Teachers name, email address and phone number
- Club name
- Select five learners to serve as the executive committee.
 - » Chairperson: Name & surname, grade, race, gender
 - » Vice chairperson: Name & surname, grade, race, gender
 - » General secretary: Name & surname, grade, race, gender
 - » Social media influencer officer: Name & surname, grade, race, gender
 - » Liaising officer: Name & surname, grade, race, gender

REGISTRATION

Scan the QR code or visit <https://linktr.ee/assclubs> and click on the registration link. When SAASTA receives your registration, will give you access to resources.

- The club will then decide what time of the day the club will meet for regular club meetings
- The club team to set up a broadcast-type of WhatsApp group for better communication
- The club team will decide on the plan various activities to take place during meetings



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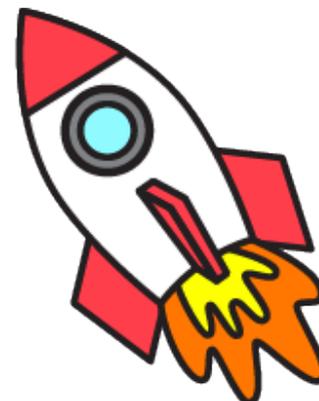
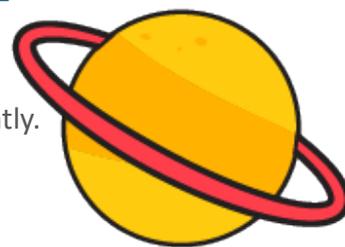


QR Code



WHAT RESOURCES ARE REQUIRED FOR THE AFTER SCHOOL SCIENCE CLUB

1. A dedicated meeting room to accommodate all club gatherings consistently.
2. Sturdy table surfaces suitable for conducting experiments.
3. Access to water and electricity for various activities
4. Essential audio-visual equipment, including a data projector and a computer, to present club materials for reading and discussion as well as taking minutes during meetings
5. Availability of a computer lab for research purposes and a printer to answer Monthly Challenge questions.
6. Secure storage cupboard to safely store the kit and other resources.
7. Essential laboratory equipment such as beakers, spatulas etc.
8. Additional equipment like a kettle/hot plate to heat water for some experiments may be necessary.
9. A designated wall, preferably located outside the meeting room, where club posters can be displayed.



WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF BEING THE PART OF AFTER SCHOOL SCIENCE CLUB

1. Being part of the club is a fun and engaging way to learn about the wonders of Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics (STEM) outside of the classroom.
2. With exciting experiments, hands-on activities, and expert instructors, you'll have the opportunity to dive deeper into subjects like Mathematics, Physical Science, Life Science, Coding and Robotics and more. Whether you're a budding scientist or just looking to expand your knowledge and skills, our club has something for everyone. So come join the club and explore the fascinating world of science!
3. You will have access to resources and support provided, such as access to online learning materials, mentoring opportunities, and career guidance.



WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO JOIN THE CLUB

Attention all young scientists! Whether you're in Primary School (Grade 4 -7) or High School/Secondary School (Grade 8-9 and/or Grade 10 – 12) the After School Science Club is the place for you.

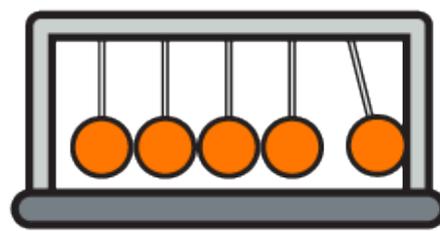
Join us and let's have some fun learning together!

HOW MUCH DOES IT COST TO JOIN/REGISTER

Good news! The After School Science Club is completely free to join. And that's not all - members of the club have the exciting opportunity to participate in NRF-SAASTA Olympiad and competitions at no cost. So if you're looking for a fun and affordable way to explore the wonders of science and technology, then the After School Science Clubs is the perfect choice for you!



"Play is the Highest Form of Research"
Albert Einstein



WHAT LEARNERS DO DURING AFTER SCHOOL SCIENCE CLUB MEETING

Learners who join the club should have discipline, self-motivation, curiosity, and a willingness to explore the wonders of science across various fields such as Mathematics, Physical Science, Biology, Technology, Environmental Science, Robotics & Coding, participate in competitions and Olympiads. The club operates under the motto "Learners drive the After School Science Club, and the teacher guides them." Active involvement, regular attendance in club meetings and events are essential for an effective club, as it strengthens its relevance.

Five committee members will be elected by the learners to provide direction to the club, each with specific roles and responsibilities.

CHAIRPERSON

As a Chairperson in an after-school science club, your responsibilities typically include overseeing the overall functioning of the club and ensuring its smooth operation. Here are some key responsibilities you may have

- Provide leadership and direction to the club members. Communicate the club's goals, objectives, and activities.
- Welcome all presents and introduce new members and visitors
- Checks minutes
- Introducing each agenda item and its purpose
- Ensuring fair participation without any individual dominating the discussion
- Serve as the main point of contact for the club. Maintain regular communication with club members, parents or guardians, school administrators, and other relevant stakeholders. Promote the club's activities and achievements through various channels, such as newsletters, social media, and school announcements.
- Confirming the date, time, and location of the next meeting
- Concluding the meeting and expressing gratitude to all attendees.



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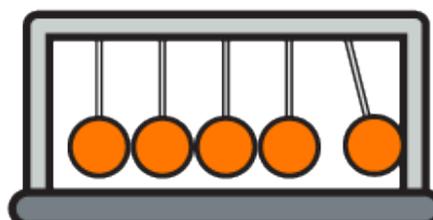
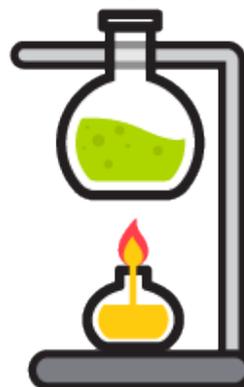
VICE-CHAIRPERSON

- In the absence of the chairperson, the vice chair assumes their role and responsibilities.

GENERAL SECRETARY

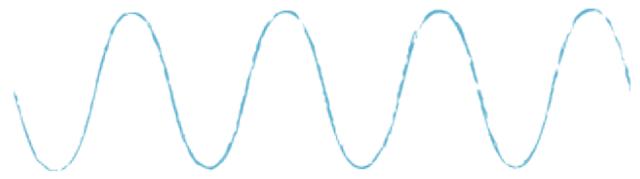
General secretary is the individual responsible for keeping office administration and operations running smoothly

- Record-keeping and documentation: Maintain accurate and up-to-date records of club activities, meetings, and important information. This includes recording minutes during club meetings, documenting decisions, and tracking attendance. Ensure that all records are organised and easily accessible for future reference.
- Correspondence and communication: Serve as the primary point of contact for club communication. Manage club email accounts, respond to inquiries, and distribute relevant information to club members, parents, and other stakeholders. Keep members informed about upcoming events, meetings, and any changes or updates.
- Meeting coordination: Collaborate with the Chairperson and other club officers to



plan and schedule club meetings. Prepare agendas, distribute them prior to meetings, and ensure necessary materials are available. Assist in setting up meeting venues and equipment if required.

- Membership management: Maintain an updated list of club members, including their contact information and any relevant details. Assist in membership recruitment and registration processes. Provide necessary forms, collect membership dues (if applicable), and keep track of member participation and engagement.
- Archiving and continuity: Maintain an organized archive of club documents, records, and resources. Ensure a smooth transition of information and responsibilities to future club officers by providing them with access to necessary files and knowledge.
- Post on WhatsApp group importance notice and reminds the Club members of meeting dates, planned event.



SOCIAL MEDIA INFLUENCER OFFICER

A person that is a well-connected socially to support the After School Science Club. Therefore, it is critical that the influencer creates highly appealing content, maintain cultural literacy and monitors viewer feedback after publication. They inform their followers about upcoming events, create hashtags and trends, provide trusted information and participate in Vlogs. Regular posting on social media channels helps influencer to attract loyal followers. The influencer should promote the club and encourage learners to participate and join.



- Scheduling content publications across platforms.
- Sharing highly visible links and hashtag to participants.
- Create and promote a positive and popular image of the group, and raise the profile.
- Excellent writing and communication skills.
- More than anything must have fun to promote the After School Science Club.



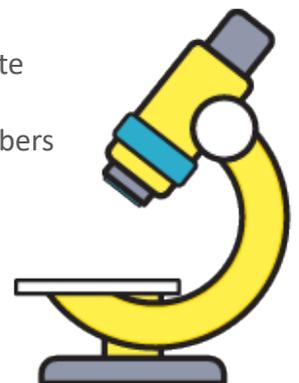
LIAISON OFFICER

A person that will be communicating and coordinating: The Liaison Officer acts as a point of contact between the club and external entities, such as school administration, parents, other clubs or organisations, and potential guest speakers or volunteers. They facilitate communication and ensure that information is effectively disseminated.



- Event planning: They may play a role in planning and organising various club events, including science expos, field trips, workshops, or presentations. This can involve securing resources, coordinating logistics, and communicating event details to club members, parents, and other stakeholders.
- Liaise between the teacher/mentor, members and the principal.
- Collaborations and partnerships: The Liaison Officer may explore opportunities for collaborations and partnerships with other organisations or individuals who can support the club's objectives. This could involve reaching out to local businesses, universities, or scientific institutions to foster connections and access additional resources.
- Overall, the role of a Liaison Officer in an After School Science Club is to facilitate effective communication, support club administration, and ensure smooth operations, thereby enhancing the experience and opportunities for club members interested in science.

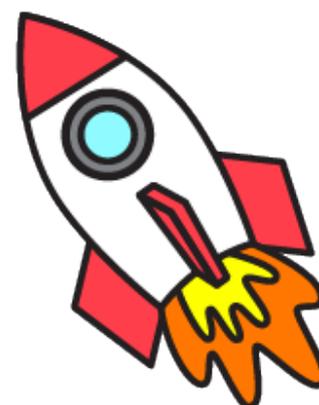
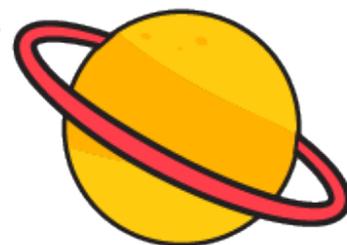
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CLUB MEMBERS

The responsibilities of club members in an After School Science Club can vary based on the club's specific goals, structure, activities and expectations set by club leaders. However, here are some general responsibilities that club members may have. It's important for club members to familiarise themselves with any additional guidelines or expectations specific to their After School Science Club.

- **Active participation:** Club members are expected to actively engage in club activities and contribute to discussions, experiments, projects, and other scientific endeavours. They should attend club meetings regularly and participate in planned activities and events.
- **Respectful behaviour:** Club members should maintain a respectful and inclusive environment within the club. They should treat fellow members, club leaders, guest speakers, and volunteers with respect, kindness, and courtesy.
- **Learning and exploration:** Club members are responsible for taking an active interest in learning and exploring various scientific concepts, principles, and experiments. They should demonstrate a willingness to expand their knowledge and engage in hands-on scientific activities.
- **Preparation and commitment:** Members should come prepared to club meetings and activities by reviewing assigned readings or materials, completing any required pre-work, or bringing necessary equipment or supplies. They should demonstrate commitment to the club by actively participating and following through on their responsibilities.
- **Collaboration and teamwork:** Club members often work on projects or experiments together. They should be willing to collaborate with their peers, contribute ideas, and work as a team to achieve shared objectives. Effective communication and cooperation are important in fostering a positive and productive club environment.
- **Safety awareness:** Science experiments and activities may involve certain risks, so club members should prioritise safety. They should follow instructions carefully, use appropriate safety measures, and report any potential hazards or accidents to club leaders.
- **Respect for equipment and resources:** Club members should handle club equipment, supplies, and resources with care and respect. They should clean up after themselves, return materials to their designated places, and use resources responsibly.
- **Continuous learning and improvement:** Club members should be open to learning from their experiences, seeking feedback from club leaders, and continuously improving their scientific skills and knowledge. They can actively seek opportunities for further learning, attend science-related events, and share their newfound knowledge with others.
- **Support and encouragement:** Club members should support and encourage their fellow members in their scientific pursuits. They can provide assistance, share ideas, and offer constructive feedback to help each other grow and succeed.



FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

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