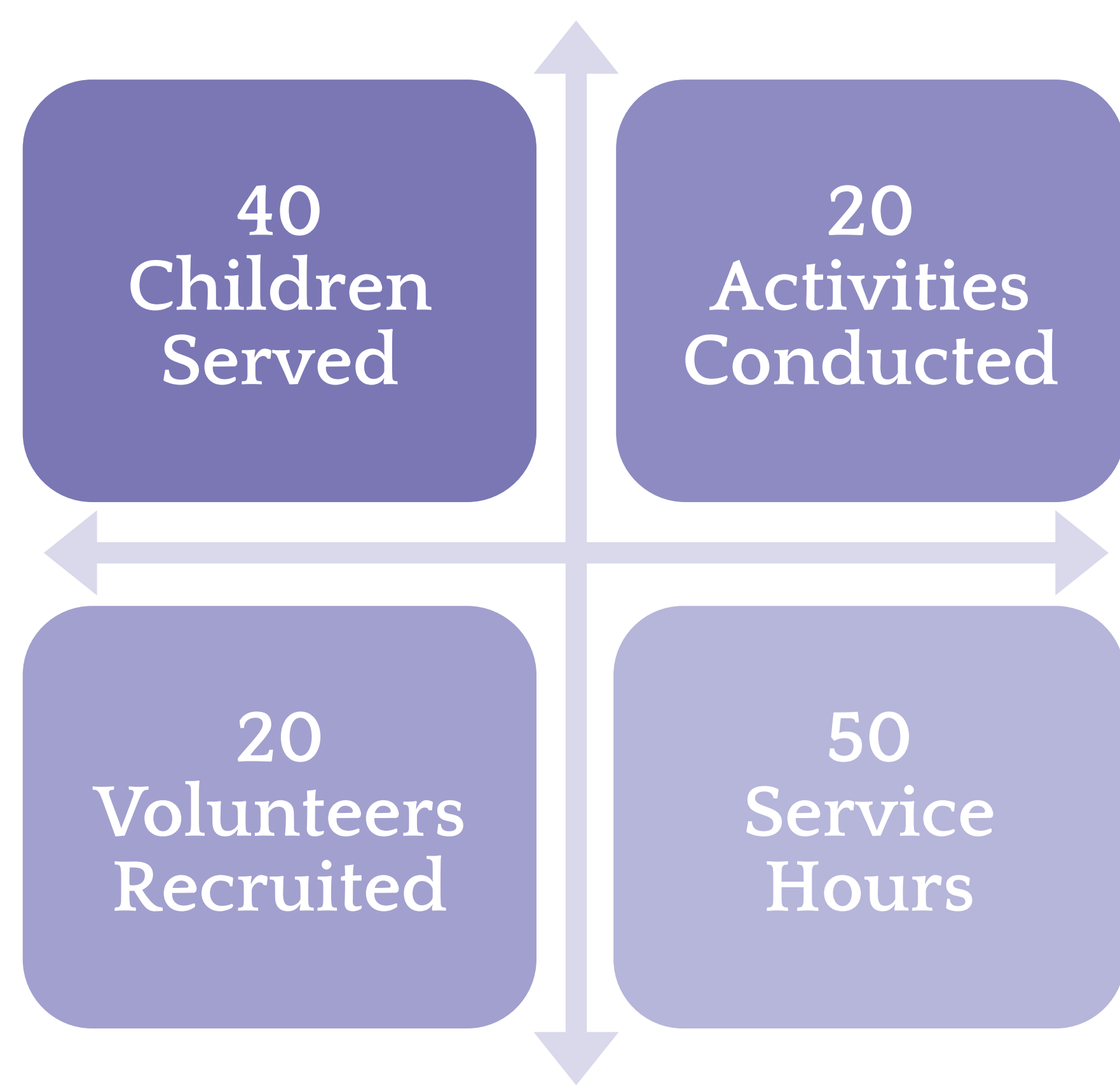
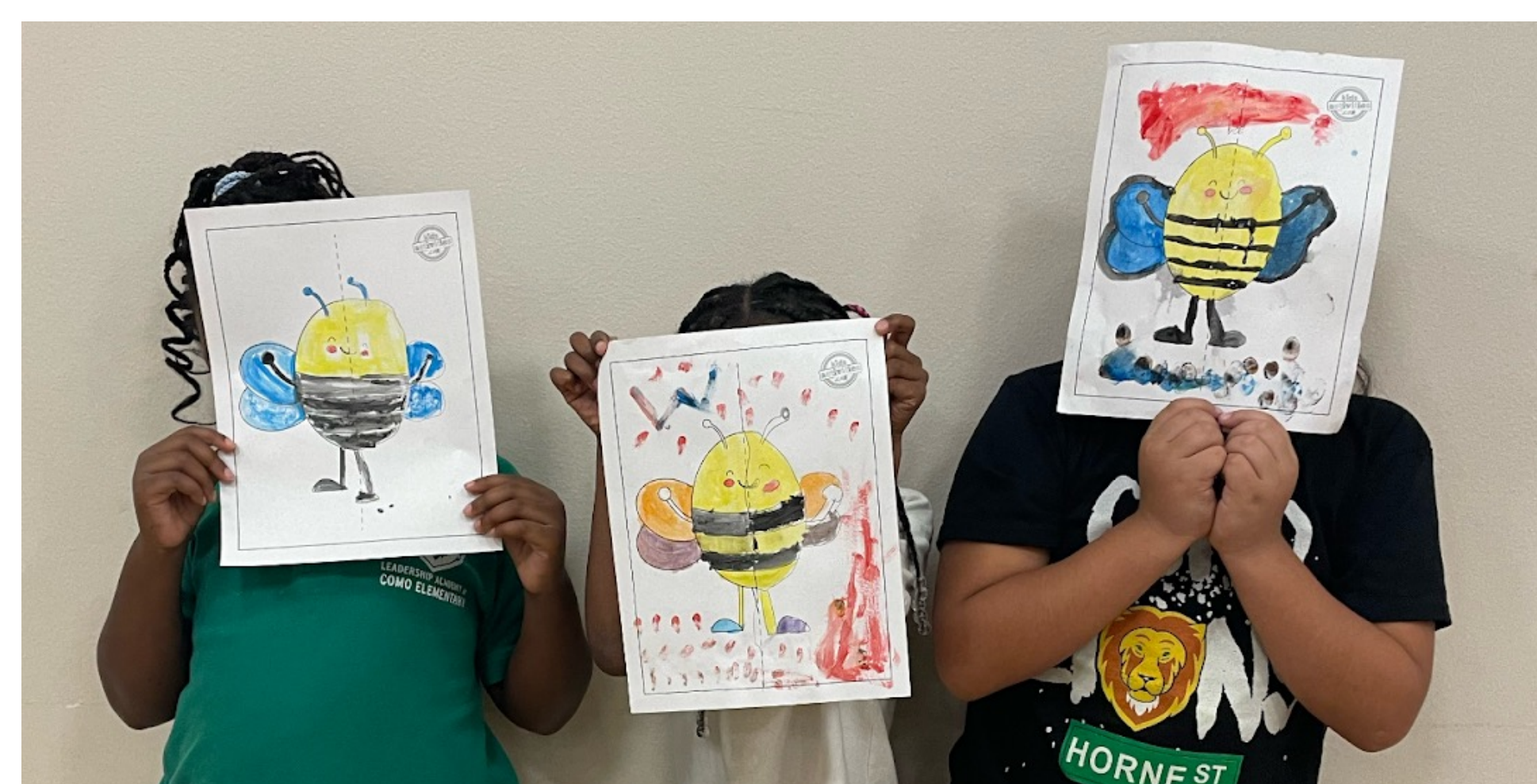




Introduction

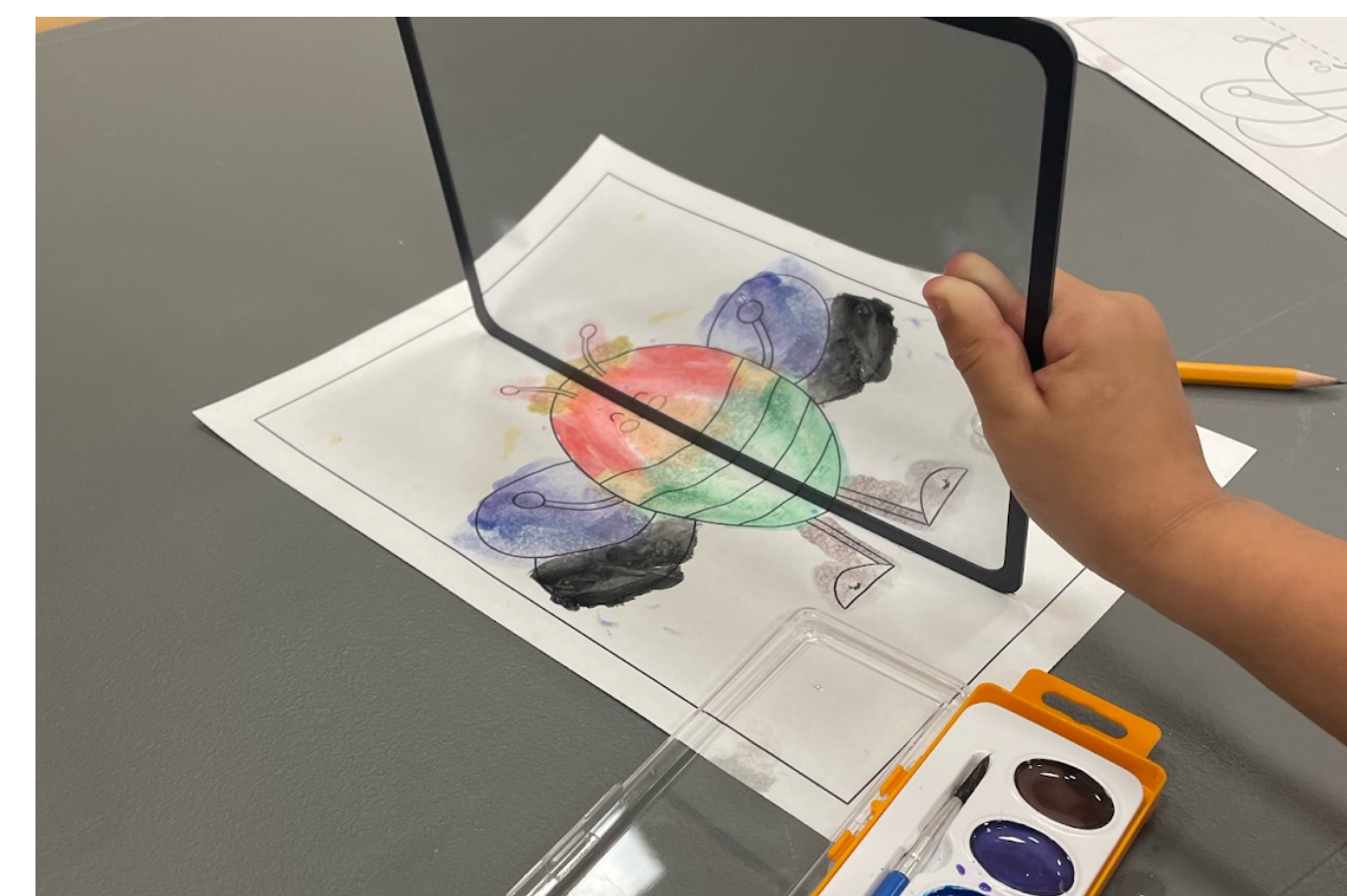
- **Mission:** To empower children in underserved communities through hands-on, volunteer-led activities that spark curiosity, ignite a passion for learning, and ensure access to meaningful STEM education.
- **Vision:** We envision a future where every child, regardless of background, has the opportunity to explore and discover through the lens of science.
- **Weekly STEM Activities:** Volunteers work with elementary students every week to conduct hands-on activities that follow a carefully designed and established curriculum.
- **Volunteer Engagement:** TCU volunteers can sign up for weekly volunteer shifts and obtain community service hours while mentoring first and second grade students.
- **Community Partner:** Como Community Center.



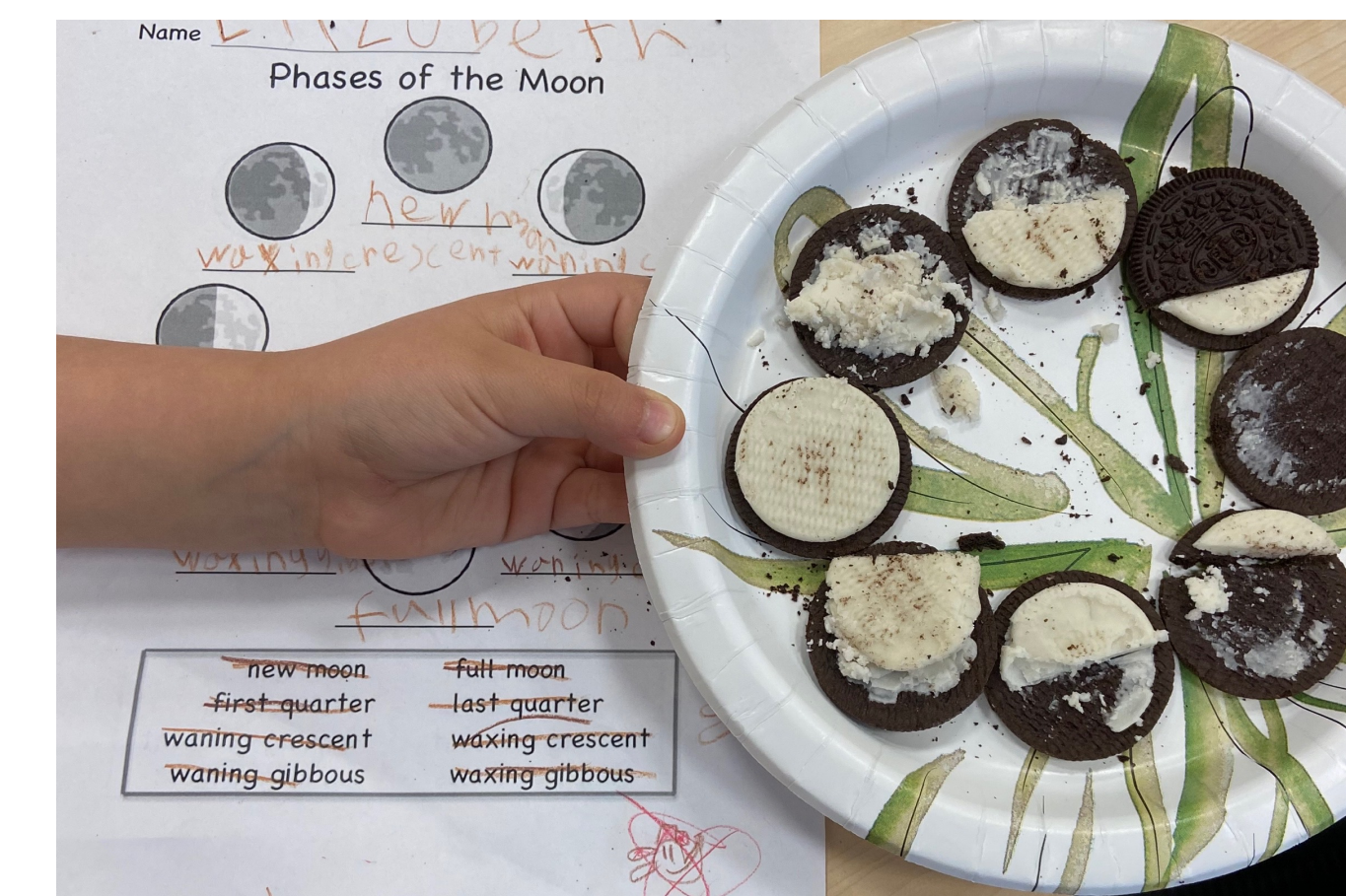
Methodology



We **educate** students through guided activities, teaching foundational science concepts in clear, age-appropriate ways.



We **empower** students to see themselves as capable problem-solvers, giving them confidence to ask questions and try new ideas.

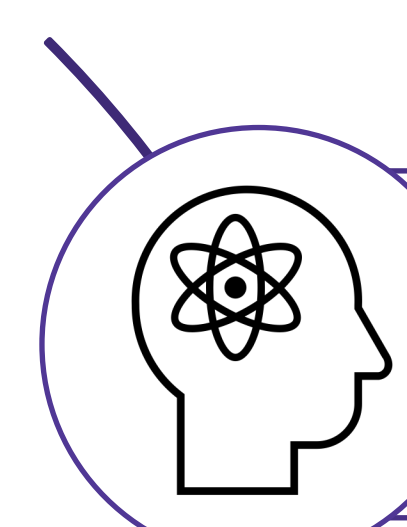


We **motivate** students by connecting science to everyday experiences, making it exciting, playful, and rewarding.

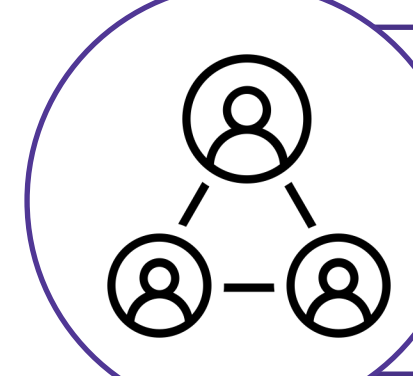


We **inspire** students by connecting them with college mentors who make science feel possible and within reach.

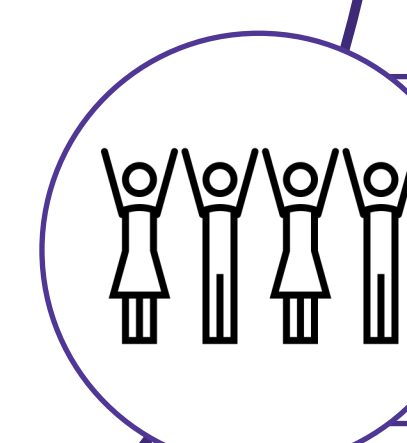
Impact



Students exhibited a greater understanding of scientific concepts after completing the activities.



Students developed critical social skills and showed an improved ability to mediate conflicts within teams.



Volunteers fostered a strong sense of community while serving as mentors to the students.

"What felt like accumulating volunteering hours now feels like a family, a home. 'Science for Starters' genuinely made it easier for me to connect and work with kids. It made me feel like I'm also a part of that little community and that I belong there to the point where I look forward to being there every week!"

- TCU Volunteer

"I've witnessed several of the kids practicing emotional regulation skills we may have taught them a week or two before. Seeing them build simple habits like being willing to apologize, taking deep breaths in moments of anger, and even vocalizing to a facilitator or friend why they feel sad or frustrated has been incredibly encouraging."

- TCU Volunteer

Future Goals

- Increase **volunteer recruitment** to ensure consistent weekly support.
- Maintain **long-term engagement** with the Como Community Center.
- Continue **refining activities** to best meet learning needs.
- Develop stronger methods to **measure student growth and program impact**.
- Establish a reliable leadership transition plan through our newly established student organization: **Science for Starters**.



Acknowledgements

- TCU Pre-Health Professions Institute and the Experiential Projects to Impact the Community (EPIC) Grant.
- Ms. Clara Kirby, Supervisor at Como Community Center.
- Fort Worth Fellows, Texas Christian University.