

TIPS for USING FETCH! challenges

FETCH! challenges are great for events as well as for workshops and afterschool programs. The FETCH! Challenge Pack's kid-friendly reproducible sheets enable kids to work independently or in groups. Use the following tips to get started.

Preparing to lead a FETCH! challenge

- Do the challenge yourself so you'll know what to expect and where kids may need help. The materials list and step-by-step procedure make it easy to implement a challenge.
- Gather plenty of materials beforehand. Some kids will want to do the activity multiple times or try the Dig Deeper extensions, so have extra materials on hand for them.
- Copy both sides of the challenge sheet onto brightly colored paper. Fold the copies on the dotted line to make a booklet.

Leading FETCH! challenges at an event

FETCH! challenges are a great way to attract kids and families to an event. To ensure that everything works smoothly, keep the following tips in mind:

- Offer several activities at an event.
- Provide plenty of workspace for kids. Arrange tables in a U-shaped formation. With the volunteers in the middle, materials on the tables, and kids working around the outside, many people can participate at once, and volunteers can circulate to those who need help.
- Kids who want to explore a topic further can use the Dig Deeper extensions on the activity sheet, either on site or at home.
- Have at least two volunteers facilitating at each activity table.
- Train volunteers before the event. Have them try the activities and brainstorm ways of engaging kids and maximizing the educational potential of the activity.
- For more tips on hosting events, go to the Resource section of the ZOOMsci Training at pbskids.org/zoom/grownups/scitraining/.

Get the FETCH! Activity Guide

The FETCH! Activity Guide has six challenges written especially for afterschool settings. Each challenge has step-by-step instructions, discussion questions (and answers!), and a kids' activity sheet. Download a PDF version from the Parents and Teachers section of the FETCH! Web site at pbskids.org/fetch.

Learn more about leading science activities

The ZOOMsci Training is loaded with tips on leading science activities with kids. Though originally developed for ZOOM, the ZOOMsci Training's resources can expand the learning potential of any science activity, whether it's from FETCH!, ZOOM, or another source. Build your confidence both in using questions to expand kids' thinking and in getting kids to think like scientists and engineers. Explore the ZOOMsci Training at pbskids.org/zoom/grownups/scitraining/.

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