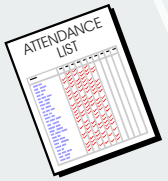
Extended Learning Time: Beyond the Regular School Day

High-quality additional learning time can bridge the gap between high- and low-achieving students. An expert panel identified four types of practices that can be used to improve student outcomes in formal before- and after-school programs, weekend and summer programs, supplemental educational services, and expanded learning days at schools.

Maximize Attendance

Promote parents' and teachers' awareness of the program.

Promote awareness of the program



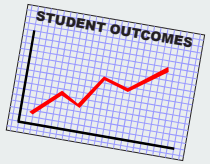
Use attendance data to identify needs for support

Minimize barriers to participation including transportation, timing, and length

Evaluate Program

Evaluate implementation and outcomes to improve program quality.

Collect and analyze data

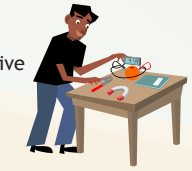


Use finding for program improvement

Organize Instruction

Provide engaging instruction tailored to students' needs.

Make learning active and engaging



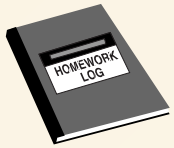
Use one-on-one tutoring or small group instruction

Use assessment data to inform instruction

Align Instruction

Align instruction academically with the school day.

Align curriculum with academic standards



Maintain ongoing communication with classroom teachers

Connect lesson plans to school instruction