

After School Programs at EdVenture Children's Museum

Association of Children's Museums

Interactivity 2008
Denver



EdVenture *children's museum*

EdVenture Children's Museum

- Located in Columbia, South Carolina
 - Metropolitan community of over 700,000
- Opened in November 2003
- Serve over 215,000 visitors a year
- 8 exhibit galleries, plus the world's largest child – Eddie!



EdVenture children's museum

Eddie



EdVenture *children's museum*

After School Audience

- Metropolitan Columbia/Midlands
 - Richland School District One
 - 24,800 students, 50 schools
 - Students are >60% minority
 - >15% families with children are below poverty level



Club EdVenture

- Launched in 2004
- Serves over 60 children a year from 2 schools
- On-site
- Funding
- Partnership



EdVenture children's museum

Future Leaders

- Launched in 2004
- Partnership
- Serves 60 children a year
- On and off-site



Why After School? Community Need

- In South Carolina, more than 24% of K-12 students are unsupervised after school
- In some areas, current programs only serve 1/3 of the population in need
- Richland School District One strategic plan



Why After School? Mission vs. Margin

- EdVenture's mission – “to inspire children to experience the joy of learning”
 - The 2 after school programs are values-based, interdisciplinary enrichment programs, with strong ties to school standards
- EdVenture's margin
 - Builds attendance
 - Makes use of building during slower times
 - Provides earned and contributed income
 - Roy L Shafer Leading Edge Award (Business Practices)
Association of Science and Technology Centers



Why After School? Institutional Investment

- Support of museum leadership
 - Staff and board
- Community commitment
 - School leadership
 - After School networks (i.e. local After School Alliance)
- Funding partners
 - Local and national



Awards

- Roy L Shafer Leading Edge Award
 - Association of Science and Technology Centers
 - Business Practice Award



Future Plans

- Club EdVenture
 - Currently serving one district (2 schools); will potentially expand to 2 districts (~8 schools)
- Future Leaders
 - Currently serving 2 schools; will potentially expand to (~8 schools)

