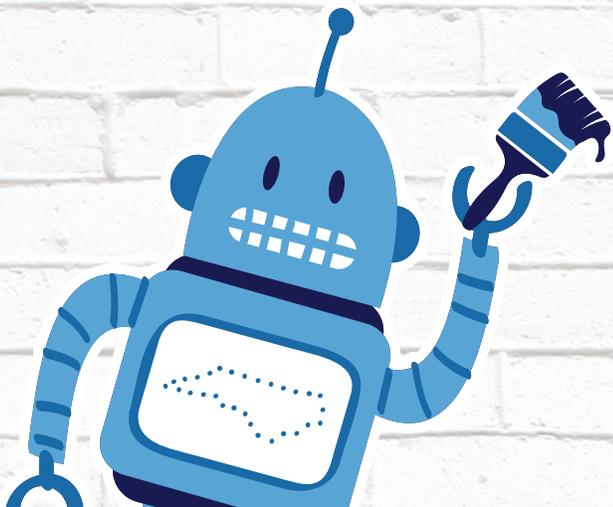


IMPACT REPORT 2023



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MOREHEAD
PLANETARIUM+
SCIENCE CENTER

FESTIVAL SUMMARY

NCSciFest is the first statewide celebration of its kind in the nation. This April, we celebrated a showcase of STEAM — **science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics** — acknowledging the arts as an essential part of learning and expression.

Community-based events were hosted by museums, science centers, colleges, universities, businesses, parks, libraries, and hundreds of K-12 schools around NC. Founded in 2010 by Morehead Planetarium and Science Center, NCSciFest has served more than 3 million participants of all ages from all 100 counties since its inception.

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Dear NCSciFest Partners,

The 2023 North Carolina Science Festival was incredible. Thanks to you - our partners, teachers, scientists, sponsors, and the tens of thousands of North Carolinians who participated in events this April - we were able to move Full STEAM Ahead with one of the largest celebrations of science on the planet.

This year's Festival was chock-full of amazing experiences, from huge science expos that brought thousands of people out to share in the wonders of STEAM to scientists taking over middle school classrooms. Throughout the month, people gathered at events large and small to connect with the science and scientists in our communities.

We were thrilled that so many of our partners embraced this year's theme and celebrated the intersection of the arts and sciences. The creativity and passion we saw on display this year are some of the vibrant threads that are woven into the beautiful fabric of our state's culture.

This was our 13th Festival, and we're proud to have built with all of you the gold standard in statewide STEM engagement. As we grow into our teenage years, we're excited to continue to build new connections and partnerships to celebrate Science For All.

We can't wait for 2024!

Best wishes and Science for All,
Todd & Erik

Todd Boyette

Todd Boyette,
NCSciFest Co-Founder

Erik MacIntosh

Erik MacIntosh,
NCSciFest Manager

FULL STEAM AHEAD

The 2023 Festival theme celebrated the intersection of arts and sciences and also reflected the return of full-scale events after a few years of pandemic-related challenges.

The **Google Gravity Games** returned to Lenoir for the first time since 2019, where 36 teams from across the state raced their homemade, gravity-powered cars through downtown streets.

"I had several community members approach me and express how happy they were for their children to be exposed to fun things in STEM. There are not many STEM resources in Fayetteville. This event allowed community members to learn about the FSU Planetarium and our other STEM outreach programs."

*- Joseph Kabbes,
Fayetteville State University*

Crowds showed up to big events like the **UNC Science Expo, UNC Greensboro Science Everywhere, and Piedmont Earth Day Festival**. More than 40 events were attended by more than 500 people.



FOR THE LOVE OF SCIENCE

This year, we saw an amazing outpouring of passion from our STEM partners. From informal science educators to seasoned STEM professionals, this year's festival was indeed Full STEAM Ahead!

"People enjoyed the event so much that they were asking when is the next one! Thanks NCSiFest for the help and support to provide an event like this to the children and families in our community."

*-Amani Fields,
Daniel Center for Math and Science*



APRIL SHOWERS BRING STEM FLOWERS!
This April saw some rainy weekends across much of the state, but that didn't put a damper on the fun!

ARTS EVENTS

To celebrate our theme of Full STEAM Ahead, two partners created works of art that will last beyond the month of April and highlight the interwoven connections between science and the arts. Craven Community College's Havelock campus and the UNC Nutrition Research Institute in Kannapolis worked with local artists to design and install murals that welcome people to their campuses.



BY THE NUMBERS

TOTAL PARTICIPATION: 478,134

**EVENTS IN ALL
100 COUNTIES!**

101,841
PARTICIPANTS AT
PUBLIC EVENTS

53,131
PARTICIPANTS AT
K-12 EVENTS

23,162
PARTICIPANTS AT
YEAR-ROUND PROGRAMS

466
PUBLIC EVENTS

344
K-12 EVENTS

57
YEAR-ROUND PROGRAMS

**TOTAL
57
EVENTS**

**NCSCIFEST TV
PROGRAM VIEWERS:
300,000**

CELEBRATING SCIENCE AROUND NORTH CAROLINA

Gravity Games,
Lenoir



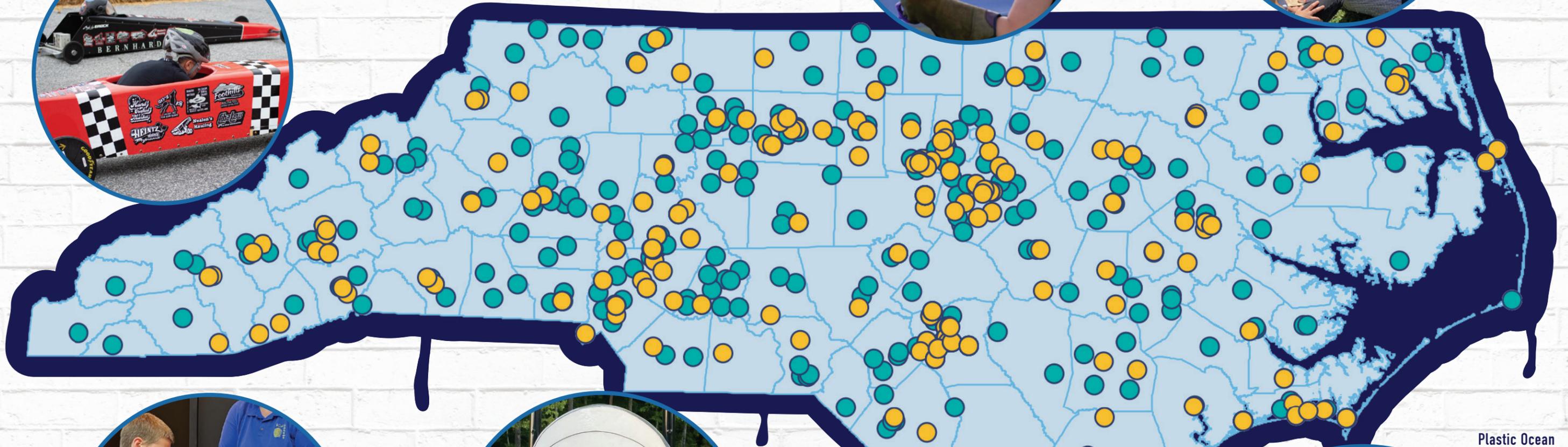
Statewide
Star Party,
Greensboro



Fly-Thru Wildlife
Experience,
Durham



STEAMscape,
Elizabeth City



Isothermal
SciTech Expo,
Spindale



Statewide Star Party,
Lake Norman



STEAM Extravaganza,
Mocksville



Plastic Ocean
Arts & Sci Fest,
Wilmington

- K-12 EVENTS
- PUBLIC EVENTS

SCIENCE FOR ALL

One of this year's signature events was the inaugural Science For All Summit – a brand new conference hosted by Morehead Planetarium and Science Center focused on Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Access (IDEA).

Educators, practitioners, researchers, thought leaders, and other change agents engaged in conversation and knowledge building around emerging issues and innovative strategies related to advancing IDEA in STEM.



STEMVILLE SCIENCE SPECTACULAR

Hosted by Morehead Planetarium and Science Center with the support of Gilead Sciences, STEMville Science Spectacular brought students from underserved backgrounds to Morehead to engage in science in a fun and exciting way. Led by scientists predominately underrepresented in STEM fields, students from local community organizations participated in hands-on science activities and a planetarium show in the GSK Fulldome Theater.

“OMG! The kids had a great time on Saturday! The students really enjoyed themselves and asked if we could do something like that again.”

*- Dr. Sheena Fletcher,
Cardinal Charter*



K-12 INITIATIVES



DUKE ENERGY SCIENCE NIGHTS

A total of 48,719 participants attended Duke Energy Science Nights held at 186 schools across 95 NC counties. Most occurred outside school hours, bringing together students, families, teachers, and school leaders. The versatility of the hands-on STEM activities, Spanish versions of the instructions, and NC Connections allowed for engagement by a broad audience.

“Our students, families, and staff had so much fun connecting over STEM activities and pizza. Thank you to North Carolina Science Festival for all the materials!”

- Duke Energy Science Night host

SCIMATCH

More than 50 scientists visited middle schools during the month of April, taking over classrooms for a day to share their stories and lead hands-on activities with students. More than 4,000 students got to interact directly with a scientist, many for the first time ever!



BEHIND THE SCENES

The festival wouldn't be possible every year without this amazing team who design the t-shirts and posters, train scientists to share their research, connect with school partners, coordinate event logistics, and so much more.



PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS

The North Carolina Science Festival would like to thank the following partners for their leadership in sharing STEM with their communities.

Ackland Art Museum
 Acme Delco Elementary School
 After School Brilliance
 Ahoskie Elementary School
 Alamance Community College
 Alamance County Public Libraries
 Alamance Virtual School
 Alpha Academy Charter School
 American Renaissance School
 Animal Park at the Conservators Center
 Appalachian State University:
 • Dark Sky Observatory
 • Mathematics & Science Education Center
 Aquadale Elementary School
 Aquarium & Shark Lab by Team ECCO
 ArtSpace Charter School
 Asheville Makers
 Asheville Museum of Science
 Asheville Radio Museum
 Astronomy on Tap: Triangle
 Aulander Elementary School
 B.F. Grady Elementary School
 Badin Elementary School
 Bailey Elementary School
 Bald Head Island Conservancy
 Banoak Elementary School
 Bearfield Primary School
 Beaufort Elementary School

Benton Heights Elementary School of the Arts
 Bentonville Battlefield State Historic Site
 Bethel Elementary School
 Bethesda Elementary School
 Blue Jay Point County Park
 Blythe Elementary School
 Bonlee Elementary School
 Braswell Memorial Library
 Broad Creek Middle School
 Broadway Elementary School
 Brookside Elementary School
 Brown Education Initiative
 Brunswick Community College
 Buckland Elementary School
 Buncombe County Public Libraries
 Burton Elementary School
 Butner-Stem Elementary School
 Cabarrus County Public Library:
 • Harrisburg Branch
 • Kannapolis Branch
 • Midland Branch
 Cabarrus Health Alliance
 Camden Intermediate School
 Cape Fear Botanical Garden
 Cape Fear Middle School
 Cape Fear Museum
 Cape Hatteras Elementary School
 Carolina Community Academy at North Elementary School
 Carolina Raptor Center
 Carolina Wetlands Association
 Carteret Community College
 Catawba County Library: St. Stephens Branch
 Catawba Science Center
 Central Elementary School (Albemarle)
 Central Elementary School (Barco)
 Central Elementary School (Jackson)
 Chapel Hill Public Library

“There’s nothing we enjoy more than igniting the love and wonder of science in the hearts and minds of students of all ages...Being part of this year’s NC Science Fest was an absolute pleasure.”

*- Dr. Kim Jones,
 Brunswick Community College*

Charlotte Hawkins Brown State Historic Site
 Charlotte Motor Speedway
 Chase Middle School
 Cherokee County Schools: 21st Century Community Learning Center Programs
 Children’s Museum of Jacksonville
 China Grove Elementary School
 Chinquapin Elementary School
 City of Charlotte: Landscape Management
 City of Durham: Parks and Recreation
 City of Kannapolis: Parks and Recreation
 City of Lenoir
 City of Raleigh: Durant Nature Preserve
 Claremont Elementary School
 Clarke Elementary School
 Clement Elementary School
 Cognition Davie
 College of The Albemarle
 Columbia Middle School
 Community School of Digital and Visual Arts
 Cooleemee Elementary School
 Core Sound Waterfowl Museum & Heritage Center
 Cowan Museum of History and Science
 Cramerton Middle School
 Craven Community College

Creedmoor Elementary School of the Arts
 Cumberland County Public Library & Information Center:
 • Bordeaux Branch
 • Cliffdale Regional Branch
 • East Regional Branch
 • Headquarters Library
 • Hope Mills Branch
 • North Regional Branch
 • West Regional Branch
 D.C. Virgo Preparatory Academy
 D.F. Walker Elementary School
 Davidson County Online Academy
 Davie County Virtual School
 Deyton Elementary School
 Discovery Place Kids: Rockingham
 Discovery Place Nature
 Discovery Place Science
 Dobson Elementary School
 Drexel Elementary School
 E.J. Hayes Elementary School
 East Albemarle Elementary School
 East Alexander Middle School
 East Franklin Elementary School
 East Hoke Middle School
 East Rockingham Elementary School
 Eastern Wayne Elementary School
 Eastfield Global Magnet School
 Edneyville Elementary School
 Elizabeth City State University
 Empower All Inc.
 Endy Elementary School
 Enka Intermediate School
 Eno River Academy
 Ephesus Elementary School
 Fairview Heights Elementary School
 Falkland Elementary School
 Fascinate-U Children’s Museum
 Fayetteville State University
 FIRST North Carolina
 Flat Rock Elementary School
 Flyleaf Books
 Forest Hill Elementary School

Forest Hills Global Elementary
 Forestville Road Elementary School
 Foust Elementary School
 Frank Porter Graham Bilingue Elementary
 Franklinton Elementary School
 Franklinton High School Math Club
 Franklinton Middle School
 Frederick Douglass Elementary School
 Full STEAM Ahead Carolina Inc.
 Fuquay Varina Middle School
 G.W. Bulluck Elementary School
 Garner Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources
 Gaston STEM Leadership Academy
 Gaston Virtual Academy
 Gatesville Elementary School
 Gibson Elementary School
 Glade Creek Elementary School
 Google
 Graham Middle School
 Grantham Elementary School
 Green Ridge Elementary School
 Green Valley School
 Greene County Intermediate School
 Greene County Schools
 Greensboro Public Library: Kathleen Clay Branch
 Greensboro Science Center
 Grier Middle School
 Guilford Technical Community College: Cline Observatory
 Hands On! Childrens Museum
 Haw River Elementary School
 Hawk Eye Elementary School
 Hayesville Elementary School
 Haywood Community College
 Haywood County Public Library
 Hazelwood Elementary School
 Herbert Akins Road Elementary School
 Hertford County Public Library
 Hertford Grammar School
 Hiddenite Elementary School
 Highland Renaissance Academy
 Highlands Biological Foundation

Hillsborough Arts Council
 Historic Edenton State Historic Site
 Hodge Road Magnet Elementary School
 Hominy Valley Elementary School
 IC Imagine Public Charter School
 Ignite Online Academy
 Imagination Station Science and History Museum
 Isothermal Community College
 J.R. Ingram Elementary School
 J.T. Barber Elementary School
 J.W. Coon Elementary School
 Jackson County Public Library
 Jackson Park Elementary School
 James Sprunt Community College
 Jamesville Elementary School
 John Small Elementary School
 Johnsonville Elementary School
 Johnston Charter Academy
 Johnston Community College
 Jonathan Valley Elementary School
 Jones Senior High School
 Jonesville Elementary School
 Kaleideum
 KidSenses Children’s Museum
 Kidzu Children’s Museum
 Kings Creek School
 KIPP Halifax College Preparatory School
 Laurel Park Elementary School
 Leaksville-Spray Elementary School
 Lee County Libraries: Suzanne Reeves Branch
 Leland Middle School
 Lewisville Elementary School
 Liberty Drive Elementary School
 Liberty Elementary School



“This was really awesome! I’ve never gotten to see the moon or stars through a telescope before.”

- Statewide Star Party attendee

PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS, CONT'D

Lincoln County Public Library
 Lincoln Elementary School
 Locust Elementary School
 Lucama Elementary School
 Madison Middle School
 Malpass Corner Elementary School
 Manchester Elementary School
 Marbles Kids Museum
 Margaret Willis Elementary School
 Mariam Boyd Elementary School
 MarineQuest at UNC Wilmington
 Mary Scroggs Elementary School
 Mattamuskeet School
 Mayland Community College
 Mayland Earth to Sky Park
 McDougle Elementary School
 McDowell Nature Center
 Methodist University
 Micaville Elementary School
 Millingport Elementary School
 Mocksville Elementary School
 Monroe Avenue Elementary School
 Montclair Elementary School
 Moore County Schools
 Morehead Planetarium & Science Center
 Moss Hill Elementary School
 Mount Airy Museum of Regional History
 Mountain View Elementary School
 Muddy Sneakers
 Museum of Coastal Carolina
 Museum of Life and Science
 N.L. Dillard Middle School
 NASA Solar System Ambassadors
 Nash Community College
 Nash Everywhere Digital Academy
 NC A&T State University
 NC Aquariums:
 • Fort Fisher
 • Pine Knoll Shores
 • Roanoke Island

NC BioNetwork
 NC Central University: Fab Lab
 NC Coastal Land Trust
 NC Geological Survey
 NC Maritime Museum in Beaufort
 NC Museum of Natural Sciences:
 • Contentnea Creek
 • Prairie Ridge Ecostation
 • Raleigh
 NC School of Science and Mathematics
 NC Science Olympiad
 NC Science Trail
 NC State Laboratory of Public Health
 NC State Parks:
 • Carvers Creek State Park
 • Cliffs of the Neuse State Park
 • Dismal Swamp State Park
 • Fort Macon State Park
 • Gorges State Park
 • Hammocks Beach State Park
 • Jordan Lake State Recreation Area
 • Kerr Lake State Recreation Area
 • Lake Norman State Park
 • Merchants Millpond State Park
 • Pilot Mountain State Park
 NC State University:
 • Catalyst
 • Sustainability Office
 NC Virtual Academy
 NC Zoo
 Newport Middle School
 Newton Conover Middle STEM School
 Noble Academy
 North Elementary School
 North Graham Elementary School
 North Kannapolis Elementary School
 North Rowan High School
 North Shelby School
 Northeast Academy for Aerospace and Advanced Technologies

Northeast Elementary School
 Northern Granville Middle School
 Northwest Elementary School
 Norwood Elementary School
 Oakboro Choice STEM School
 Oaks Road Academy
 Oxendine Elementary School
 P.W. Moore Elementary School
 Page Street Elementary School
 Pamlico County Middle School
 Pamlico County Primary School
 Park View Elementary School
 Parkside Elementary School
 Paul J. Ciener Botanical Garden
 Paw Creek Elementary School
 PBS North Carolina
 Pearsontown Elementary School
 Pembroke Elementary School
 Perquimans County Middle School
 Pettigrew Library
 Piedmont Environmental Alliance
 Piedmont Environmental Center
 Piedmont Wildlife Center
 Pine Forest Middle School
 Piney Creek School
 Pinkston Street Elementary School
 Plain View Primary Elementary School
 Plastic Ocean Project
 Poplar Springs Elementary School
 Princeville Elementary School
 Pumpkin Center Intermediate School
 Queen Anne's Revenge Conservation Lab

“We appreciate your support and letting the kids know their talents and abilities are needed to build a diverse, inclusive and innovative STEM Workforce!”
- Joann Blumenfeld, Catalyst at NC State University

“The most important science we saw all weekend was the chemistry between people in a community coming together to learn, laugh, and get to know each other better.”
- Pepper Hill, Science Alliance of Eastern NC

R. Brown McAllister STEM Elementary
 Reedy Creek Elementary School
 Reedy Creek Magnet Middle School Center for the Digital Sciences
 Reidsville Middle School
 Renaissance West STEAM Academy
 Richfield Elementary School
 River Bend Middle School
 River Park North
 Riverside Elementary School
 Riverwood Middle School
 Robbinsville High School
 Robeson Planetarium and Science Center
 Rocky Point Elementary School
 Rose Hill-Magnolia Elementary School
 Rosman Elementary School
 Rowan Public Library System
 Rowan-Cabarrus Community College
 S. Ray Lowder Elementary School
 Saluda Elementary School
 Sandhills Community College
 Sandhills Farm Life Elementary School
 Schiele Museum
 School for Creative Studies
 Science Alliance of Eastern NC
 Scotland Neck Elementary School
 Scurlock Elementary School
 Shawboro Elementary School
 Sheep-Harney Elementary School
 Smokey Mountain Elementary School
 South Brunswick Middle School
 South Elementary School (Mebane)
 South Elementary School (Roxboro)
 South Piedmont Community College
 Southwest Elementary School
 Southwestern Community College

Southwestern Randolph Middle School
 Southwood Elementary School
 Sparta Elementary School
 Spindale Elementary School
 St. Thomas More Catholic School
 Stanfield Elementary School
 STEM Passport
 STEM West
 Sturgeon City
 Summit K-8 Virtual Academy
 Surry Community College
 Swain West Elementary School
 Sycamore Lane Elementary School
 Sylvan Heights Bird Park
 T.S. Cooper Elementary School
 The ArtsCenter
 The Children's Museum of Wilmington
 The Children's Playhouse
 The Daniel Center for Math and Science
 Town Creek Indian Mound State Historic Site
 Town of Carrboro
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 Triangle Land Conservancy
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 Tyrrell Elementary School
 Union Elementary School (Clinton)
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 University of North Carolina at Asheville:
 • Society of Physics Students
 University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill:
 • Arts Everywhere
 University of North Carolina at Charlotte
 University of North Carolina at Greensboro:
 • RISE Network
 • Three College Observatory
 University of North Carolina at Pembroke

University of North Carolina Nutrition Research Institute
 Uwharrie Charter Academy Elementary School
 Valley Springs Middle School
 Vance Virtual Village Academy
 Vanceboro Farm Life Elementary School
 Vance-Granville Community College
 Vick Elementary School
 Wake County Government
 Wake Technical Community College
 Ward Elementary School
 Warsaw Elementary School
 Washington County Library
 Washington Elementary School
 Watauga Virtual Academy
 Wayne Community College
 Wellcome Middle School
 West Hoke Elementary School
 West Middle School
 West Oxford Elementary School
 West Smithfield Elementary School
 Wilburn Elementary School
 Wiley Magnet Middle School
 Wilkesboro Elementary School
 William H. Owen Elementary School
 William T. Brown Elementary School
 Winston-Salem Preparatory Academy
 Winston-Salem State University





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