

# A Girl Scout Program Focused on Energy Conservation

## A Design Based Research Study

Gillian Puttick, Debra Bernstein, and Teon Edwards  
—2018. *Educational Designer*, 3(10).

### Abstract

This paper describes the retrospective analysis of a sequence of design decisions made while iteratively developing a science program for eight- to fourteen-year-old Girl Scouts. The program focused on energy conservation and climate change. To analyze the design, we drew on the original theoretical framework and analyzed design documents to clearly articulate a series of previously implicit design conjectures. Aligning materials, task, and participant structures in the program with the design conjectures revealed three implications for design.

These emphasize the importance of:

- i) clearly and explicitly articulating conjectures about how intended program elements mediate the connection between the designer's assumptions and the intended outcomes,
- ii) becoming sufficiently familiar with the institutional culture as it is enacted in the learning space, and
- iii) in addition to learning theories, considering the incorporation of theories related to other factors such as motivation, theories of behavior change, and identity.

[Read article.](#)