

## RESEARCH TERMINOLOGY AND DEFINITIONS

For the purposes of our research, we used the following terminology and definitions:

★ **Out-of-School Time (OST):** Programs that children might participate in outside of school hours. These are programs that have a learning or skills component, organized activities or learning opportunities, and may provide childcare. OST may be offered before or after school, on weekends, online, or in person.

★ **School or academic:** A program offered by a school (such as an afterschool program at a school or learning center); an in-person learning center that provides a supervised, enriching environment during virtual school days; a reading group or book club; a college readiness/standardized test preparation program; an early learning parent-child activity group.

★ **Youth development:** A program offered through a community provider (like Boys & Girls Club of America, YMCA, etc.); scouting; volunteer service projects; a leadership and mentoring program (4-H, Junior Achievement, etc.).

★ **Sports/arts/other interests:** Organized team sports; art, dance, music, or other special lessons; coding, robotics, or STEM-related club.

★ **Opportunity-centered:** A program run by the Department of Parks and Recreation or a city, town, or other local government office; a program run by a museum, science center, library, church, or other institution; religious instruction, youth group, or faith-based program.

## “EXTRACURRICULAR” IS THE MOST COMMONLY USED NAME

There is no single term that parents, teachers, or providers use to describe out-of-school time programs.

**Question:** Regardless of whether your child participates/your experience, how do you refer to these types of program? Please select the descriptor that you think BEST describe these programs.

