

Students Improving Science Literacy

What is the impact of the student-led science café on science literacy in the community?

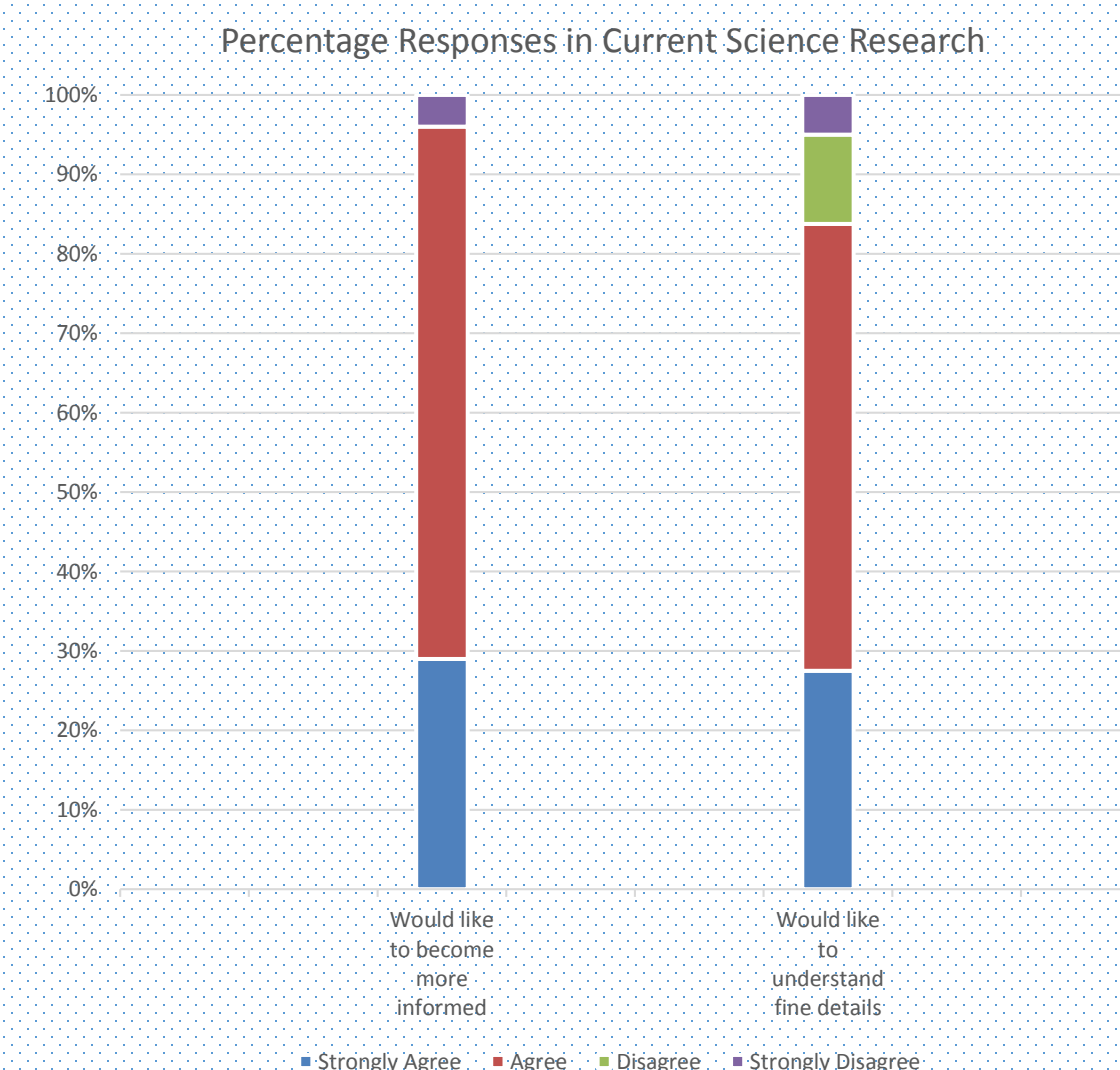
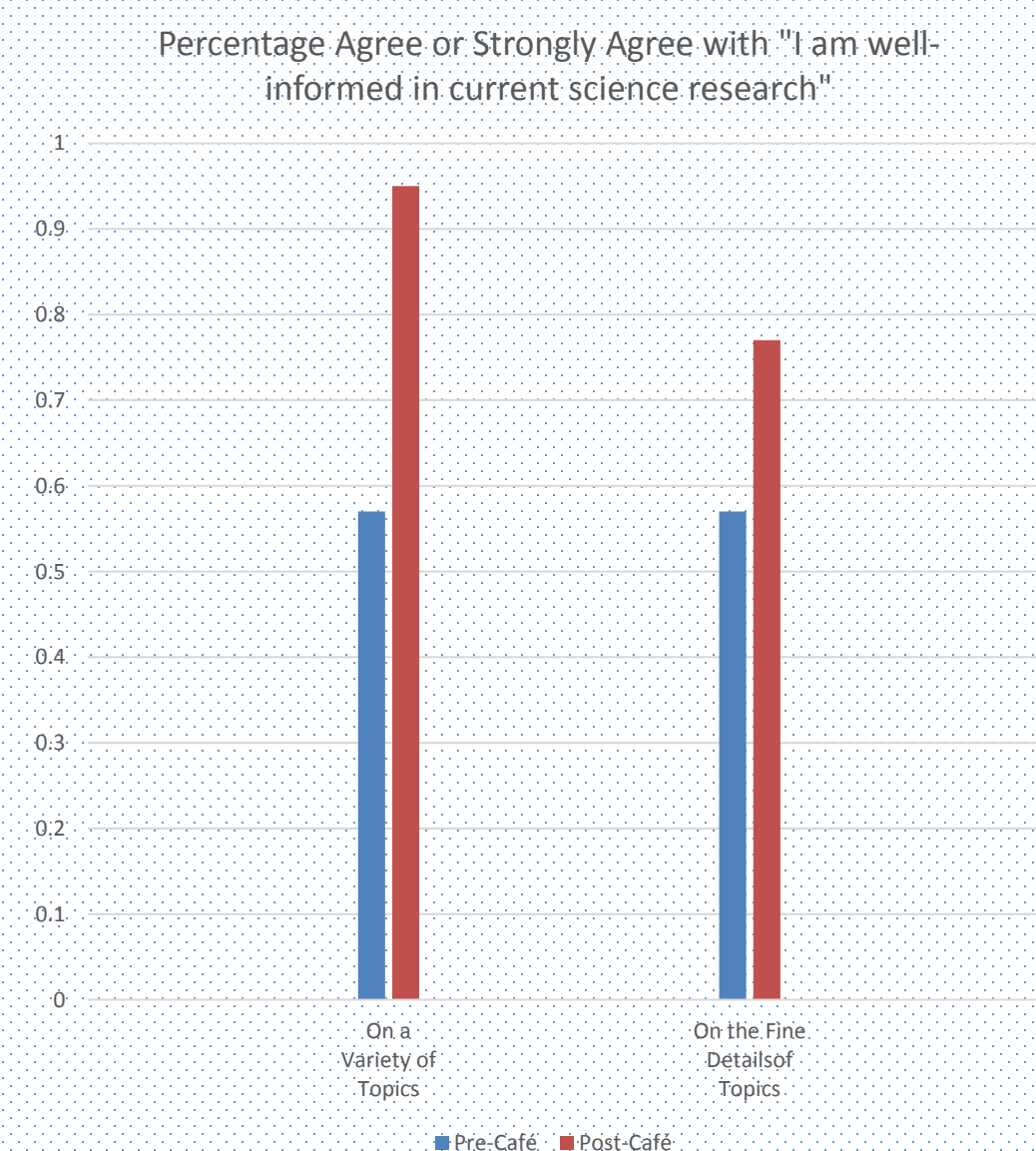
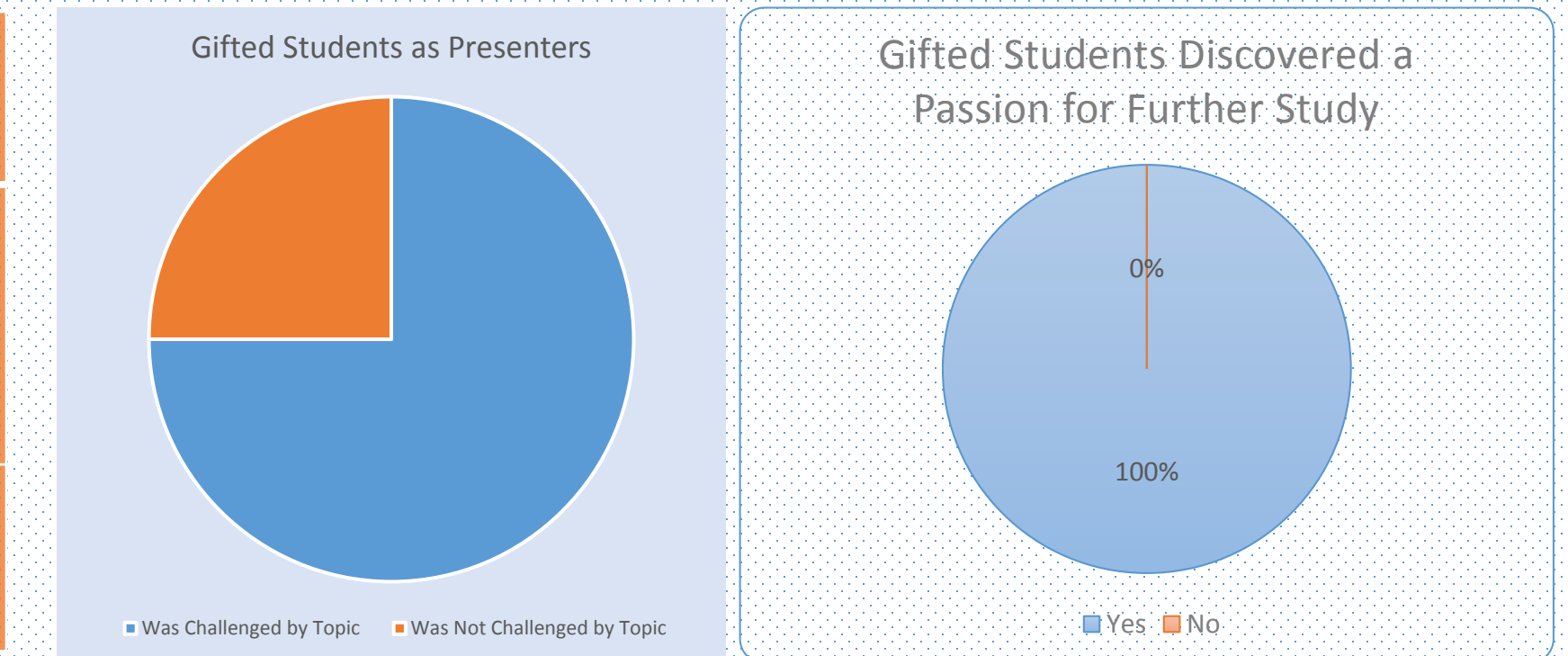
Is the development of a student-led science café effective in helping gifted students discover challenging topics they feel passionate about?

PROBLEM: Scientific literature reveals low science literacy in the United States. Educational research reveals a higher dropout rate among gifted and talented students than among the general student population.

OBJECTIVE: K-12 Gifted and Talented students became the resident expert in a topic of science research, and led a science café discussion on the topic.

Methodology: Science Café sessions were held in a local restaurant, and were attended by adults and children. Effects on science literacy were measured as shown by the Data Triangulation Matrix:

Research Questions	Data Source 1	Data Source 2	Data Source 3
The impact on science literacy in the community	Pre and Post Café Questionnaire	Pre and Post Café Background Knowledge Probe	Participants Interview and Participants Email Survey
Effectiveness in helping gifted students	Journal Notes	Presenter's interview	Presenter's Email Survey



Conclusion: The use of student-led science cafes is instrumental in helping to improve science literacy in a small community. Further, similar research is needed in larger communities. This practice is helpful for gifted students to discover topics they are passionate about.

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