



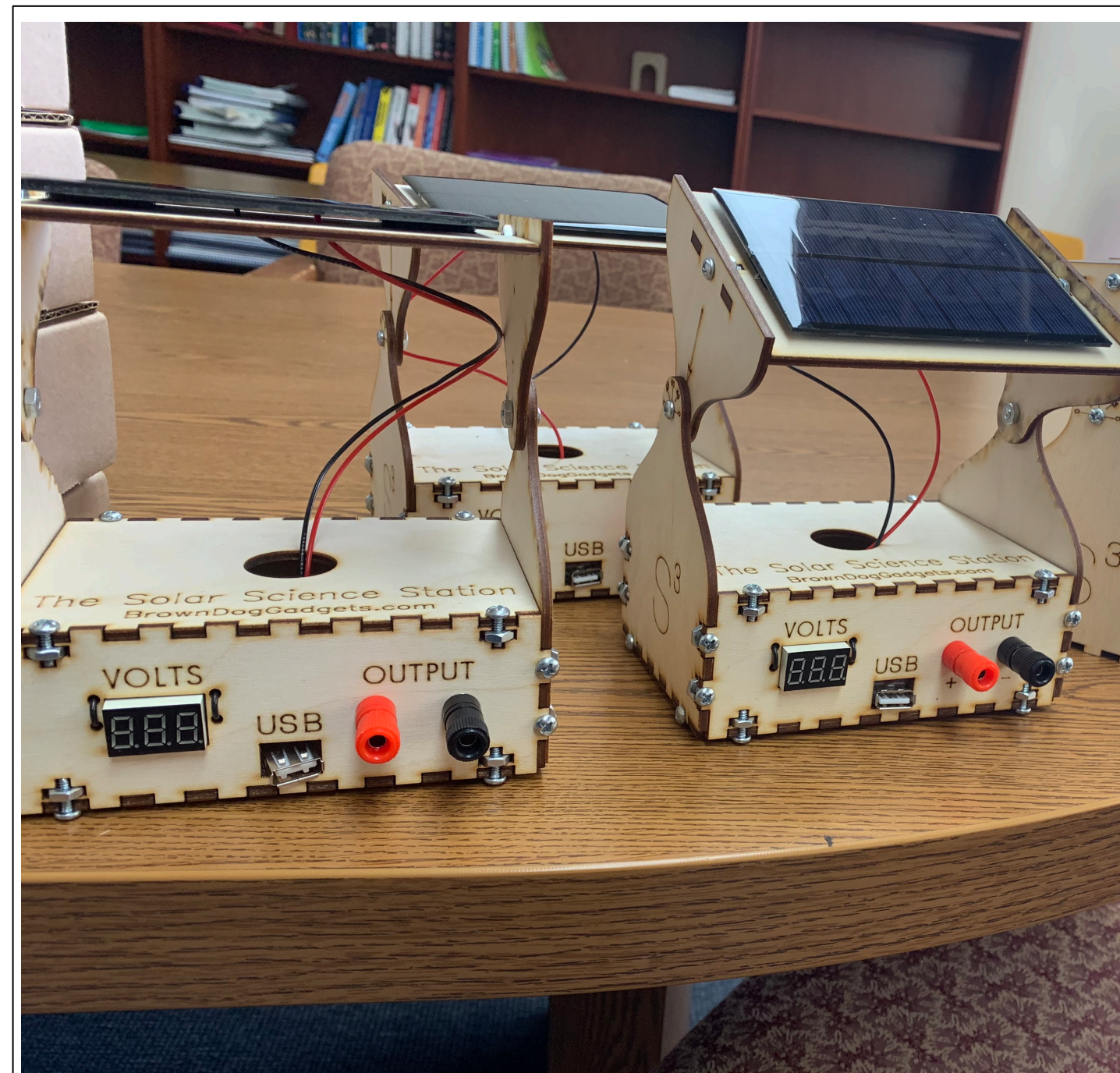
# Howard B. Owens Science Center Service Learning



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## Introduction

Howard B. Owens Science Center (HBOSC) is a part of the Prince George's County School System. HBOSC provides access to hands-on science learning such as interaction with live animals, coding courses, planetarium lessons, and other lab materials. HBOSC also houses a Challenger Learning Center, which allows students to participate in missions that use the basic principles of science that make it seem like students are in outer space. In addition to providing learning to students, the instructors at the science center have professional development events for teachers in the school system. Schools from all over the state visit for involved instructional learning.

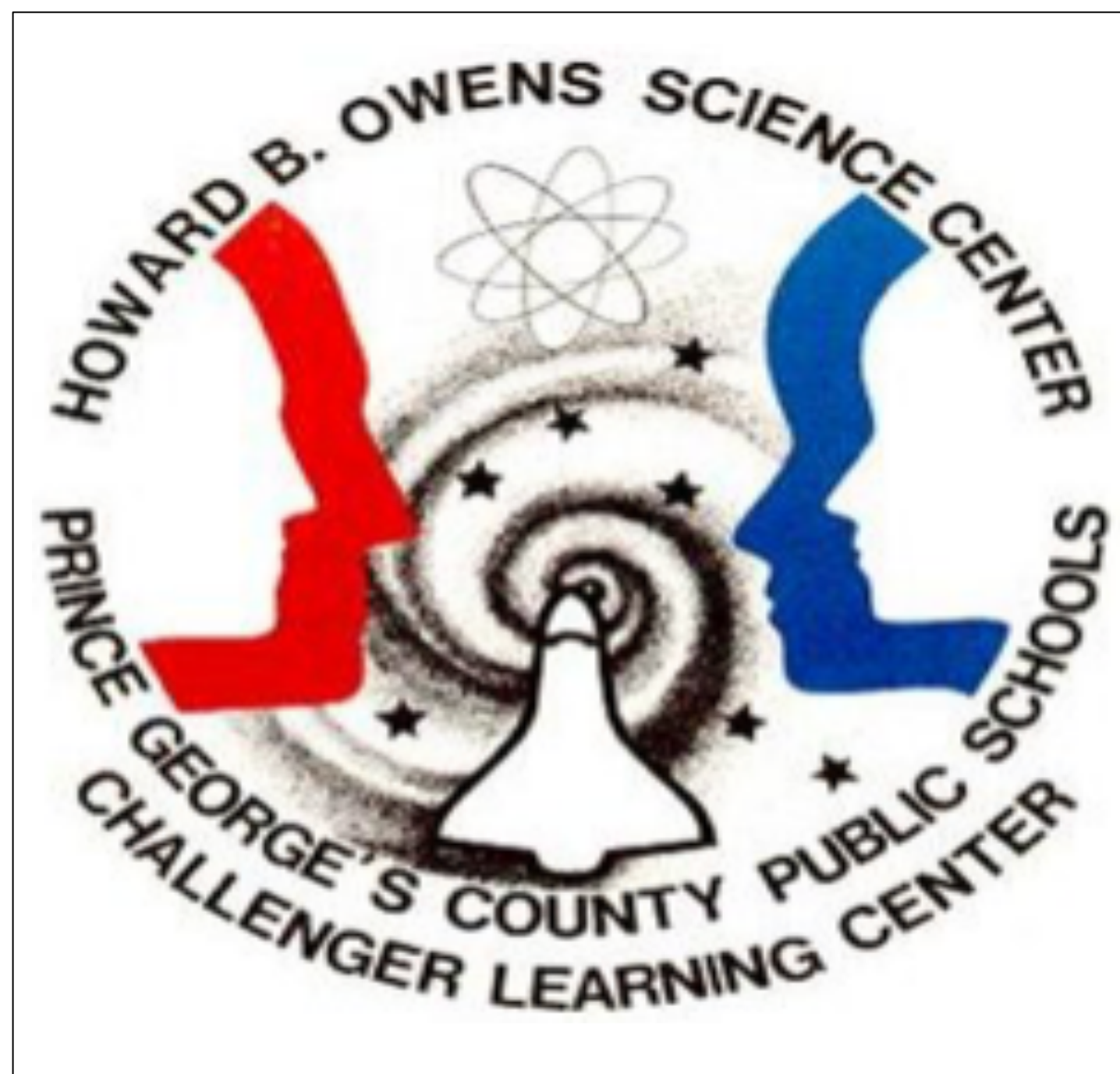


## Impact

The outcome of this service-learning project has implications that can be seen instantly, and some that can be seen in the future. Some of the instant impacts were that certain programs within the science center were able to run because us interns could build items needed rather than having to wait for them to be delivered. The students can then explore more topics when they visit the science center instead of repeating programs. The future impacts are that students in the school system can experience more realistic hands-on science at earlier stages in their lives, giving them a chance to pursue a career in science. Students around the state will have a better science education.

## Activities

As a service-learning intern at HBOSC, I had different responsibilities such as community outreach, and program development. The goal for community outreach was to make the students and their families aware of events the science center holds outside of school hours. To develop programs, I helped construct a drone arena, build solar stations for students, and finalize puzzles for the planetarium program. I made a brochure and video to help the science center to have a social media presence, as well as have information for visitors to take home.



## Future Work

The work done at Howard B. Owens Science Center for this project can be continued much longer than just one academic school year. Work could continue with program development. As college students, we could take a difficult topic and then find a way to make this topic easier to learn via a hands-on process. This process can then be implemented into a program at the science center for the students. If more students were to volunteer at the science center, students could assist the instructors in running the class.

