

Out of School Time Essentials

The hours outside of school may be the most important hours of all.

A free gift to help you make those hours count — simple, doable ideas to create experiences where young people feel supported and inspired.

Free Freebies

- Plan the arc of the day, not just the activities.
- Recruit and keep volunteers by making roles clear and valued.
- Build a simple safety routine everyone knows by heart.
- Gather quick feedback from kids — they'll tell you what works.
- Mix ages with tiered challenges — same theme, different levels.

Trade Tricks

- Connect activities to real life so learning sticks.
- Keep transitions short and predictable; chaos lives in the gaps.
- Document the good moments; stories fuel support and funding.

CYNDEE'S CURE

Afternoon energy crashing into chaos? Don't fight it — schedule for it. Put the calm, hands-on activity right when the meltdown usually hits. Plan around the dip and the dip disappears.

BRETT'S BEST

Make them feel it before you teach them anything. Belonging and fun open the door; everything you want them to learn walks through it after.

Yours, no ask — simply free. Put one to work this week and watch what shifts.