Science Centres and the Development of Future Science Professionals

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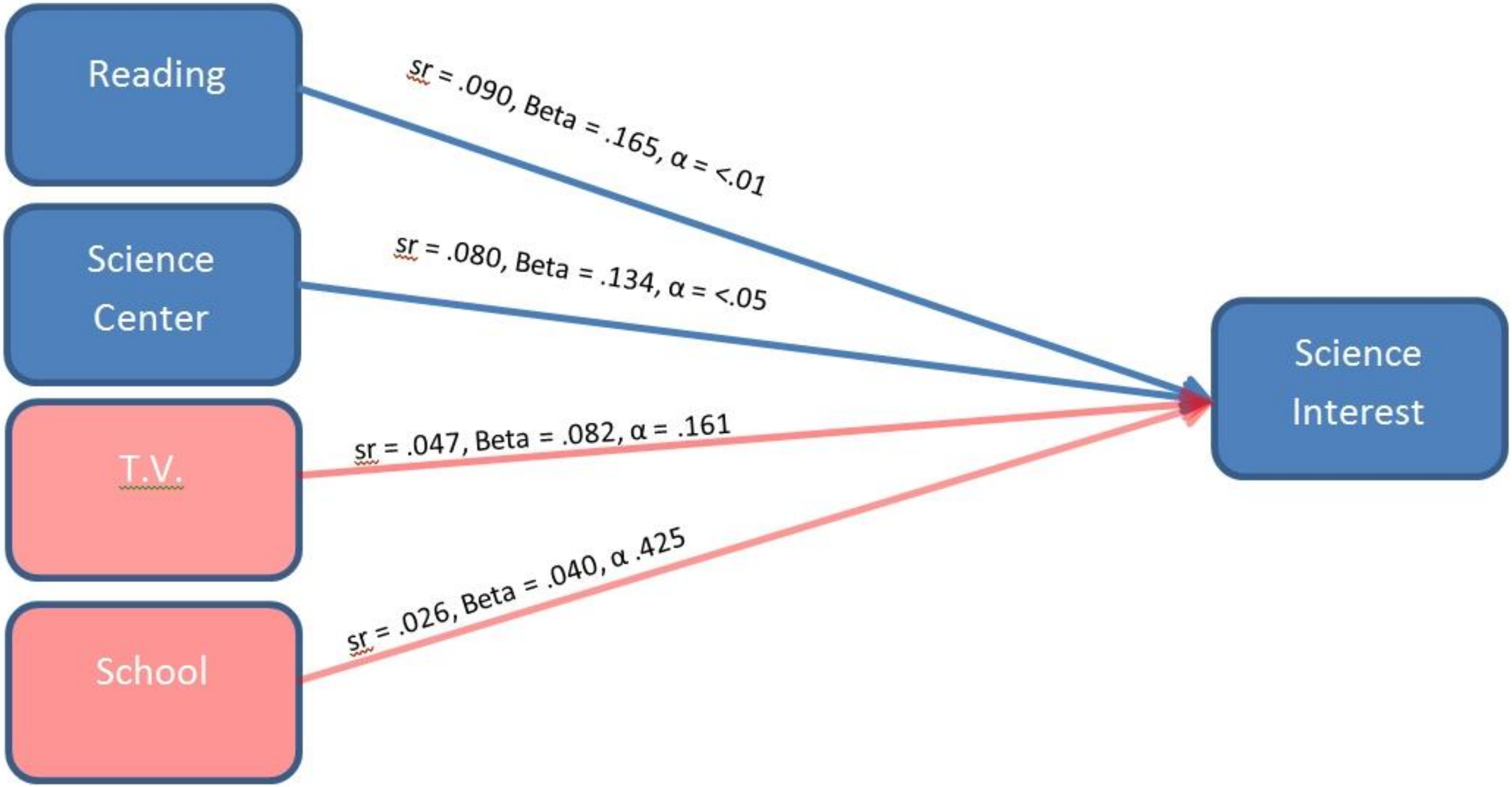
Science centres claim to be committed to the goal of increasing the number of **Science Engaged** individuals in their community, including professionals and hobbyists.

Surprisingly few efforts specifically focus on this goal and data confirm that this is currently a major limitation of science centres' impact on their communities.

MISCES – Multi-Institutional Science Center Effects Study

(Falk, Pattison, Meier, Bibas & Livingston, in press)

Adult Multiple Regression of Past Science Experiences on Current Science Interest



ISCIS – International Science Center Impact Study

(**Falk,** Dierking, L.D., Swanger, L., Staus, N., Back, M., Barriault, C., Catalao, C., Chambers, C., Chew, L.-L., Dahl, S.A., Falla, S., Gorecki, B., Lau, T.C., Lloyd, A., Martin, J., Santer, J., Singer, S., Solli, A., Trepanier, G., Tyystjärvi, K. & Verheyden, P., 2016**)**

Relationship between number of Adult previous visits and dependent scales

	Never Visited (53%)	1-2 Visits (17%)	3-10 Visits (24%)	11+ Visits (7%%)	p-value	Eta
Knowledge & Understanding	2.32	2.56	2.58	2.65	< .001	.23
Interest & Curiosity	0.05	0.16	0.25	0.33	< .001	.14
Out-of-School Engagement	3.77	4.04	4.23	4.41	< .001	.19
Science-Related Vocations	**3.37**	**3.30**	**3.45**	**4.02**	**.319**	**.03**
Science Confidence	--	3.77	3.83	4.10	< .001	.10

Who Does a Good Job of Supporting Career Pathways?






Science Centres Need to Proactively:

- ***Stimulate Interest*** **in science, but also must:**
- ***Identify Talent*** **and proactively cultivate the interests and abilities of those with talent**
- ***Support Mastery*** **move beyond "One and Done" approach; need to create opportunities for development at *every* stage in process**