Four essential features to seek in an after-school program  
  
   
 David S. Fleming, Clemson University

A scholar who used to evaluate after-school programs says they should do more than just be a place for kids to hang out and socialize.

Nigeria at 62: five essential reads on why there isn’t an inspiring story to tell  
  
   
 Doyin Odubanjo, Nigerian Academy of Science

Experts explain why there might not be much to celebrate and proffer solutions.

Kanye may not like books, but hip-hop fosters a love of literature  
  
   
 A.D. Carson, University of Virginia

A hip-hop artist and scholar says that while rap stresses the oral tradition, the music is also rife with references to a rich range of literature that spans the globe.

Indian Matchmaking: English can be a valuable asset for young women seeking husbands – but it can also backfire  
  
   
 Katy Highet, University of the West of Scotland

The controversial reality show is only part of the picture when it comes to class and education in Indian marriage negotiations.

Stressed out, burned out and dropping out: Why teachers are leaving the classroom  
  
   
 Tuan D. Nguyen, Kansas State University

It’s not just COVID-19. Low salaries, subpar working conditions and lack of resources in the classroom are three of the reasons why teachers are abandoning the profession.

Bollywood film ‘Gangubai Kathiawadi’ paints an ambivalent picture of sex workers’ rights  
  
   
 Rajeshwari Nandkumar, McMaster University

Despite portraying sex workers as agents of social change, Sanjay Leela Bhansali’s ‘Gangubai Kathiawadi’ presents sex workers as worthy victims because they didn’t choose their disreputable fates.

How to keep kids curious – 5 questions answered  
  
   
 Perry Zurn, American University

A philosophy professor looks at the learning styles of different creatures to gain insight into curiosity among human beings.

Educators can help make STEM fields diverse – over 25 years, I’ve identified nudges that can encourage students to stay  
  
   
 Nilanjana Dasgupta, UMass Amherst

Research shows underrepresented people in STEM studies thrive in learning environments that address their need to belong, feel competent and find meaning in their work.

Students perceive themselves as a ‘math person’ or a ‘reading person’ early on – and this can impact the choices they make throughout their lives  
  
   
 Sirui Wan, University of Wisconsin-Madison

Students are less likely to think they can be good at both math and reading as they get closer to high school.

Is education or immigration the answer to our skills shortage? We asked 50 economists  
  
   
 Peter Martin, Crawford School of Public Policy, Australian National University

Among the top economists surveyed was the man who designed Australia’s higher education loans scheme – who described funding for vocational education as a “mess”.

New universities in Nigeria? Absolutely not  
  
   
 Eragbai Jerome Isuku, University of Ibadan

Creating more universities in Nigeria has serious implications for quality of graduates.

If I could change one thing in education: Community-school partnerships would be top priority  
  
   
 Tanitiã Munroe, University of Toronto

As a researcher focussed on African, Afro-Caribbean and Black families’ schooling experiences, I appeal to school staff to understand the importance of the school-family-community partnership.

The Taliban shifts tactics in its determination to control and oppress women  
  
   
 Brian McQuinn, University of Regina; Cody Buntain, University of Maryland, and Laura Courchesne, University of Oxford

Research into 70 new Taliban policies to control women and girls shows the extremist, misogynistic group might be using different tactics, but it still poses grave dangers to Afghan society.

Worried about back-to-school inflation? Latest price data on backpacks, laptops and kids’ clothes offers some relief for parents  
  
   
 Jay L. Zagorsky, Boston University

Inflation is soaring, but prices for typical back-to-school gear like backpacks, computers and new clothes are rising less than average – or even falling.

How Indonesian Islamic politics shape mandatory hijab rules and uniform policies in schools  
  
   
 Sari Oktafiana, KU Leuven

Under Indonesian rules designed to protect religious freedom, female Muslim students are not compelled to wear “Muslim attire”. But those regulations are often interpreted differently by schools.

Racism, exclusion and tokenism: how Māori and Pacific science graduates are still marginalised at university  
  
   
 Tara McAllister, Te Herenga Waka — Victoria University of Wellington; Leilani Walker, Auckland University of Technology, and Sereana Naepi, University of Auckland, Waipapa Taumata Rau

New research examines why Māori and Pacific representation in university STEM subjects remain so stubbornly low.

Girls should get the chance to play football at school – but PE needs a major rehaul for all students  
  
   
 Shrehan Lynch, University of East London

Physical education is too often sexist and old fashioned. Here’s what it could be like instead.

More investment in literacy skills is needed if NZ is serious about ending persistent disparities for Pasifika students  
  
   
 Stephen Agnew, University of Canterbury

Research suggests more should be spent on English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) support – earlier in the school system, before it’s too late.

Christianity was a major part of Indigenous boarding schools – a historian whose family survived them explains  
  
   
 Brenda J. Child, University of Minnesota

A historian of the residential schools explains how religion played a key role in assimilationist systems for Indigenous children in Canada and the United States.