

Sketch-Up

You will learn how to use Sketch-Up, a 3-D modeling platform, to design, build, and explore 3-D geometry. In the session, you will use your knowledge of 2-D and 3-D geometry as well as expand your understanding of 3-D shapes during the modeling process. You will demonstrate mastery of the program by designing various structures and models. You will need a laptop computer for each class; if needed, a loaner will be provided.

Stock Market Game

What would you do with \$100,000? If you would like the chance to experience this opportunity, even with virtual money, then this session is ideal. You will work in teams, have pretend money to invest in the stock market, get an introduction to how investing in the market works and learn about some of the largest and most profitable companies in the world. There will be guest lecturers who can share their stories of what it is like to both work and invest in the stock market. Can your team pick the right companies and earn a profit?

Urban Meadow

Do you love the natural world, being active, and getting your hands dirty? If you answered yes to this question, then come feed your mind, body, and soul with this session dedicated to learning about and revitalizing an urban green space right on campus! This session will have an indoor and outdoor component. Indoors, you and the other participants will brainstorm, plan, and design the ideal meadow while also learning about its significance and the importance of urban green spaces in general. The outdoor component will involve bringing your designs to life as you return the urban meadow back to its former glory! Note: This is a full-day session.

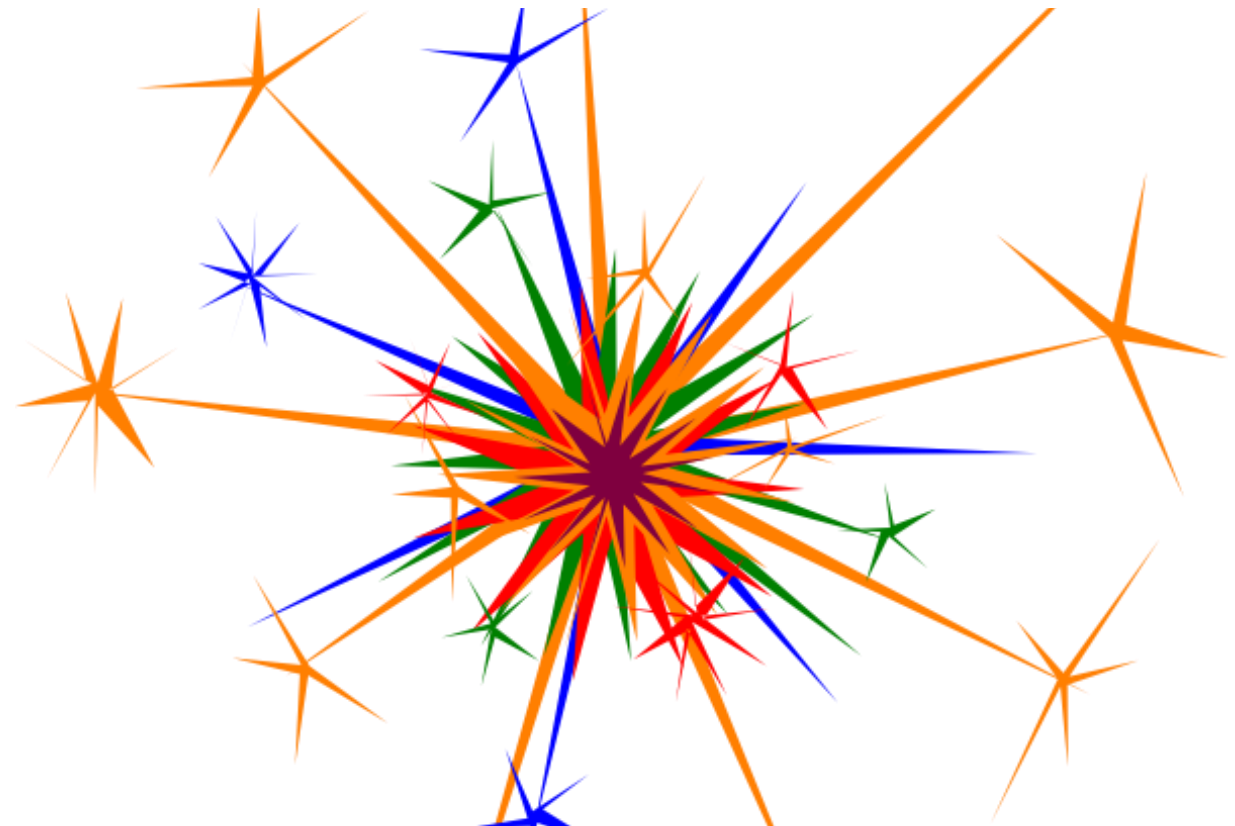
Name Grade

Spark

SESSION REGISTRATION ~ DUE TO ADVISOR BY FRIDAY, MARCH 1

Indicate your interest in sessions by writing numbers 1-10 in the space provided. One equals the session you are most interested in taking.

- A. 3D Printing in Action _____
- B. Activism ~ Trash _____
- C. Animation ~ Learning from Pixar _____
- D. The Art and Architecture of French Cathedrals _____
- E. Chinese Culture ~ Philosophy, Medicine, Calligraphy & Mindfulness _____
- F. Dance ~ Cultural and Regional Choreography _____
- G. Interview Skills ~ Introducing Me _____
- H. Journalism _____
- I. Law and Order ~ Teens on Trial _____
- J. Leadership ~ The Journey to Leadership _____
- K. Media Literacy ~ Be in the Know _____
- L. Personal Finance ~ Money! Money! Money! _____
- M. Piano Instruction ~ Let's Play Piano _____
- N. Poetry Writing _____
- O. Edgar Allen Poe ~ Are you a "POE"tte? _____
- P. Public Speaking ~ Unleash the Power of Your Voice _____
- Q. Quilting ~ The Art, Math, and History of Quilting _____
- R. Relaxation Techniques _____
- S. Religions of the World _____
- T. Robotics Olympics _____
- U. Short Story Writing _____
- V. Sketch-Up _____
- W. Stock Market Game _____
- X. Urban Meadow _____



Spark

April 29 - May 3, 2019

PROGRAM CATALOG

SPARK, a five-day, unique, intensive learning experience, driven by student choice, taps into the intrinsic excitement, motivation, and curiosity of middle school students to *spark* independent life-long discovery. This program provides educational opportunities that blend traditional and modern knowledge to promote skill development and community engagement.

SESSIONS

3D Printing in Action

What is 3D printing, and how can it be used to solve problems? In this session, you will explore the workings of 3D printing and the applications for this technology. You might be surprised how it is currently being used! You will use the program Tinkercad to create items to be printed and learn how to prepare a file for printing. Using your imagination and new-found abilities, your goal will be to design, create and print an organizational system for your locker.

Activism ~ Trash

There are many community and world issues that depend on activism! In this session, you will focus on the global problem of trash and start looking for a solution. Addressing what happens to compost, recycling and trash that goes to the landfill and determining what helps reduce the amount of trash humans produce are key to discovering a solution. In this session, you will explore the problem of trash and work through the inquiry process to find workable, immediate solutions. You, as an activist, will identify, understand and create plans to solve local and global trash issues. This session will provide you with the tools necessary to promote change for important issues.

Animation ~ Learning from Pixar

Would you like to use animation, stop-motion photography, or green screen technology to tell a story? In this session, you will learn from the best by watching a few Pixar *Shorts*. Then, you will put together all of the components to make your own animated shorts by retelling a favorite story or telling one of your creation. This session is for story-tellers, photographers, animators, illustrators, and model builders.

The Art and Architecture of French Cathedrals

Why is it important to preserve historical monuments? In this session, you will learn how “old” technological advances can still be used to innovate the way architects design structures today. If you like architecture, art and design, you might be interested in studying the history of French cathedrals. Looking at how and why the Gothic cathedrals were built and viewing some of the visual arts that emerged from them, you will build models to determine how these impressive buildings remain standing after more than 900 years!

Chinese Culture ~ Philosophy, Medicine, Art & Mindfulness

Chinese culture has long been a fascination of many Americans because it is so different from our own. In this session, you will learn how to look at issues from a Chinese cultural perspective. You will look at why Yin Yang and Zen are important and affect people’s behaviors. You will delve into Chinese philosophy, art, and traditional medicine and learn how each, in its own special way, is reflected in daily life.

Dance ~ Cultural and Regional Choreography

Come one, come all! Regional dances may not be technically refined, but they are a form of communication, art and community all rolled into one. In this session, you will examine, study and perform Irish, Northern Spanish and West African steps and learn how these movements are combined to make a statement. Then, you will collaborate with other participants to create and choreograph your own regional dance that relays a message about your community.

Interview Skills ~ Introducing Me

To stand out in today’s competitive world, twenty-first century interviews now include elements of technology and social media. In this session, you will develop successful face to face interview skills and learn why it is important to maintain a professional presence on social media. There will be guest speakers, hands-on learning, and interactive activities. This session will be fun and educational and will help you to present yourself and communicate effectively in a number of situations.

Journalism

If you think you might be interested in a career in journalism, this session is for you. You will be gathering and reading news samples from a variety of sources and determining if they are accurate and trustworthy. You will address and debate the fascinating subject of TRUTH and hear from a master journalist from *The Baltimore Sun* who will discuss how journalism is different than prose. There will be a field trip to the *The Dundalk Eagle*, where you will see all phases of the journalistic process in action. The session will culminate with writing articles and producing a “newspaper” about the RPCS MS.

Law and Order ~ Teens on Trial

Do you want to want to understand the legal system’s impact on your life? In this session, you will learn how a trial works and about various legal jobs and roles in the court system. You will also hear about the differences between a trial by judge or jury, civil vs. criminal trials, and the constitutional right to a public trial. Additionally, you will participate in mock trials, which will provide you with experience about how court proceedings operate!

Leadership ~ The Journey to Leadership

Across the United States and beyond, many people know the names Michelle Obama, Beyoncé, and Meghan Markle. In fact, people from all walks of life gravitate to them, but why? In this session, you will discuss the traits that many leaders possess and how those traits lead others to look up to them. Now is the time to start or strengthen your own journey to leadership. Self-guidance is the first step. You will investigate some current day leaders and learn some techniques on how to develop strong character, personal values, initiative, resilience and discipline.

Media Literacy ~ Be in the Know

Are you on information overload and confused about what is factual and what isn’t in news stories? If so, this session is for you. You will learn about media terms and media literacy and determine if certain articles are truly factual news, editorials and opinions, or junk news. You will use this knowledge to research a story, write a script and present it “on air.”

Personal Finance ~ Money! Money! Money!

Do you like money? How much do you actually understand about the role money plays in our lives? If you are interested in improving your money IQ, this session is for you! You will learn about the basics of personal finance so that you will be informed and equipped to make good financial decisions now and in your future. This course will cover making money, spending money, managing money and investing money. There will be visits to and from financial experts, as well as engaging activities and opportunities to practice what you’ve learned.

Piano Instruction ~ Let’s Play Piano

Have you always wished you could sit down at the piano and play your favorite song? In this session, you will learn your way around the keyboard and how to play basic chords. You’ll gain some knowledge of music theory and note-reading along the way, but the focus will be on reading chord charts like the pros. No experience necessary!

Poetry Writing

It is time to spread your wings as an aspiring poet. In this session, you will learn about various forms of poetry and poetic devices to include sensory details, imagery, personification, metaphor, simile, and alliteration. You will read some of the more famous poems written using those devices and use those techniques as inspiration to write your own poetry. With or without using a structured pattern, poetry is a beautiful form of expression.

Edgar Allen Poe ~ Are you a “POE”tte?

Do you love horror, mystery and authors from Baltimore? You might just be a “POE”tte! This session will explore Poe’s bone-chilling horror stories, from “Masque of the Red Death” to the “Tell-tale Heart.” You will be reading and quaking at his chilling poems from “The Raven” to “The Bells.” You will even get to partake in a heart-stopping field trip to the haunted house where he lived. Additionally, you will write your own short stories and poems with POE flavoring as you emulate the great master of rhyme and rhythm. Come join the horrifying fun.

Public Speaking ~ Unleash the Power of Your Voice

Using your voice is an important life skill. This session will help you to gain more confidence when expressing your thoughts whether it be to a group of friends, adults or a whole audience. You will learn about proven verbal and non-verbal techniques that help to engage others and make you more convincing. You will listen to speeches, critique their effectiveness and use them to practice your own presentation skills. Additionally, you will work on writing and presenting your own informative and persuasive speech.

Quilting ~ The Art, Math, and History of Quilting

Quilting is an art form that is both traditional and modern, involving history, storytelling, art, and math. In this session, you will examine the elements of beautiful quilts from different time periods and cultures, discovering that every quilt has a fascinating story to tell. Then, you will put your knowledge to work to design and sew an individual quilt project. You will use both sewing machines and hand-sewing techniques. (After this session, you may even be able to fix your own uniform skirt!)

Relaxation Techniques

Stress and worry are part of everyone’s life. However, did you know that you don’t just have to accept these emotions every time they appear? In this session, you will learn relaxation techniques to help you feel better. These practices are known to be highly effective in reducing the physical and mental symptoms of stress. This session, taught by an experienced yoga and meditation instructor, is an opportunity to learn and practice these skills. Additionally, other tools, such as guided imagery, visualization, and the uses of art and music will be covered.

Religions of the World

God is a source of comfort and guidance to many people around the world, but views on God have also been the cause of major conflicts, including war. How much do you know about the belief systems of others in your community and around the world? In this session, you will learn the basic principles of some of the major religions of the world, their differences and similarities, and the role religion has played in historical and modern clashes. If people of different faiths understand each other better, could this be a step toward solving some of the conflicts in the world today?

Robotics Olympics

What makes something a robot? What can a robot be programmed to do? In this session, you will use the LEGO EV3 robots to learn about programming and robotics. Throughout the week, you will explore the different sensors on the robot and what tasks they can perform. At the end of the week, you will compete in the “Robot Olympics” where you will program your robot to complete different tasks. Will your robot win the gold medal? Note: This is a full-day session.

Short Story Writing

Short stories have long been a favorite of many readers. In this session, you will study creative writing elements, such as plot, character development, conflict, setting and point of view. You will study authors who are well-known for each of these elements. You will also write your own short story. Your knowledge of these elements and your imagination will make for an engaging session!