



Learn • Enrich • Advance • Discover

2023 LEAD COURSE CATALOG

Grades 1 - 8



LAGUNA BEACH
UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Program Overview

Welcome to the LEAD summer program! The mission of LEAD is to give students in LBUSD the opportunity to learn, enrich, advance, and discover by exploring a new interest or passion. LEAD courses are free of cost for all current and continuing LBUSD students. Our classes address academic topics, social-emotional wellness, physical fitness, the arts, technology, and many other high-interest areas. Our talented Laguna Beach Unified teachers and staff from Strategic Kids and Staci Bina's Yoga Academy are excited to work with students to develop new skills and build meaningful connections this summer. The breadth of our LEAD classes reflects the commitment of our teachers to their student's educational development.

All LEAD classes will be held on the Thurston Middle School campus, at 2100 Park Avenue, from July 24 to 28 and July 31 to August 4. Students can attend one, two, or even three classes per week. Students can register for just one week or both weeks of the program. The day is broken into three periods or "sections." Section A runs from 8 to 10 a.m. Section B runs from 10:05 a.m. to 12:05 p.m. The last class of the day is Section C, which runs from 12:35 to 2:35 p.m. Any student registered for Section B and Section C will also be provided lunch daily.

How to Register

Registration opens on April 3 at 6 p.m.

[Register Here](#)

When you register, you will first need to "Create Account" (the grey button). You will first input the parent/guardian's information. Next, you will be asked, "Whom Are You Registering?" This is where you will enter your child's information. You will be asked to add an email address here as well. Simply use your own email address again. Once you complete the registration for your child, you will have the option to "Register Another." You will then be taken to a page where you can enter your second child's information. You will repeat this for each child you wish to register.

If a class is full, request to be added to the [waitlist here](#). This link is also provided to you on the registration form.

Busing

Busing for the 8 a.m. drop-off will be offered with adequate demand and is subject to enrollment. Busing for the 2:35 p.m. departure is ensured. Busing will only be available for students who arrive for the first class of the day and/or who stay until the end of the day (2:35 p.m.). Transportation to the Boys and Girls Club will be provided for students needing extended day programming. [Bus routes may be viewed here](#). Bus passes are available for purchase on or after April 3 [HERE](#). Free bus passes are available for students who qualify. Busing is highly encouraged due to the high volume of students enrolled in the LEAD program and the heavy congestion of the TMS parking lot.

For more information, please contact Randi Beckley, LEAD Program Coordinator at rbeckley@lbusd.org.

Table of Contents

Program Overview	2	Math 6 Readiness Part 2	16
How to Register	2	Math 7 Readiness Part 1	16
Busing	2	Math 7 Readiness Part 2	17
Week 1 Course Offerings: July 24 - 28	4	Math 8 Readiness Part 1	17
Week 2 Course Offerings: July 31 - Aug. 4	5	Math 8 Readiness Part 2	17
Course Descriptions	6	Musical Theatre Preview	17
Art Exploration	6	My Fantastic Elastic Brain	18
Art MATHsters	6	Mythology Mania	18
Art Party!	6	Next Level Soccer	18
Band	6	Origami	18
Cartooning	7	Poetry as Social Commentary	19
Confections 101	7	Poetry for the Earth	19
Confections 102	7	Reader's Theater	19
Confident Conversations	7	Speech & Debate	20
Craft Your Way to Creativity	8	Spy School Writing	20
Creative Writing and Crafting	8	STEAM Exploration	20
Discover & Create	8	Strategic Chess	21
Dungeons & Dragons Creative Writing and Character Roleplay	8	Strategic Magic	21
Environmental Explorers	9	Strings	21
Fun With Fibers and Textiles	9	Super Fun & Fancy Glittery Crafts	21
Fun With Physics	10	Suspenseful Story Writing	22
Games Around the Globe	10	Ultimate Frisbee Fun	22
Gamified Math	10	Yoga	22
Green Thumb Gardening Club	11		
Gross Science	11		
Gross Science, Junior	11		
Handwriting Skills	12		
Introduction to Musical Theatre	12		
Investigate Gross Science	12		
Kick Start Soccer	13		
Kickstart Karate	13		
Kids Dance Party	13		
Kids Hip Hop	13		
Kindness Rocks!	14		
Lego BricQ Motion	14		
Lego BricQ Motion Prime	14		
Lego SPIKE	14		
Lego Star Wars Storytelling	15		
MakerSpace Masters!	15		
MakerSpace Minions!	15		
Masters of the Field Sports Camp	16		
Math 6 Readiness Part 1	16		

Week 1 Course Offerings: July 24 - 28

Section A 8 a.m. - 10 a.m.	Section B 10:05 a.m. - 12:05 p.m.	Section C 12:35 p.m. - 2:35 p.m.
<p>Grades 1 - 2 Handwriting Skills MakerSpace Minions Reader's Theater</p> <p>Grades 1 - 3 Kids Hip Hop Yoga</p> <p>Grades 3 - 4 Confident Conversations Craft Your Way to Creativity Games Around the Globe Gross Science, Junior Lego BricQ Motion Prime</p> <p>Grades 4 - 5 Gamified Math</p> <p>Grades 5 - 6 Art Exploration Kindness Rocks! Masters of the Field Sports Camp Strategic Chess</p> <p>Grade 6 Math 6 Readiness Part 1</p> <p>Grades 6 - 8 Mythology Mania</p> <p>Grades 7 - 8 Speech & Debate</p>	<p>Grades 1 - 2 Games Around the Globe Kick Start Soccer Lego BricQ Motion Masters of the Field Sports Camp Origami</p> <p>Grades 2 - 3 Gamified Math</p> <p>Grades 3 - 4 Handwriting Skills Lego Star Wars Storytelling MakerSpace Masters My Fantastic Elastic Brain Reader's Theater Strategic Chess</p> <p>Grades 3 - 5 Kids Dance Party</p> <p>Grades 5 - 6 Cartooning Gross Science Speech & Debate Spy School Writing</p> <p>Grades 6 - 8 Suspenseful Story Writing Yoga</p> <p>Grade 7 Math 7 Readiness Part 1</p> <p>Grades 7 - 8 Art Party! Poetry as Social Commentary</p>	<p>Grades 1 - 2 Cartooning Green Thumb Gardening Club Lego Star Wars Storytelling Strategic Chess</p> <p>Grades 3 - 4 Creative Writing & Crafting Masters of the Field Sports Camp Origami Super Fun & Fancy Glittery Crafts</p> <p>Grades 3 - 5 Yoga</p> <p>Grades 4 - 5 Intro to Musical Theatre</p> <p>Grades 5 - 6 Art MATHsters Confections 101 Lego SPIKE Poetry for the Earth</p> <p>Grades 6 - 8 Dungeon & Dragons Creative Writing and Character Roleplay Fun With Fibers and Textiles Ultimate Frisbee Fun</p> <p>Grades 7 - 8 Investigate Gross Science</p> <p>Grade 8 Math 8 Readiness Part 1</p>

Week 2 Course Offerings: July 31 - August 4

Section A 8 a.m. - 10 a.m.	Section B 10:05 a.m. - 12:05 p.m.	Section C 12:35 p.m. - 2:35 p.m.
<p>Grades 1 - 2 Discover & Create Games Around the Globe Reader's Theater Strategic Magic</p> <p>Grades 1 - 3 Kids Hip Hop</p> <p>Grades 2 - 3 Gamified Math</p> <p>Grades 3 - 4 Gross Science, Junior Handwriting Skills Kindness Rocks! Lego BricQ Motion Prime MakerSpace Masters</p> <p>Grades 3 - 5 Yoga</p> <p>Grade 5 - 6 Art Exploration Fun With Physics Masters of the Field Sports Camp Strategic Chess</p> <p>Grade 6 Math 6 Readiness Part 2</p> <p>Grades 6 - 8 Band Mythology Mania</p> <p>Grades 7 - 8 Speech & Debate</p>	<p>Grades 1 - 2 Handwriting Skills Lego BricQ Motion MakerSpace Minions Masters of the Field Sports Camp Origami Strategic Magic</p> <p>Grades 3 - 4 Cartooning Games Around the Globe Lego Star Wars Storytelling Next Level Soccer Reader's Theater Spy School Writing Strategic Chess</p> <p>Grades 3 - 5 Kids Dance Party</p> <p>Grades 4 - 5 Gamified Math</p> <p>Grades 5 - 6 Gross Science Speech & Debate</p> <p>Grades 6 - 8 Strings Suspenseful Story Writing Yoga</p> <p>Grade 7 Math 7 Readiness Part 2</p> <p>Grades 7 - 8 Art Party! STEAM Exploration</p>	<p>Grades 1 - 2 Cartooning Green Thumb Gardening Club Lego Star Wars Storytelling Strategic Chess</p> <p>Grades 1 - 3 Yoga</p> <p>Grades 3 - 4 Creative Writing & Crafting Masters of the Field Sports Camp Origami Strategic Math Super Fun & Fancy Glittery Crafts</p> <p>Grades 5 - 6 Confections 102 Environmental Explorers Kickstart Karate Lego SPIKE</p> <p>Grades 6 - 8 Dungeon & Dragons Creative Writing and Character Roleplay Fun With Fibers and Textiles Musical Theatre Preview</p> <p>Grades 7 - 8 Investigate Gross Science</p> <p>Grade 8 Math 8 Readiness Part 2</p>

Course Descriptions

[Art Exploration](#)

Incoming grades 5-6

Week 1/2 | 8 - 10 a.m.

Location: Thurston Middle School

Teacher: Ivy Leighton

Course Description: In this class, we will learn about some of the basic driving concepts of art and how to practice those concepts using different materials, mediums, and techniques. We will learn about and explore watercolor techniques, colored pencils, shading with a graphite pencil, and black-and-white line drawing. No experience is necessary for this class; students should be prepared to try their best, learn something new, and experiment while learning new concepts and perfecting older ones!

[Art MATHsters](#)

Incoming grades 5-6

Week 1 | 12:35 - 2:35 p.m.

Location: Thurston Middle School

Teacher: Katie Dwight

Course Description: Art and math make a fantastic duo. By combining the creativity of art with the logical side of math, we connect both sides of the brain for meaningful learning. Each day, we will focus on a mathematical concept and an artist. Students will use math to real-life situations and create an artist inspired MATHster piece.

[Art Party!](#)

Incoming grades 7-8

Week 1/2 | 10:05 a.m. - 12:05 p.m.

Location: Thurston Middle School

Teacher: Ivy Leighton

Course Description: In this class, we will be creating an altered book! We will take an existing book from a thrift store or library bookstore and transform the pages into works of art! We will use various materials, techniques, and mediums to alter the pages and covers, including collage, painting, drawing and cutting the pages. The best part is that most books are long, and we cannot reconstruct every page, so this is just the beginning! Students can take their books home after this week-long class and continue to modify the book in whatever way pleases them! No experience is necessary for this class; students should be prepared to try their best, learn something new, and experiment while learning new concepts and perfecting older ones!

[Band](#)

Incoming grades 6-8

Week 2 | 8 - 10 a.m.

Location: Thurston Middle School

Teacher: Steven Wade

Course Description: Students will play fun and challenging music to be able to gain fundamental skills in music performance. Band includes winds & percussion instruments, such as flute, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, French horn, baritone, trombone, tuba, drums, and piano. All students interested in studying music are welcome. No experience or instrument required. All students will be provided a school instrument if they don't have their own.

Cartooning

Incoming grades 1-2, 3-4 and 5-6

Week 1 | 10:05 a.m. - 12:05 p.m. (grades 5-6); 12:35 - 2:35 p.m. (grades 1 -2)

Week 2 | 10:05 a.m. - 12:05 p.m. (grades 3-4); 12:35 - 2:35 p.m. (grades 1 -2)

Location: Thurston Middle School

Teacher: Strategic Kids Staff

Course Description: We keep it simple and silly as kids draw with easy to follow, step-by-step instructions. Students will quickly learn how to draw all sorts of different cartoons. They will learn basic cartooning skills and how to bring inanimate objects to life, as well as how to bring silly personalities to everyday living creatures. Students will learn more each day as they draw. From sea creatures to wizards and fairies, the possibilities are endless, and so is the fun! All classes are differentiated for varying ages and abilities. No experience required!

Confections 101

Incoming grades 5-6

Week 1 | 12:35 - 2:35 p.m.

Location: Thurston Middle School

Teacher: Nadia Hart

Course Description: We will cover the history and science behind today's most loved confectionary treats. Mrs. Hart will bring her experience as a cottage food baker to teach students how to make tasty desserts and candies such as rock candy, truffles, and caramels. Students will bring home tried, simple recipes as well as samples they created in class. Note: please make sure teacher is aware of all allergies, as we will use ingredients that contain soy, dairy, and wheat or have been processed in facilities that contain common allergens.

Confections 102

Incoming grades 5-6

Week 2 | 12:35 - 2:35 p.m.

Location: Thurston Middle School

Teacher: Nadia Hart

Course Description: We will cover the history and science behind even more of today's most loved confectionary treats. Mrs. Hart will bring her experience as a cottage food baker to teach students how to make tasty desserts and candies such as crystal sugar, cake pops, and bonbons. Students will bring home tried, simple recipes as well as samples they created in class. Confections 101 is not a prerequisite to this course. Students may come to both sessions to learn even more recipes! **NOTE:** Please make sure teacher is aware of all allergies, as we will use ingredients that contain soy, dairy, and wheat or have been processed in facilities that contain common allergens.

Confident Conversations

Incoming grades 3-4

Week 1 | 8 - 10 a.m.

Location: Thurston Middle School

Teacher: Katie Dwight

Course Description: Plant the seeds of social-emotional intelligence in this interactive and student-driven class. Practice conversation strategies that help you start and continue conversations, work collaboratively in a group, resolve misunderstandings, and establish meaningful friendships. Explore areas of friendship, kindness, self-talk, and gratitude and equip yourself with tools to navigate the multifaceted dimensions of social interactions.

Craft Your Way to Creativity

Incoming grades 3-4

Week 1 | 8 - 10 a.m.

Location: Thurston Middle School

Teacher: Danica Mitchell

Course Description: Is your child ready to take their creativity to the next level? This week-long program is packed with exciting and engaging activities that will push their artistic abilities to the limit. With two daily activities, including Painted Rocks, Clay Creations, String Art, DIY Tote Bags, and more, your child will have a blast learning new skills and making new friends. Mrs. Mitchell will provide guidance and support to help your child explore their artistic talents and develop new techniques.

Creative Writing and Crafting

Incoming grades 3-4

Week 1/2 | 12:35 - 2:35 p.m.

Location: Thurston Middle School

Teacher: Megan Merda

Course Description: Use your imagination in creative writing! A relaxed atmosphere where students will receive specific writing instruction and conference individually with teachers to build and reinforce their writing skills. Students will have time to explore their writing interests, discover their strengths, and learn more about the craft of writing. The class will provide in-depth writing instruction, extended periods of writing time, flexibility in writing assignments, and daily time to share writing with peers. Additionally, students will engage in creating creative crafts to make their creative stories come to life. We will use a variety of mediums for art such as pastels, watercolors, and more...there's something for everyone!

Discover & Create

Incoming grades 1-2

Week 2 | 8 - 10 a.m.

Location: Thurston Middle School

Teacher: Danica Mitchell

Course Description: Looking for a summer activity that will spark your child's creativity? This week-long program is packed with exciting and engaging activities that will inspire and delight. With two activities each day, including Paper Plate Animals, Play Dough Creations, Suncatchers, Beading Fun, and more! Your child will have a blast learning new skills and making new friends. Mrs. Mitchell will guide them through each activity, providing hands-on instruction and plenty of encouragement.

Dungeons & Dragons Creative Writing and Character Roleplay

Incoming grades 6-8

Week 1/2 | 12:35 - 2:35 p.m.

Location: Thurston Middle School

Teacher: Amy Cochren

Course Description: Dungeon Master Cochren will guide students into a world of imagination in which they will develop a fantasy character and backstory. Mini-lessons in precise and artful word choice, indirect characterization, and suspense-building will be explored. Our spectacular adventure will allow participants to explore a Medieval fantasy world of ferocious monsters, bold adventurers, and nefarious villains. Students may enroll in one week or both weeks, as each week's quests will be different.

Environmental Explorers

Incoming grades 5-6

Week 2 | 12:35 - 2:35 p.m.

Location: Thurston Middle School

Teacher: Gloria Harwood

Course Description: Do you care about the environment and want to make a difference? Join us for Environmental Explorers, a course that will inspire you to become an environmental champion! Throughout the course, you'll explore the natural world around you, learning about the ecosystems, plants, and animals that call it home. You'll also discover the importance of sustainability, conservation, and responsible resource management, and explore ways to reduce your environmental impact. But that's just the beginning! You'll also get the chance to participate in a variety of exciting activities, such as creating your own eco-garden, doing local water quality testing, and experimenting with alternative energy sources like solar and wind power. In addition, you'll learn about the many ways that environmental issues are interconnected with social and economic factors. From exploring the impact of climate change on vulnerable communities to discussing the ethical considerations of animal welfare, you'll gain a broad understanding of the complex issues facing our planet. But the most exciting part of Environmental Explorers is the opportunity to take action and make a difference! You'll work on community projects, participate in local environmental initiatives, and take part in service learning opportunities that will allow you to put your knowledge into practice. By the end of the course, you'll have a deeper appreciation for the natural world, a better understanding of the environmental challenges facing our planet, and the skills and motivation to become an environmental champion. So come join us for Environmental Explorers, and become part of the solution to create a better, more sustainable world for all!

Fun With Fibers and Textiles

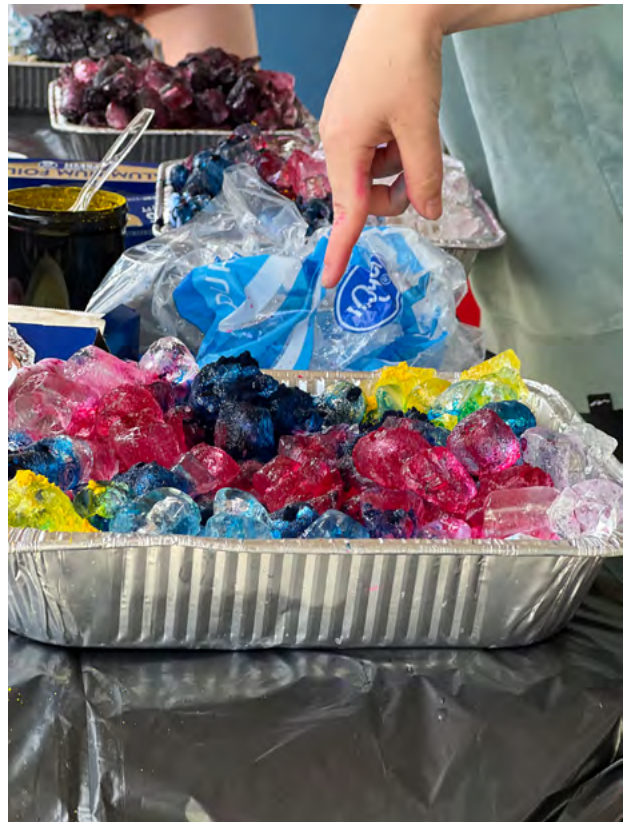
Incoming grades 6-8

Week 1/2 | 12:35 - 2:35 p.m.

Location: Thurston Middle School

Teacher: Ivy Leighton

Course Description: In this class, we will learn about multiple ways to alter fabrics! We will learn how to ice dye, indigo dye, stamp, and embroider on cloth. Ice dyeing is a very experimental, experiential, and exciting way to dye fabrics. We will apply the dye by sprinkling it over a bed of ice covering our clothing item, tote bag, pillow case, or fabric which creates amazingly complex blooms of color. Indigo dye produces a rich, beautiful blue-green tone on fabric or clothing by binding it like tie-dye, creating shapes of the base color. We will learn how to carve a piece of linoleum and print it using fabric ink onto tote bags or t-shirts, which is an easy process to do at home that can be customized in many ways! Finally, embroidery will carry us through this week-long class, as we will have time in which we are waiting for dye to set on our fabric. We will learn multiple types of stitches, and then create a final project in the form of a tote bag, or students can bring a non-stretch denim item to embroider on. No experience is necessary for this class; instead, students should be prepared to try their best, learn something new, and experiment!



Fun With Physics

Incoming grades 5-6

Week 2 | 8 - 10 a.m.

Location: Thurston Middle School

Teacher: Gloria Harwood

Course Description: Are you ready to embark on an exciting adventure through the world of physics? Look no further than Fun with Physics! This course is designed to engage students in the wonders of physics through thrilling experiments and captivating activities. Get ready to learn about circuits, and electricity, launch rockets with Newton's Laws, and explore the amazing properties of light and sound. But that's just the beginning! You'll also learn about the physics of sports, including the science of basketball, football, and soccer. You'll experiment with magnets, explore the physics of motion with pendulums, and more! Through it all, you'll develop critical thinking skills and problem-solving abilities, all while having a blast! But the fun doesn't stop there! You'll also get to participate in friendly competitions with your classmates, including designing and building the best catapult and other design challenges. So what are you waiting for? Join us for Fun with Physics, and experience the excitement and wonder of physics like never before!

Games Around the Globe

Incoming grades 1-2 and 3-4

Week 1 | 8 - 10 a.m. (grades 3-4); 10:05 a.m. - 12:05 p.m. (grades 1-2)

Week 2 | 8 - 10 a.m. (grades 1-2); 10:05 a.m. - 12:05 p.m. (grades 3-4)

Location: Thurston Middle School

Teacher: Hillary Hayes

Course Description: Games Around the Globe is a course that combines social studies, physical education, and social-emotional learning. This course provides students with access to experiencing games and activities from various cultures around the world. Students will learn the importance of global relations and discover there are students around the world who are just like them. Students will learn a game or activity played by schoolchildren in another country each day. Students will learn fun facts about various countries and how to play each game with their classmates. Games Around the Globe will welcome fun, community, and global awareness into your child's learning experience!

Gamified Math

Incoming grades 2-3 and 4-5

Week 1 | 8 - 10 a.m. (grades 4-5); 10:05 a.m. - 12:35 p.m. (grades 2-3)

Week 2 | 8 - 10 a.m. (grades 2-3); 10:05 a.m. - 12:35 p.m. (grades 4-5)

Location: Thurston Middle School

Teacher: Nadia Hart

Course Description: **Grades 2-3:** Students will review addition and subtraction using platforms like Blooket, GimKit and Quizizz. Students will also learn how to create their games on the Chromebook and discuss strategies for picking "distractor" answers based on common mistakes. We will also play hands-on games and board games and create our board games or learning games to play with one another. **Grades 4-5:** Students will review multiplication and division using platforms like Blooket, GimKit and Quizizz. Students will also learn how to create their games on the Chromebook and discuss strategies for picking "distractor" answers based on common mistakes. We will also play hands-on games and board games and create our board games or learning games to play with one another.

Green Thumb Gardening Club

Incoming grades 1-2

Week 1/2 | 12:35 - 2:35 p.m.

Location: Thurston Middle School

Teacher: Hillary Hayes

Course Description: This gardening class provides an opportunity for students to get in touch with nature through multi-sensory learning. This outdoor classroom experience fosters a deeper understanding and connection to nature while teaching more sustainable ways to give back to the community. The school garden will provide a fun and safe space for students to explore the science of plants, animals, weather, and the environment. Students will practice the responsibility of maintaining the school garden while learning how to plant and harvest their own spring crops. The club will also provide engaging activities for students to embrace their creativity and passion for nature.

Gross Science

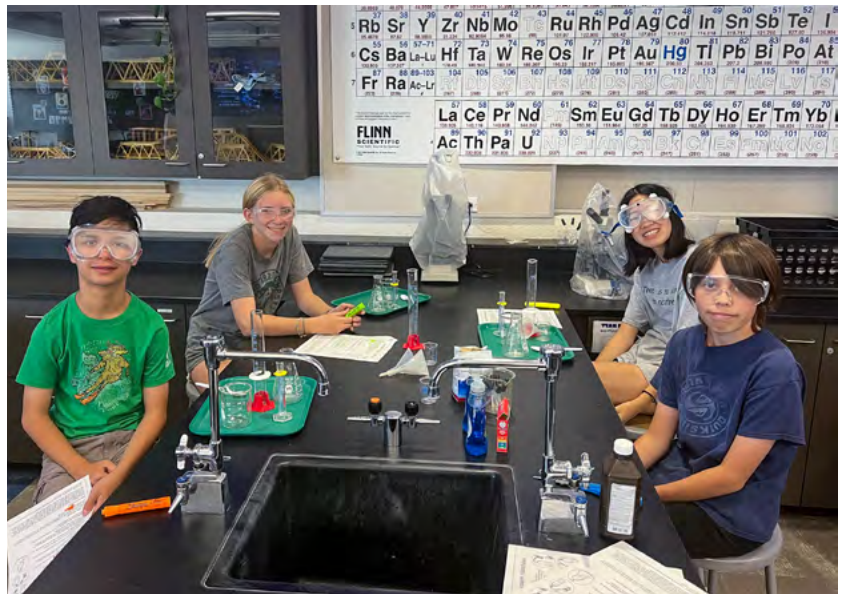
Incoming grades 5-6

Week 1/2 | 10:05 a.m. - 12:05 p.m.

Location: Thurston Middle School

Teacher: Jennifer Kim

Course Description: Understand the science behind what makes you say "GROSS!" You will explore topics such as bacteria, mucus, fart, and urine while handling goopy, slimy, and smelly things. You'll examine bugs, perform a dissection, and discover how certain body systems function.



Gross Science, Junior

Incoming grades 3-4

Week 1/2 | 8 - 10 a.m.

Location: Thurston Middle School

Teacher: Jennifer Kim

Course Description: Learn the science behind what makes you say "EW!" In this one-week course, you will use your five senses to explore and learn about germs, bugs, and body systems of people and animals. You will even perform a dissection! Each day we will focus on using a different sense to explore gross science.



Handwriting Skills

Incoming grades 1-2 and 3-4

Week 1 | 8 - 10 a.m. (grades 1-2); 10:05 a.m. - 12:05 p.m. (grades 3-4)

Week 2 | 8 - 10 a.m. (grades 3-4); 10:05 a.m. - 12:05 p.m. (grades 1-2)

Location: Thurston Middle School

Teacher: Cherie Francis, LaunchPad Occupational Therapist

Course Description: This class is open to all students, in grades 1-4! Success in handwriting is not reliant on practice alone. This course focuses on the foundational skills for handwriting. The session will be divided into three sections to include: 1) Fun gross motor games (e.g. obstacle courses, climbing with visual targeting) that develop core strength and visual motor skills; 2) Craft Creations that will develop fine motor skills essential for proper grip and endurance for writing; and 3) Handwriting practice under the supervision of licensed occupational therapists in which the students learn handwriting mechanics.

Handwriting Without Tears curriculum will be used in conjunction with activities and exercises to improve core strength, dynamic control, proper grip, proper letter formation, spatial awareness, and proprioception. Prep for writing activities will include sensory strategies for ultimate success. Each day, students will add a take home activity to their kit. On the last day, students will receive a certificate of completion, their fine motor kit and handwriting book at a ceremony celebrating their work.

Introduction to Musical Theatre

Incoming grades 4-5

Week 1 | 12:35 - 2:35 p.m.

Location: Thurston Middle School

Teacher: Alexis Karol

Course Description: Adapted for younger learners, this course will introduce incoming 4th and 5th graders through the major components of the TMS Musical Theatre coursework. Whether students want to work through their stage fright, or they've been performing on stage for as long as they can remember, we are providing a safe and encouraging environment for students to explore the Musical Theatre experience. Students should arrive ready to sing, act, move, and create. Students will gain an understanding of the Musical Theatre program offerings at TMS, develop skills inherent in the musical theatre experience (including collaboration, focus, and creative problem solving), and build confidence while having fun in a supportive, creative environment.

Investigate Gross Science

Incoming grades 7-8

Week 1/2 | 12:35 - 2:35 p.m.

Location: Thurston Middle School

Teacher: Jennifer Kim

Course Description: Investigate the science behind what makes you say "GROSS!" During this 1 week course, you will put your science skills into practice as you examine bugs, perform a dissection, and discover how certain body systems function. You will be collecting and analyzing samples to find the germiest place on our campus, measuring the speed of slimy substances, and observing specimens all while learning about scientific concepts such as viscosity, diffusion, and force.

[Kick Start Soccer](#)

Incoming grades 1-2

Week 1 | 10:05 a.m. - 12:05 p.m.

Location: Thurston Middle School

Teacher: Danica Mitchell

Course Description: Are you looking for a fun and engaging activity for your child this summer? Look no further than our Beginner Soccer Program! Our program is designed to teach your child the fundamentals of soccer, while also having a blast with their peers. Each day of the program will focus on a different aspect of the game, such as dribbling, passing, shooting, and scrimmage play. Mrs. Mitchell will provide hands-on instruction to ensure that each child is learning and growing their skills throughout the week. Join us for a week of fun, exercise, and learning!

[Kickstart Karate](#)

Incoming grades 5-6

Week 2 | 12:35 - 2:35 p.m.

Location: Thurston Middle School

Teacher: Danica Mitchell

Course Description: Introducing our One-Week Martial Arts Program for Kids! Join for a fun-filled, action-packed journey into the world of martial arts. Your child will learn basic kicks, punches, blocks, and self-defense techniques in a safe and supportive environment. They'll also get to stretch their muscles, improve their coordination and balance, and develop confidence and discipline. Give your kids a head start on a lifelong journey of fitness, fun, and self-defense.

[Kids Dance Party](#)

Incoming grades 3-5

Week 1/2 | 10:05 a.m. - 12:05 p.m.

Location: Thurston Middle School

Teacher: Estee Fratzke

Course Description: This class is designed for elementary students in grades 3-5 to learn the fundamentals of dance including but not limited to the styles of Hip Hop, Jazz, and Ballet. Students will be introduced to basic skills related to these styles in a fun and interactive environment where building confidence and self-esteem is just as important as demonstrating the movement.

[Kids Hip Hop](#)

Incoming grades 1 - 3

Week 1/2 | 8 - 10 a.m.

Location: Thurston Middle School

Teacher: Estee Fratzke

Course Description: This class is designed for elementary students in grades 1-2 to learn the fundamentals of Hip Hop dance. Students will be learning basic footwork, grooves, and combinations with an emphasis on rhythm & timing, body coordination, how to work as a team, and how to perform with confidence and energy. This class will culminate in a performance for families at the end of the week!

Kindness Rocks!

Incoming grades 3-4 and 5-6

Week 1 | 8 - 10 a.m. (grades 5-6)

Week 2 | 8 - 10 a.m. (grades 3-4)

Location: Thurston Middle School

Teacher: Marie Bammer

Course Description: Everyone can spread more kindness in their world, and let it begin with YOU! Join me, Mrs. B., for the BEST TIME ever while doing projects and spreading kindness and compassion throughout the community. Each day will involve a different type of outreach- from drawing pictures and writing thank you letters to our local veterans at the American Legion, the LBPD, the LB Fire Department, hospital workers, and other community members. Let's be innovative CHANGE-MAKERS and leaders around campus, spreading kind messages and love to all!

Lego BricQ Motion

Incoming grades 1-2

Week 1/2 | 10:05 a.m. - 12:05 p.m.

Location: Thurston Middle School

Teacher: Week 1: Mindy Hawkins; Week 2: Shelby Anderson

Course Description: This Lego class engages elementary school students in STEAM learning as they experiment with forces, motion, and interactions within a sports context. Part of the Lego® Learning System, BricQ Motion helps foster an understanding of physical science by providing easy, hands-on learning experiences without the need for technology. Students will experience cool “aha” moments as they set bricks in motion.

Lego BricQ Motion Prime

Incoming grades 3-4

Week 1/2 | 8 - 10 a.m.

Location: Thurston Middle School

Teacher: Week 1: Mindy Hawkins; Week 2: Shelby Anderson

Course Description: This Lego class will challenge students to apply their scientific inquiry skills to provide evidence of the change in an object's motion based on its force and mass. In the curriculum unit, Science of Sports, students will apply Newton's three laws of motion to design, develop, and optimize a solution involving the collision of two objects. Throughout the BricQ Motion Prime lessons, students will strengthen their communication skills in collaborative discussions, presenting and analyzing their solutions.

Lego SPIKE

Incoming grades 5-6

Week 1/2 | 12:35 - 2:35 p.m.

Location: Thurston Middle School

Teacher: Week 1: Mindy Hawkins; Week 2: Shelby Anderson

Course Description: This class is a cross-curricular STEAM activity that engages students in hands-on investigation of STEAM concepts while contributing to literacy, math, and social-emotional development. Standards-aligned learning units use everyday themes, relatable Minifigures with different personalities and familiar LEGO® building elements to solve problems through storytelling. SPIKE Essential excites students, develops their STEAM knowledge and practices, and reinforces 21st century skills.

[Lego Star Wars Storytelling](#)

Incoming grades 1-2 and 3-4

Week 1/2 | 10:05 a.m. - 12:05 p.m. (grades 3-4); 12:35 - 2:35 p.m. (grades 1 -2)

Location: Thurston Middle School

Teacher: Strategic Kids Staff

Course Description: Students will gain an understanding of storytelling concepts such as developing settings, working with characters, creating plots, understanding dramatic conflict, and identifying themes, all with a Star Wars theme! These ideas will be applied using a wide variety of story prompts meant to inspire exciting Lego builds and creative story lines. Children will have the opportunity to enhance their speaking skills and confidence when they are encouraged to share their creative tales with their classmates.

[MakerSpace Masters!](#)

Incoming grades 3-4

Week 1 | 10:05 a.m. - 12:05 p.m.

Week 2 | 8 - 10 a.m.

Location: Thurston Middle School

Teacher: Caroline Cannan

Course Description: Welcome to MakerSpace- a hands-on learning environment with all the tools for creativity and fun! In this 5-day workshop, students in grades 3-5 will engage in various project-based learning “challenges.” Students will collaborate to discuss, question, design, create, and share solutions for realistic and imaginary problems. Students will follow the steps of the engineering process as they plan, build, and evaluate projects made from everyday recycled materials. The steps of the engineering process are:

1. ASK: Define the problem.
2. PLAN: Explore possible solutions and make a design.
3. CREATE: Bring your design to life!
4. SHARE: Present and test your final product.

So, do you think you are ready to MAKE IT? Join us and become a MakerSpace Master!

[MakerSpace Minions!](#)

Incoming grades 1 - 2

Week 1 | 8 - 10 a.m.; **Week 2** | 10:05 a.m. - 12:05 p.m.

Location: Thurston Middle School

Teacher: Caroline Cannan

Course Description: Welcome to MakerSpace, a hands-on learning environment with all the tools for creativity and fun! In this 5-day workshop, students in grades 1-2 will engage in various project-based learning “challenges.” Students will collaborate to discuss, question, design, create, and share solutions for realistic and imaginary problems. Students will follow the steps of the engineering process as they plan, build, and present projects made from everyday recycled materials. The steps of the engineering process are:

1. ASK: Define the problem.
2. PLAN: Explore possible solutions and make a design.
3. CREATE: Bring your design to life!
4. SHARE: Present and test your final product.

So, do you think you are ready to MAKE IT? Join us and become a MakerSpace Minion!

Masters of the Field Sports Camp

Incoming grades 1-2, 3-4 and 5-6

Week 1/2 | 8 - 10 a.m. (grades 5-6); 10:05 a.m. - 12:05 p.m. (grades 1-2); 12:35 - 2:35 p.m. (grades 3-4)

Location: Thurston Middle School

Teacher: Strategic Kids staff

Course Description: This thrilling camp gives your child a mental and physical workout while teaching lots of exciting life strategies! Your child will have an opportunity to play fun and interactive outdoor games where students will engage their minds and bodies. Our custom games promote sportsmanship, leadership, teamwork, strategy, and hand-eye coordination. Each day students will play in a variety of different games that will test their skill while they battle against opposing teams! See if you can avoid and dodge hunters while survivors try and maneuver their way through islands in our exciting game, "Island Survivor." Have the chance to see if you can survive the chaos and crossfire of dodgeballs in our game "Civil War." Can you become a true "Master of the Field?!"

Math 6 Readiness Part 1

Incoming grade 6

Week 1 | 8 - 10 a.m.

Location: Thurston Middle School

Teacher: Chris Nunziata

Course Description: Do you want to enter 6th-grade math confidently and understand prerequisite skills? Math 6 Readiness Part 1 is the course for you. This summer course is designed to prepare incoming 6th graders for next year's math class by reviewing key content areas covered in 5th-grade math. This course will cover the essential prerequisite concepts of fractions, geometry, and algebraic expressions. It is highly recommended to sign up for Math 6 Readiness Part 2, which will expand upon Math 6 concepts in the second week of LEAD classes.

Math 6 Readiness Part 2

Incoming grade 6

Week 2 | 8 - 10 a.m.

Location: Thurston Middle School

Teacher: Katie Ersek

Course Description: Do you want to enter 6th-grade math confidently and understand prerequisite skills? Math 6 Readiness Part 2 is the course for you. This summer course is designed to prepare incoming 6th graders for next year's math class by reviewing key content areas covered in 5th-grade math. This course will cover the essential prerequisite concepts of simplifying expressions, base 10, and operations with decimals. The previous completion of Math 6 Readiness Part 1 is not required for enrolling in this class, but it is highly encouraged.

Math 7 Readiness Part 1

Incoming grade 7

Week 1 | 10:05 a.m. - 12:05 p.m.

Location: Thurston Middle School

Teacher: Chris Nunziata

Course Description: Do you want to enter 7th-grade math confidently and understand prerequisite skills? Math 7 Readiness Part 1 is the course for you. This summer course is designed to prepare incoming 7th graders for next year's math class by reviewing key content areas covered in 6th-grade math. In this course, we will cover the essential prerequisite concepts of fractions, ratios and proportions, percents, and geometry. After completion of Math 7 Readiness Part 1, it is highly recommended to also sign up for Math 7 Readiness Part 2, but this is not a requirement.

[Math 7 Readiness Part 2](#)

Incoming grade 7

Week 2 | 10:05 a.m. - 12:05 p.m.

Location: Thurston Middle School

Teacher: Katie Ersek

Course Description: Do you want to enter 7th-grade math confidently and understand prerequisite skills? Math 7 Readiness Part 2 is the course for you. This summer course is designed to prepare incoming 7th graders for next year's math class by reviewing key content areas covered in 6th-grade math. In this course, we will cover the essential prerequisite concepts of solving equations, simplifying expressions, inequalities, rules of exponents, and statistics. Previous completion of Math 7 Readiness Part 1 is not required for enrolling in this class, but is highly encouraged.

[Math 8 Readiness Part 1](#)

Incoming grade 8

Week 1 | 12:35 - 2:35 p.m.

Location: Thurston Middle School

Teacher: Chris Nunziata

Course Description: Do you want to enter 8th-grade math confidently and understand prerequisite skills? Math 8 Readiness Part 1 is the course for you. This summer course is designed to prepare incoming 8th graders for next year's math class by reviewing key content areas covered in 7th-grade math. In this course, we will cover the essential prerequisite concepts of Integers, Algebraic Expressions, and Graphs on the Coordinate Plane. After completion of Math 8 Readiness Part 1, it is highly recommended to also sign up for Math 8 Readiness Part 2, but this is not a requirement.

[Math 8 Readiness Part 2](#)

Incoming grade 8

Week 2 | 12:35 - 2:35 p.m.

Location: Thurston Middle School

Teacher: Katie Ersek

Course Description: Do you want to enter 8th-grade math confidently and understand prerequisite skills? Math 8 Readiness Part 2 is the course for you. This summer course is designed to prepare incoming 8th graders for next year's math class by reviewing key content areas covered in 7th-grade math. In this course, we will cover the essential prerequisite concepts of solving multi-step equations, inequalities, and angle relationships. Previous completion of Math 6 Readiness Part 1 is not required for enrolling in this class, but is highly encouraged.

[Musical Theatre Preview](#)

Incoming grades 6-8

Week 2 | 12:35 - 2:35 p.m.

Location: Thurston Middle School

Teacher: Alexis Karol

Course Description: Whether you want to work through your stage fright or you've been performing on stage as long as you can remember, we are providing a safe and encouraging environment for students to explore Musical Theatre. This course is designed to walk students through the major components of the TMS Musical Theatre project-based coursework, helping to paint the picture of a typical day in our classroom, while building a strong cohort of leaders for the years to come! New and returning students alike will hone their audition skills in preparation for a new season at TMS. All students should arrive ready to sing, act, move, and create.

[My Fantastic Elastic Brain](#)

Incoming grades 3-4

Week 1 | 10:05 a.m. - 12:05 p.m.

Location: Thurston Middle School

Teacher: Katie Dwight

Course Description: Grow your mind with a positive growth mindset! Having a growth mindset reminds us that we can do hard things. This class encourages perseverance and grit so that we can overcome challenges and gain a greater understanding of our brain, neuroplasticity, and how they relate to our reaction to challenges. Students will complete activities and read stories to learn and practice embracing a growth mindset. The activities and stories will supercharge their capacity to learn and grow. The activities will also help them approach things from a different perspective and give them some great tools to achieve their goals.

[Mythology Mania](#)

Incoming grades 6-8

Week 1/2 | 8 - 10 a.m.

Location: Thurston Middle School

Teacher: Amy Cochren

Course Description: Students will be introduced to Greek mythology exploring the Olympians, impressive mortals and beastly monsters. We will read a variety of exciting myths, create our own unique trading cards and participate in Jeopardy-style competitions. Students may enroll in one or both sessions as lessons will be different. Week one is a repeat of last year's Mythology Mania Enrichment with a focus on the Olympians, and week two will focus on the lesser-known gods, mortals, and monsters.

[Next Level Soccer](#)

Incoming grades 3-4

Week 2 | 10:05 a.m. - 12:05 p.m.

Location: Thurston Middle School

Teacher: Danica Mitchell

Course Description: Does your child have a passion for soccer and want to take their skills to the next level? The Intermediate Soccer Program is the perfect opportunity to do just that! This program is designed for kids who have some experience with the game and are looking to improve their skills in a fun and supportive environment. Each day will focus on a different aspect of the game, such as advanced dribbling techniques, passing accuracy, shooting skills, and scrimmage play. Mrs. Mitchell will provide individualized instruction to help your child reach their full potential. With a focus on both technical skills and teamwork, your child will have a blast while growing their love and knowledge of the game.

[Origami](#)

Incoming grades 1-2 and 3-4

Week 1/2 | 10:05 a.m. - 12:05 p.m. (grades 1-2); 12:35 - 2:35 p.m. (grades 3-4)

Location: Thurston Middle School

Teacher: Strategic Kids Staff

Course Description: A simple piece of paper can become an adventure! In this engaging and exciting class, children will fold their way to a deeper understanding of the Japanese art of Origami and related Japanese culture. Strategic Origami focuses on helping children to think deeply, gain confidence, solve problems, develop patience, and visualize results while learning about shapes and geometry. During each class, students will receive an Origami instruction sheet detailing what was covered in class that day, to take home with their completed Origami projects.

Poetry as Social Commentary

Incoming grades 7-8

Week 1 | 10:05 a.m. - 12:05 p.m.

Location: Thurston Middle School

Teacher: Laura Silver

Course Description: Students will understand how poetry can be used as social commentary. They will build on their poetic vocabulary in order to recognize how specific language and structure can be used to create meaning. Students will also explore how other social justice groups have used poetry as a means of expression. The course includes technology, student choice, and diverse writers. By the end of the week, students will have a take-home portfolio of their work. New poets and experienced poets are welcome.

Poetry for the Earth

Incoming grades 5-6

Week 1 | 12:35 - 2:35 p.m.

Location: Thurston Middle School

Teacher: Laura Silver

Course Description: Students will research an aspect of nature to use as a source of inspiration for writing poetry. Topics can range from local bird habitats to beach preservation to composting. We will read examples from writers throughout history and examine many types of structures, giving students models to create their own poems. By the end of the week, students will have a take-home portfolio of their work.

Reader's Theater

Incoming grades 1 - 2 and 3 - 4

Week 1/2 | 8 - 10 a.m. (grades 1-2); 10:05 a.m. - 12:05 p.m. (grades 3-4)

Location: Thurston Middle School

Teacher: Megan Merda

Course Description: This is a fun camp for students who like to read and want to try out acting through storytelling! Students will learn how to use expression and characterization to perform Reader's Theater versions of classic tales of adventure. Reader's Theater has the added benefit of increasing reading fluency and comprehension. No memorization is required. Class Outline:

Day 1: Introduction to the process of Reader's Theater. Students are assigned roles and perform a practice script.

Day 2: Discuss narration, expression, and characterization in reading and acting. Students are assigned roles and perform a reader's theater.

Day 3: Practice characterization with our final performance script. Students are assigned roles and will begin to practice. Students will create backdrops, props, etc., to enhance their performance and make the story come to life.

Day 4: Review what students have learned about narration, expression, and characterization. Students will continue to practice their assigned roles and finish up all backdrops and props for our reader's theater performance!

Day 5: Students will set the stage for their performance and prepare themselves for a live audience.

They will perform their Reader's Theater for an audience at the end of class.

Speech & Debate

Incoming grades 5-6 and 7-8

Week 1/2 | 8 - 10 a.m. (grades 7-8); 10:05 a.m. - 12:05 p.m. (grades 5-6)

Location: Thurston Middle School

Teacher: Strategic Kids staff

Course Description: Students will develop vital critical thinking and argumentation skills through Speech & Debate. Participants will learn to evaluate evidence, differentiate between facts and opinions, and use information to advocate positions. Participants will explore current events and real-world scenarios. This course will also develop critical communication skills such as evaluating evidence, listening, and leadership. At the end of each session, students will have the opportunity to compete in a tournament and showcase their development.

Spy School Writing

Incoming grades 3-4 and 5-6

Week 1 | 10:05 a.m. - 12:05 p.m. (grades 5-6)

Week 2 | 10:05 a.m. - 12:05 p.m. (grades 3-4)

Location: Thurston Middle School

Teacher: Marie Bammer

Course Description: Have you ever wanted to become a secret agent or thought about becoming a spy? It takes a lot of detective work- which means OBSERVATION and...you guessed it- CREATIVE WRITING! This one-week creative writing class will be extra FUN! You will become a certified secret agent once you've completed your mission- if you choose to accept it, that is! We will break down writing to the most basic form- observation and writing of sensory details and use the "show, not tell" method to get students' minds exploding with excitement! when they are encouraged to share their creative tales with their classmates.

STEAM Exploration

Incoming grades 7-8

Week 2 | 10:05 a.m. - 12:05 p.m.

Location: Thurston Middle School

Teacher: Gloria Harwood

Course Description: Get ready for an exciting journey through the world of STEAM! STEAM stands for Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math, and this course is designed to help you explore the fascinating intersection of these fields. Throughout the course, you'll participate in a variety of engaging activities, such as designing and building your own robots, creating your own digital art using cutting-edge software, and exploring the principles of physics through exciting experiments. You'll also get the chance to learn about the latest advances in technology, from virtual reality to other revolutionary technology, and explore how these innovations are changing the world around us. In addition, you'll work on developing your critical thinking skills and problem-solving abilities through challenging puzzles and thought-provoking projects. But that's not all! You'll also have the opportunity to explore the connection between science and art, and how these two seemingly different fields can actually work together to create incredible results. From designing your own optical illusions to experimenting with sound waves and musical composition, you'll learn how to think creatively and use your imagination in new and exciting ways. By the end of the course, you'll have a better understanding of the many ways that science, technology, engineering, arts, and math intersect, and how they can be used to solve real-world problems. You'll also have developed a range of skills and knowledge that will prepare you for success in high school and beyond. So come join us for STEAM Exploration, and discover the endless possibilities that await at the intersection of science, technology, engineering, arts, and math!

Strategic Chess

Incoming grades 1-2, 3-4 and 5-6

Week 1/2 | 8 - 10 a.m. (grades 5-6); 10:05 a.m. - 12:05 p.m. (grades 3-4); 12:35 - 2:35 p.m. (grades 1-2)

Location: Thurston Middle School

Teacher: Strategic Kids staff

Course Description: We bring the game of chess to life at our fun and exciting chess camps, where students will learn chess strategies and tactics using our story-based curriculum. Students play outside games with our giant chess set, play a simulation against a master, and more. Camp includes a chess tournament at the end where kids can win trophies and prizes. This camp is for all levels of chess players, from beginners to advanced.

Strategic Magic

Incoming grades 1-2 and 3-4

Week 2 | 8 - 10 a.m. (grades 1-2); 10:05 a.m. - 12:05 p.m. (grades 1-2); 12:35 - 2:35 p.m. (grades 3-4)

Location: Thurston Middle School

Teacher: Strategic Kids Staff

Course Description: Illusionists use a combination of technique and showmanship to create a great performance, and this fun class will help students to create their own great Magic Showcase. By learning and practicing magic techniques in preparation for the showcase, students will learn performance and public speaking skills that encourage increased confidence in a fun way! During each meeting, students will learn and build new magic tricks, perfect their routines and practice performing in front of the class. Students will enjoy using their creativity and presentation skills while learning to customize their magic routines to their audience.

Strings

Incoming grades 6-8

Week 2 | 10:05 a.m. - 12:05 p.m.

Location: Thurston Middle School

Teacher: Steven Wade

Course Description: Students will play fun and challenging music to be able to gain fundamental skills in music performance. Strings include violin, viola, cello, bass, and piano. Play fun music and prepare for fall music classes. No experience or instrument required. All students will be provided a school instrument if they don't have their own.

Super Fun & Fancy Glittery Crafts

Incoming grades 3-4

Week 1/2 | 12:35 - 2:35 p.m.

Location: Thurston Middle School

Teacher: Marie Bammer

Course Description: Let your creativity go wild in this week-long crafting class. We will not only be making amazing, sparkling things, but we will be learning the science behind them, too. Some examples are: mindfulness jars, super bouncy balls, driftwood and shell picture frames, crafts with sea glass, and so much more! There will be a LOT of glitter going on, so get ready to SPARKLE!

Suspenseful Story Writing

Incoming grades 6-8

Week 1/2 | 10:05 a.m. - 12:05 p.m.

Location: Thurston Middle School

Teacher: Amy Cochren

Course Description: Students will explore plot components, theme, point of view narration, and indirect characterization. Mentor texts will be presented for modeling, and students will practice various suspense-building strategies while drafting their own horror or fantasy story. Week one and week two will cover the same material.



Ultimate Frisbee Fun

Incoming grades 6-8

Week 1 | 12:35 - 2:35 p.m.

Location: Thurston Middle School

Teacher: Danica Mitchell

Course Description: Looking for an exciting new sport to try? Come join our one-week beginner Ultimate Frisbee program! With a fun and supportive environment, this program will teach your child the basics of Ultimate Frisbee, including throwing, catching, and game strategy. They'll have a blast learning and playing with their peers! Your child will learn basic and advanced Ultimate Frisbee techniques, including throwing, catching, and disc handling; practice offensive and defensive strategies, including cutting, marking, and blocking; play mini-games and scrimmages to put techniques into practice and learn to work as a team; and foster sportsmanship, teamwork, and fun in a supportive and encouraging environment.

Yoga

Incoming grades 1-3, 3-5 and 6-8

Week 1 | 8 - 10 a.m. (grades 1-3); 10:05 a.m. - 12:05 p.m. (grades 6-8); 12:35 - 2:35 p.m. (grades 3-5)

Week 2 | 8 - 10 a.m. (grades 3-5); 10:05 a.m. - 12:05 p.m. (grades 6-8); 12:35 - 2:35 p.m. (grades 1-3)

Location: Thurston Middle School

Teacher: Staci Bina

Course Description: Welcome to a place where kids can come to learn more about themselves through yoga, meditation, mindfulness, games, and art. Classes are non-competitive, safe, and creative, so kids can focus on physical fitness, building strength in their developing bodies, developing social skills, and practicing relaxation techniques. We will focus on partner and group work, as well as breath work, beautiful visualizations, and animal-inspired yoga poses. Kids will learn to incorporate the principles of yoga not only into their upcoming school year but into their lives forever. No previous yoga experience is necessary! Registration for both weeks is encouraged but optional.