

Grade 5

Actor's Workshop (Session 2)

Step into the spotlight and develop your acting skills through a range of engaging activities and exercises – both improvised and rehearsed. This course focuses on core performance techniques, including characterization, physical and verbal expression, stage movement, and the art of bringing a fictional character to life. Students will refine their craft in a supportive, hands-on environment and build confidence on stage. The course culminates in a final performance, where each student will present a prepared monologue and/or scene.

Advanced/ Beginner Swim (Sessions 1, 2, and 3)

To determine your child's ability level, please refer to the descriptions below. Advanced. All children will be tested by the instructors on the first day of each session and appropriately placed based on their ability level.

Note: A student must be enrolled in Enrichment/Recreation to participate in the swimming program.

Beginner: Child must be able to swim the length of the pool (25 yards) using the freestyle stroke in 7-foot deep water

Adventure Writing (Sessions 2 and 3)

Love creative writing? In this imaginative class, students become the authors of their own interactive picture books—stories where the reader chooses the path and the outcome! Using creativity and storytelling skills, each student will craft tales full of twists, turns, and endless possibilities. Perfect for curious, out-of-the-box thinkers who love to dream big and write even bigger!

Animation (Session 1)

Bring your imagination to life – frame by frame! In this hands-on class, students will create their very own stop-action animated films using materials they choose, like clay, paper, watercolors, or original drawings. From storyboarding and scripting to filming and editing, students will guide their projects from start to finish. We'll provide the professional setup—lights, cameras, and editing software—while you focus on bringing your story to life. Finished animations will be shared with family and friends through a secure online link. Perfect for aspiring filmmakers, artists, and storytellers alike!

Archery Fundamentals (Session 1)

Don't just shoot arrows into hay bales – learn to master the art of archery! Using the School's professional archery range, this course focuses on essential safety practices and the key techniques needed to excel in this exciting and challenging sport. Each session wraps up with a friendly skills contest, giving students the chance to test their aim and track their progress. Ready, set, draw!

Art of Paper (Session 1)

There is a lot more to paper than what goes on with a pen or paint! This class shows us how to make art forms that use paper in three dimensions. Explore all the diverse ways we use paper in creating artwork! Get creative with folding, building, sculpture, shadows, papier mâché, and more!

Astronomy (Session 1)

Embark on a journey through the cosmos with a series of hands-on activities designed to ignite curiosity about our universe. Students will explore fascinating topics such as the planets of our solar system, solar and lunar eclipses, the reasons for the seasons, comets, asteroids, meteors, and more. As part of their celestial exploration, students will also be introduced to Stellarium, a powerful astronomical simulator. Using this tool, they will complete a series of challenging lab investigations, building their skills in observation, analysis, and critical thinking as they navigate the night sky like real astronomers.

Author, Author (Sessions 2 and 3)

Ready to become a published author? In this inspiring class, students will create their very own books – from the first brainstorm to the final illustration, cover, and title page! Along the way, they'll learn the full writing process: drafting, proofreading, editing, and polishing their stories for readers to enjoy. With age-appropriate lessons in grammar, writing mechanics, and style, students will grow as writers while expressing their unique voices. Sharing their finished books with classmates, family, and friends makes the journey even more exciting! Each session brings new themes, fresh inspiration, and fun challenges – so join us again and again for hours of creative storytelling!

Beginner Swim (Sessions 1, 2, and 3)

To determine your child's ability level, please refer to the descriptions below. All children will be tested by the instructors on the first day of each session and appropriately placed based on their ability level.

Note: A student must be enrolled in Enrichment/Recreation to participate in the swimming program.

Beginner: Child must be able to comfortably submerge their head in the pool.

Bing, Bang, BOOM! (Sessions 1 and 2)

STOMP... ACS Style! Get ready to make some serious noise—in the best way possible! In this high-energy, hands-on class, students will dive into the exciting world of percussion. They'll explore a wide variety of instruments, from boomwhackers, rainsticks, and guiros to djembes, snare drums, bongos, doumbeks, and even coffee cans. Students will collaborate to create and perform their own percussion ensembles, blending rhythm, movement, and creativity using both traditional instruments and imaginative, student-made ones. Whether you're a seasoned drummer or just love to move to the beat, this rhythm-filled adventure is the perfect place to let your inner percussionist shine!

Bla-hoot! (Session 1)

This is a new spin on the ACS Summer Program hit, "Blooket Masters!" This year, students will utilize both the Blooket and Kahoot platforms to learn effective gaming strategies when they return to the regular school year. We will play solo and teams, offer our insights to each other, strategize, and learn how to create our own. Students will log in through their own Google accounts, and information about creating one will be sent to parents before the session begins. Get ready to Bla-hoot!

Bridge Building (Session 2)

Build a Working Bridge. Put math, physics, and creativity to work! Students will explore how bridges are designed and engineered, learning the same principles behind iconic structures like the Golden Gate and Brooklyn Bridge. Then, they'll build their own model bridge using these techniques. At the end, each bridge will be tested for strength, practicality, and beauty—combining science and art in an exciting hands-on project!

Build Your Own Business (Sessions 1 and 2)

Ready to launch your own business? In this creative and hands-on class, students will explore the evolution of trade – from bartering to e-payments—and discover the variety of currencies used around the world. They'll learn how to set prices, attract customers, and manage resources wisely. With a special focus on sustainability, students will also calculate their "carbon footprint" to understand how to build a business that's good for both people and the planet. Perfect for young innovators ready to think big and act smart!

Calligraphy (Session 2)

Discover the Art of Calligraphy! Slant your pen and explore the beautiful tradition of calligraphy – the art of elegant, stylized writing that dates back to the origins of the written word. The word "calligraphy" comes from the Greek language, meaning "beautiful writing." In this class, students will learn the basics of the Italic Chancery alphabet and use their new skills to create poems, pictures, and other unique projects. Perfect for those who love art, writing, and creativity!

Chess: Basics and Beyond (Sessions 1, 2, and 3)

This beginning level class is designed to take each student from basic knowledge to a more proficient level of play. Students will:

- Learn opening principles of the game: setting up the board and moving the pieces
- Study special rules: castling, under promotion, and en passant
- Understand pins, forks, check and checkmate
- Master quick ways to win, including the 4-move checkmate and the 2-move checkmate
- Study the history of chess... and much more.

Chess: Competitive (Sessions 1, 2, and 3)

This class is for students with advanced technical knowledge of the game and who enjoy competitive game play. This is the ideal choice for students who would like to compete in state and national tournaments. Students will:

- Study notation
- Review famous games
- Practice the rules of tournament play
- Learn more complex openings
- Practice understanding the opponent
- Study end game techniques... and much more.

Chess: Competitive Goals (Sessions 1, 2, and 3)

Take an advanced chess class with National Master (NM) Kevin Velazquez (2021 Co-State Champion). This is an exciting and positive chess class for students who already understand opening principles, tactics (short-term actions) & checkmating patterns, and wish to improve strategy (long-term outcome) by creating and taking advantage of opponent weaknesses. Students will learn to identify positional chess concepts to generate long-term ideas (strategies) to win the game. Topics may include Strong and Weak Squares, Restricting the opponents' counter-play or pieces, Outposts, Anchor pawns in the enemy camp, the activity of the developed pieces, weak diagonals, rows, and files. This class is for tournament players or students who have progressed beyond basic opening ideas, elementary tactics, and strategies, and have knowledge to arrive at checkmate from numerous positions. NM Velazquez will take competitive students to a higher level of understanding in the opening, middle game, and endgame with emphasis on the step-by-step thought processes a master goes through. This class will include competitive play between the students with the most instructive game being analyzed in front of the class after the game has been concluded. Age is not a requirement but a strong foundation of the basics and beyond is.

Note: Competitive Chess Goals meets for two hours in the afternoon per day and is therefore priced as two courses.

Chess: Great Gameplay (Sessions 1, 2, and 3)

This class requires knowledge of all concepts listed under "Basics and Beyond." This course focuses on starting and completing a full game. Students will:

- Review tactics such as pins, forks, and getting out of check
- Learn notation
- Master opening strategies and middle game planning
- Study common end game combinations such as king and two rooks, king and queen, and king and one rook
- Review games... and much more.

Clay Creations (Session 2)

Fire up the kiln and get ready to create! In this beginner's clay course, students will learn basic ceramic techniques like pinch and coil building. Through hands-on exploration, budding artists will craft unique pieces that will be fired, glazed, and ready to display as beautiful works of art.

Courts and Trials (Sessions 1 and 3)

Step into the courtroom! In this engaging, hands-on class, students explore the U.S. legal system through interactive scenarios and role-playing activities. They will take on the roles of attorneys, witnesses, jurors, and more as they prepare for a culminating mock trial. Critical thinking, teamwork, and persuasive communication take center stage as students determine: Guilty or innocent? You decide!

Create-a-Play (Session 1)

Build a Play from Scratch! Students will dive into every step of creating a play – from brainstorming ideas and writing script outlines to developing characters and dialogue through discussions and improvisations. They'll rehearse scenes, create or gather sets, props, and costumes, and finally present a full production during the last class. Perfect for creative kids ready to bring their own stories to life on stage!

Daily Survival (Session 2)

Can you survive? Students will sharpen their skills in reading, math, and critical thinking as they apply them to everyday living using authentic scenarios (i.e., planning a budget, living on a professional salary, planning a vacation) and sources. This practical class includes economics, geography, and more.

DaVinci's World (Session 1)

Learn how one of the greatest minds in history, Leonardo DaVinci, created many inventions that were far ahead of their time. Participants will research, design, and then build replicas of some of his ideas, including the working parachute, tank, and defense tower. The class culminates with a public demonstration of these models.

DNA Detectives: Genetics and Traits in Play (Session 3)

Become a game designer in this biology-inspired maker space class! Students will use digital fabrication tools and creative materials to design board games where players build creatures, solve puzzles, or evolve species. Genetics and traits serve as a fun theme, guiding the design of cards, tokens, and game pieces, but the focus remains on crafting engaging mechanics, strategy, and playable games. By the end, each student will have a one-of-a-kind game that's imaginative, interactive, and 100% hands-on!

Note: DNA Detectives meets for two hours in the morning per day and is therefore priced as two courses.

Materials fee: \$25.00

Dramatic Writers (Sessions 2 and 3)

Calling all actors and writers! This course teaches the fundamentals of theater including acting, improvisation, and stage directions while exploring the important components of public speaking. Students will write and memorize an age-appropriate monologue and present it on the last day!

Express in Mess! The Art of Creativity (Session 1)

Discover the joy of creativity with no pressure to be perfect! In this fun, hands-on class, students will experiment with a variety of materials, ideas, and techniques—embracing playful exploration and happy accidents along the way. Over two weeks, they'll learn to think outside the box, take creative risks, and enjoy the process of making art. This class is all about building confidence and finding inspiration in the unexpected!

Fantasy Baseball (Sessions 1 and 2)

Fantasy Baseball Manager: Build Your Winning Team! Pick your roster, manage your team, and aim for first place! Students will dive into statistical analysis by tracking the real-life performances of their favorite baseball players. Plus, all participants receive a free ticket to a White Sox game – cheer on your team in person!

Flag Football (Session 3)

Experience the excitement of flag football! In this fun-filled, non-contact class, participants will develop new skills through mini-games and exciting drills that sharpen their catching, throwing, and running techniques, all while building confidence and a love for the game. Designed for both beginners and experienced players, this class emphasizes teamwork, problem-solving, and unforgettable fun. Whether you're a rookie or a rising star, this class is sure to be a touchdown!

Friends of Nature (Session 3)

Explore the wonderful forest preserve right outside Avery Coonley's back door! In this class, students will become nature journalists as we venture out into the woods to explore what nature has to offer. Students will write, draw, and observe the world around them on a daily basis. We will also go birding and learn about the types of birds that call the forest around Avery Coonley's home. Students should be prepared to go on short walks, weather permitting, most days.

Fundamentals of Public Speaking (Session 1)

Learn the fundamentals of public speaking while having fun. In this class, students will learn the correct method of writing a two to three-minute speech they will present for the class. Along the way they will also play games that teach projection, hooking the audience's attention, and listening skills.

Galactic Game Designers: Exploring Space Through Play (Session 1)

Blast off into the universe of creativity! In this out-of-this-world maker space class, students will design board games inspired by astronomy, planetary exploration, and space missions. Using tools like 3D printers and laser cutters, participants will create custom planets, rockets, and cosmic tokens as they learn about orbits, gravity, and the challenges of space travel. By weaving real science into their gameplay, students will develop strategy, storytelling, and design skills—culminating in a board game that's truly universal fun!

Note: Galactic Game Design meets for two hours in the morning per day and is therefore priced as two courses.

Materials fee: \$25.00

Games Galore (Session 3)

Did you ever play Monopoly and think, "that's fun... for a while." Or Clue and wish, "if only we could just focus on solving the mystery." Did you know that there are versions of these kinds of games that already exist? And did you know that you can make one up yourself? In Games Galore, we will spend one week learning about the structures (called mechanisms) that make games... games. We will do this by playing various card and board games and finding the themes and mechanisms that we find fun. In week two, we will take this knowledge and create a quick "brainstorm" game, where the emphasis will be on design, prototype, test, and redesign. This class would be a great follow up to the "How to Win Games and Influence People" class.

Go for Beginners (Session 3)

Learn the world's most popular board game. Invented 2,500 years ago Go (in Japan), Weiqi (in China), or Baduk (in Korea) is the oldest game that has been played continuously to the present day. Students will learn the rules and the basic strategies behind this fascinating game. Students will practice with Tesuji (clever play) puzzles, review games, and will apply the ancient proverb, "lose your first 50 games as quickly as possible." Students will need to register for a free account with an online go server to fully participate.

Note: This class is for true beginners. Mr. Leesch is an enthusiastic student of the game but is an advanced beginner himself.

Golf Fundamentals (Session 3)

Come and join the Avery Coonley Golf Club! Our classes are taught by a certified instructor trained by the Kids Golf Foundation. Designed for children, this course introduces them to the foundational skills of golf through a variety of full swing stations, chipping challenges, putting courses, and more! The SNAG (Starting New At Golf) equipment, available in different sizes, ensures that kids of all ages can participate. With oversized, colorful clubs, Velcro balls, and targets, this program provides a fantastic opportunity to develop skills in a fun and safe environment. Ready to tee off on your golf journey?

Gotta Dance (Session 2)

Move your body to the beat in this dynamic dance class led by a professional instructor! Students will be introduced to basic techniques from jazz, contemporary, and musical theater dance styles. This fun and energetic course encourages creativity, coordination, and expression.

Note: Comfortable; loose clothing is recommended. Jazz or ballet shoes may be worn but are not required.

Guitar for Beginners (Session 3)

All great musicians were beginners at some time. Who knows what learning to play this popular instrument will do for any child? In ten short lessons, students will be taught basic fingering, fretting, and strumming, using an acoustic guitar. They will also receive individual instructions to help them progress more quickly with these skills. Classroom guitars will be available or bring your own acoustic guitar from home.

History Quest: Time Travelers Game Design (Session 2)

Step into the makerspace and bring history-inspired adventures to life through board game design! In this creative, hands-on class, students will use digital fabrication tools – such as 3D printers, laser cutters, and craft materials—to design and build their own playable board games. Drawing inspiration from historical eras or events, students might create challenges set in ancient civilizations, medieval kingdoms, or future reinterpretations of the past. The focus will be on developing engaging game mechanics, designing custom pieces, and crafting immersive visuals. By the end of the session, each student will have a one-of-a-kind board game that blends creativity, storytelling, and maker skills!

Note: History Quest meets for two hours in the morning per day and is therefore priced as two courses.

Materials fee: \$25.00

Introduction to Movie Making (Session 2)

Become a filmmaker! Taught by the ACS Director of Drama, this class will guide students through creating short movies including generating ideas, scriptwriting, acting, videography, directing, and editing. On the final day of class, movie premiers will be shown to family, friends, and students either live or through video links.

Note: by enrolling in this class you are agreeing to your image being used on our secure ACS YouTube link. Introduction to Movie Making meets for two hours in the afternoon per day and is therefore priced as two courses.

Inventor and Artist: Crafting Creations (Sessions 1 and 3)

Unleash your creativity by blending engineering, science, and art! In this class, students will use science experiments to create one-of-a-kind artistic masterpieces. Students will also design and build their own unique inventions while learning how to craft business cards and original advertisements to showcase their creations. This class is a perfect mix of problem-solving, innovation, and self-expression through teamwork and fun!

Journalism (Sessions 1 and 3)

Step into the roles of reporter, editor, and publisher in this popular class! Students will gather news, conduct interviews, and write and edit stories to produce a vibrant summer program newspaper. Using the school's latest desktop publishing technology, the class will bring their work to life – creating a real paper filled with "all the news that's fit to print."

Junior Democracy Lab: How Decisions Get Made (Sessions 1 and 3)

Here students dive into how laws and policies are made by exploring branches of government, local decision-makers, and what it means to be a voter. Through simulations, like running a mini election, debating a school or neighborhood issue, and drafting a "kid-friendly" bill, they practice research, public speaking, and respectful disagreement while seeing how their voices could shape real-world change.

LEGO® Science (Sessions 1 and 2)

LEGO® in Action! LEGO® are more than just toys—they're tools for learning! This popular curriculum introduces students to simple machines and structures by building their own working models. Through hands-on assembly, students explore the physical principles behind how things work.

Look Out, Rube Goldberg! (Session 1)

Build amazing and complex machines to accomplish very easy tasks. That is what cartoonist Rube Goldberg was famous for, and that is what teams do in national competitions. That is what students will be doing at ACS. A fun and interesting way to develop higher levels of thinking in science, logic, and creativity.

Magical Printmaking (Session 1)

Printmaking is magical! The process of creating images and transferring the images to a variety of paper, wood, or cloth is exciting, along with learning how to make multiple copies. Try foam printing plates, alternative photography processes, relief printing, stamping, and more.

Making a Music Video (Session 2)

Develop the next music video hit! From idea and conception to choreography and post-production, this course focuses on the creating of a music video. Students will select one or more songs, write a script, act, shoot the video, and edit the final footage.

Note: by enrolling in this class you are agreeing to your image being used on our secure ACS YouTube link.

Master the Art of Navigation! (Session 2)

Not all who wander are lost! This orienteering class combines outdoor adventure with critical thinking as students learn advanced map-reading, compass skills, and trail navigation. Students will work in teams to tackle real-world navigation scenarios, complete timed challenges, and explore unmarked paths. Whether plotting courses through the woods or deciphering navigation clues, participants will develop confidence, independence, and outdoor expertise. Perfect for aspiring adventurers and problem-solvers alike!

Miniature Home Designer 2.0 (Sessions 2 and 3)

Are you interested in designing your own miniature house, but want to be more involved in building and creating the home and furniture? Then Miniature Home Designer 2.0 is the class for you! This extended class will incorporate the design process of paints and textiles, but with an additional twist. Students will build their house kit from opening the box to completion. We will also design furniture, doors, decorations, and more using 3D modeling software for 3D printing and laser cutting. All materials, including the miniature house, will be sent home at the end of the session.

Note: Miniature Home Designer 2.0 meets for two hours in the afternoon per day and is therefore priced as two courses.

Materials fee: \$45.00

Monsters and Mazes (Session 3)

Ever wonder what an orc eats for breakfast? Hopefully, not your brave hero! Join an adventure party and journey through swamps, forests, and mysterious dungeons. Along the way, you'll face dragons, orcs, goblins – and maybe even umber hulks! This class uses Dungeons & Dragons 5th Edition as its guide for epic storytelling, teamwork, and thrilling quests. Ready your dice and your imagination!

Movin' and Groovin' (Session 3)

Develop and challenge your expressive and creative talents through a variety of dance and movement explorations. No previous dance experience is needed – just bring your energy and imagination! Each session concludes with a relaxed performance to share with family and friends.

Note: Comfortable, loose clothing should be worn.

Musical Theater Dance: Rising Stars (Session 1)

A chance for the younger students to experience the wonders of musical theater. Performing artists will learn the basic elements of acting and dancing to their favorite musicals. The session culminates with a debut performance in the ACS Performing Arts Center for family and friends.

Note: by enrolling in this class, you agree to your image being used on our secure ACS link.

Nutty Nutcracker (Session 3)

The holiday classic - without the snow! In this course, students will jump, turn, leap, and sword fight their way through the familiar Christmas tale while exploring a variety of ballet movements as they produce one Nutty Nutcracker performance on the final day.

Note: No previous dance experience required. Ballet shoes may be worn but are not required; students should wear comfortable, loose clothing.

Photography (Session 2)

Level up your photography skills in this hands-on camp! Students will learn the essentials of composition, lighting, and visual storytelling while capturing images with Chromebooks or iPads. We'll also explore creative alternative photography processes – both inside and outside of the darkroom – to give students a full range of artistic techniques. No prior experience required!

Phun with Physics (Session 3)

Defy Gravity: A Hands-On Introduction to Physics. Can you overcome gravity? Find out in this exciting and fun introduction to physics! Through hands-on experiments, students will explore the fundamental laws that govern our physical world – including gravity, electricity, and motion. Get ready to discover the science behind everyday wonders!

Pickleball (Session 2)

Get ready to volley with an oversized paddle and ball in this exciting twist on ping-pong! Played on a gym floor with a low net, this game helps players of all ages develop eye-hand coordination, agility, and quick reflexes. Plus, many of the skills transfer easily to tennis—perfect for fun and fitness!

Plan New Worlds (Session 1)

Become both a problem seeker and solver in this dynamic class! Using a creative problem-solving model combined with Bloom's taxonomy, students will develop a step-by-step approach to analyze challenges and take effective action. Through exploring hypothetical problems – like weightlessness, transportation, space colonies, robots, and environmental issues – students will gain insight into future possibilities while sharpening practical problem-solving skills that apply to real life today.

Podcasting (Sessions 2 and 3)

Share interest, share knowledge, share music, share anything: PODCAST! This class will teach students the basics of podcasting as they plan, research, script, and record their own digital broadcasting program. Podcasts will be uploaded throughout the session to our own Blogspot website.

Power of Observation (Sessions 1 and 2)

Unlock the transformative skill of keen observation in this course designed to sharpen your awareness, deepen your understanding, and enhance your ability to notice the details others might miss. Through practical exercises and guided techniques, you'll learn to observe your surroundings, interactions, and internal thoughts with clarity, improving problem-solving, creativity, and decision-making. Mastering the art of observation can open doors to new insights and opportunities.

Puppetry Theater Workshop (Session 3)

Step into the world of storytelling and imagination! In this hands-on class, students will design and create their own puppets, collaborate to write engaging scripts, and rehearse scenes that bring their characters to life. The session culminates in a lively performance where students showcase their creativity, teamwork, and theatrical skills.

Raiders of the Lost Arch(aeology) (Session 2)

Adventures in Archaeology: Uncovering World Cultures! Follow in the footsteps of Indiana Jones! In this exciting course, students will explore the worlds of archaeology, geography, history, and sociology as they investigate cultural treasures from around the globe. Through hands-on projects and global case studies, students will uncover the stories behind ancient artifacts, sacred sites, and lost civilizations. This is a great opportunity to develop critical thinking skills and gain a broader understanding of the diverse cultures that shape our world.

Robotics (Sessions 2 and 3)

LEGO® Mindstorm Robotics! Design, build, and program your own robotic vehicle using the LEGO® Mindstorm EV3 kit! Students will learn to use the programming software to control their robots as they tackle exciting challenges. Throughout the course, participants will develop important skills in logic, creativity, problem-solving, STEM, and teamwork while completing robot missions.

Shadow Box Story Builders (Session 1)

Shadow boxes create a world, tell a story, and capture a moment. Students will explore unique materials, employ skills like cutting, folding, constructing and stacking, play with perspective and lighting, explore foreground vs background as well as positive and negative space, and learn to think “outside of the box” in order to create a shadow box of their own design.

Shaking Up Shakespeare (Session 3)

Calling all thespians for an opportunity to explore exciting and innovative improvisation games, followed by a mini production of William Shakespeare’s tragedy *Julius Caesar*! Students will learn public speaking, stage presence, timeless literature, history, costuming, and teamwork throughout the 2-week course. The short performance will be shared with families on the last day.

Shooters Workout (Session 1)

Get ready to sharpen your shooting skills in this fun and focused basketball class! Each player will receive individualized instructions to improve their technique – from lay-ups to three-pointers. With an emphasis on form, accuracy, and practice, students will build confidence and consistency while having a great time on the court.

Sing! Sing! Sing! An Intro to Choir (Session 3)

Do you love to sing? Come be part of the ACS Summer Program Choir! In this fun and welcoming class, students will learn proper vocal technique, how to sing expressively, and how to blend as a group. Together, we’ll work on a variety of choral pieces and prepare for a special mini performance at the end of the session. Whether you’re new to singing or already love to perform, bring your voice, your favorite songs, and your enthusiasm – and join the choir this summer!

Socratic Seminar Speaking in a Circle! (Session 2)

Public Speaking! Socratic Seminar! Improvisation! Students will build confidence by learning to confidently speak ideas and thoughts about many topics from art to gum in schools to 4-day work weeks. Students will research and share their ideas in a safe and fun environment while also exploring tongue twisters and improvisation games that build articulation and confidence.

Space: A Summer Frontier Stardate: 2026 (Session 1 and 3)

Blast off into space exploration in this exciting class designed for young astronomers and sci-fi fans alike! Students will dive into hands-on activities that make space science come alive—building models of the solar system, simulating space missions, and experimenting with planetary concepts. Alongside these interactive experiences, students will read both fiction and nonfiction books that fuel curiosity and deepen their understanding of our universe. Whether they're drawn to the facts of astronomy or the thrill of imaginative stories, participants will journey across the cosmos in this fun and educational adventure through space!

Speed, Height, Flight Power Club (Session 2)

Start your engines! This class focuses on the scientific basis and practical applications of motion, rocketry, and flight. Students will learn the components of these mechanical systems and develop hands-on skills that use these principles in powered scale model applications. Classes will set up and race cars, build and launch rockets, and practice flying an airplane.

Sports Announcing (Session 2)

Step into the spotlight and experience the excitement of calling the game! In this class, students will learn the skills of a sports announcer—writing scripts, practicing play-by-play commentary, interviewing athletes, and using their voice to bring the action to life. Students will build confidence, teamwork, and communication skills while creating their own sports broadcasts and highlight reels.

Stamp Lab 1 and 2: Carve, Ink, Create! (Session 2)

Printing is the transfer of ideas onto surfaces. From Hokusai's The Great Wave off Kanagawa to modern T-shirt companies, printing is the foundation of art all around us. Students will learn about various forms of manual printing, and explore line, texture, shape and color to design and carve stamps out of various materials. The course will culminate in printing a self-designed wearable item!

Storytelling (Sessions 1 and 2)

Storytelling: Spin a Tale, Steal the Show! Captivate your audience in this exciting storytelling class! Step back in time to an era before radio, TV, or the internet—when tales were passed from person to person by live performers. Young storytellers will build speaking, listening, writing, and performance skills as they craft and present their own original tales. Through fun, hands-on activities, students will explore the elements of plot, character, pacing, and voice, learning how to bring their stories to life. Whether spooky, silly, or suspenseful, these tales will showcase each student's creativity and imagination – building confidence with every word!

Theater Arts (Session 1)

Calling all new thespians! This exciting course introduces students to the fundamentals of theater, including acting techniques, improvisation, voice projection, character development, and stage presence. Through fun games, exercises, and rehearsals, students will build confidence and collaboration skills as they prepare for a final performance. The session culminates in a lively show open to family and friends during the last class.

Theater Sports (Session 3)

Whose line is it? This exciting class focuses on building skills in improvisational theater, where quick thinking and creativity are key! Through fun theater games and drama exercises, students will learn to "act on their feet," generating characters, situations, dialogue, and ideas spontaneously. As they dive into the art of writing, directing, and performing without prior planning, they'll develop confidence in their ability to think and react in the moment. The session will culminate in an improv performance, where students will showcase their newfound skills in a fun and interactive way! Whether you're a seasoned performer or new to improv, this class is a great way to boost creativity and have a blast while doing it!

Ukulele (Session 3)

Join the ukulele craze that started in 1915 and is still going strong! In just two weeks, students will learn to play this charming, sweet-sounding instrument. With only four strings, beginners can quickly master techniques and songs spanning folk to pop. The session concludes with a fun recital where students proudly showcase their new skills!

Volleyball (Session 2)

Bump, set, spike! Add serving, and students are playing an extremely popular game filled with skill and strategy. This course is designed to have students work on basic skills and rules, so players of any ability can have fun and improve on the court.

WACS Newsroom (Session 3)

Join the WACS news team and report on breaking news and special reports at Avery Coonley. Students will concentrate on writing news stories for newscasters, reporting on various happenings, and highlighting individuals. The class will also focus on creating an interesting documentary about life at the ACS Summer Program. Students will have the opportunity to participate in all facets of the team, from writing and reporting to shooting and editing.

Wizards of Wall Street (Session 3)

Journey through the world of investments and high finances. This course will expose students to economic principles and theories for investing in the stock market and other commodity markets in the US and other countries. Activities will lead to an understanding of the terminology of investments, the use of the internet as a research tool, and the creation of a mock portfolio – an important first step forward into economics and financial planning in our growing global economy.

Wonders of the World (Session 3)

What makes something worthy of the title "Wonder of the World"? In this thought-provoking class, students will explore Ancient, Natural, and Modern Wonders of the World, learning about their history, geography, and significance. Using critical thinking skills, students will analyze what makes these sites truly amazing – and create their own unique lists of wonders. This class is a fun and interactive way to deepen understanding of world geography and cultural heritage.

Writeology (Session 2)

Learn the ins and outs of writing. From simple summaries to informative essays, students will focus on clearly expressing themselves using the written word. Emphasis will be put on the importance of writers to support their main ideas with appropriate examples and explanations. Appropriate for authors of all abilities.

Grade 5

CLASS	GRADES	9:00	10:00	11:00	12:30
Session 1					
Animation	5-8		X		
Archery Fundamentals	5-6		X		
Art of Paper	5-8	X			
Astronomy	5-8			X	
Bing! Bang! BOOM!	4-8			X	
Bla-hoot	5-6		X		
Build Your Own Business	3-5	X			
Chess: Basics and Beyond	K-8		X		
Chess: Competitive	K-8			X	
Chess: Competitive Goals	3-8				X
Chess: Great Gameplay	K-8	X			
Courts and Trials	5-8	X			
Create-A-Play	4-6	X			
CSI - Crime Scene Investigators in Training	3-5	X			
DaVinci's World	4-5	X			
Express in Mess! The Art of Creativity	5-8			X	
Fantasy Baseball	4-8		X		
Fundamentals of Public Speaking	3-5		X		
Galactic Game Designers: Exploring Space Through Play	4-6		X	X	
Inventors and Artists: Crafting Creations	3-5		X		
Journalism	5-8	X			
Junior Democracy: How Decisions Get Made	3-5		X		
LEGO® Science	3-5		X		
Look Out, Rube Goldberg!	3-6		X		
Magical Printmaking	5-8		X		
Musical Theater Dance: Rising Stars	3-5		X		
Plan New Worlds	5-8	X			
Power of Observation	3-5		X		
Shadow Box Story Builders	5-8		X		
Shooters Workout	5-8			X	
Space: A Summer Frontier	3-5			X	
Storytelling	3-5	X			
Theater Arts	3-5			X	
Session 2					
Actor's Workshop	5-8	X			
Adventure Writing	4-5			X	

Author, Author	3-5			X	
Bing! Bang! BOOM!	4-8			X	
Bridge Building	5-8		X		
Build Your Own Business	3-5	X			
Calligraphy	3-5			X	
Chess: Basics and Beyond	K-8	X			
Chess: Competitive	K-8			X	
Chess: Competitive Goals	3-8				X
Chess: Great Gameplay	K-8		X		
Clay Creations	5-8			X	
CSI - Crime Scene Investigators in Training	3-5			X	
Daily Survival	5-6		X		
Dramatic Writers	4-7		X		
Fantasy Baseball	4-8	X			
Gotta Dance	4-6			X	
History Quest: Time Travelers Game Design	4-6		X	X	
Intro to Movie Making	5-6				X
LEGO® Science	3-5			X	
Making a Music Video	5-8		X		
Mastering the Art of Navigation	3-5		X		
Miniature Home Designer 2.0	3-5				X
Photography	5-8	X			
Pickleball	5-8			X	
Podcasting	5-8			X	
Power of Observation	3-5	X			
Raiders of the Lost Arch(eology)	4-6	X			
Robotics	5-8		X		
Socratic Seminar Speaking in a Circle	4-7			X	
Speed, Height, Flight Power Club	5-8			X	
Sports Announcing	4-6		X		
Stamp Lab 1: Carve, Ink, Create!	3-5	X			
Stamp Lab 2: Carve, Ink, Create!	5-8		X		
Storytelling	3-5	X			
Volleyball	5-8		X		
Writeology	5-8	X			
Session 3					
Adventure Writing	4-5		X		
Author, Author	3-5	X			
Chess: Basics and Beyond	K-8			X	
Chess: Competitive	K-8		X		

Chess: Competitive Goals	3-8				X
Chess: Great Gameplay	K-8	X			
Courts and Trials	5-8		X		
CSI - Crime Scene Investigators in Training	3-5		X		
DNA Detectives: Genetics and Traits in Play	4-6		X	X	
Dramatic Writers	4-7	X			
Flag Football	5-8	X			
Friends of Nature	5-8	X			
Games Galore	5-8		X		
Go! For Beginners	5-8	X			
Golf Fundamentals	3-5			X	
Guitar for Beginners	5-7		X		
Inventors and Artists: Crafting Creations	3-5	X			
Journalism	5-8			X	
Junior Democracy Lab: How Decisions Get Made	3-5			X	
Miniature Home Designer 2.0	3-5				X
Monsters and Mazes	5-8	X			
Movin' and Groovin'	3-5		X		
Nutty Nutcracker	3-6			X	
Phun with Physics	5-8		X		
Podcasting	5-8	X			
Puppetry Theater Workshop	3-5	X			
Robotics	5-8		X		
Shaking Up Shakespeare	4-6			X	
Sing, Sing, Sing! Intro to Choir	4-8			X	
Space: A Summer Frontier	3-5			X	
Theater Sports	5-8	X			
Ukulele	4-5	X			
WACS Newsroom	5-8		X		
Wizards of Wall Street	5-7			X	
Wonders of the World	4-8			X	