

2026 Specialist Classes Summer Work

Subjects Included

- Art
 - Crafts — Woodworking
 - Drama
 - French
 - Innovation
 - Music
 - Physical Education
 - Spanish
 - Technology
-

■ Art

These summer projects encourage creative exploration. Grade-level notes are included for each activity.

Sun Prints

Appropriate for: All ages

Materials: Dark construction paper, leaves, flowers, any object of your choice, sunshine.

- Arrange items on dark paper and place in bright sunlight for several hours.
- Remove objects to reveal lighter shapes where the sun could not reach.

Recycled Magazine Collages

Appropriate for: Grades 2–4

Materials: Old magazines, glue, scissors, cardboard or thick paper.

- Draw a basic shape or design on a piece of thick paper.
- Cut out color swatches, patterns, and textures from magazines.
- Fill out the image using the magazine swatches.
- Focus on shading, tone, and texture using only paper.



Found Object & Nature Mandalas

Appropriate for: All ages

Materials: Pebbles, leaves, twigs, buttons, bottle caps, etc.

- Arrange collected or recycled materials into a radial mandala pattern on a flat surface or glued onto cardboard.
- Take a photo before disassembling!

Silhouettes

Appropriate for: All ages

Materials: Paper & pencils, household objects, flashlight or intense sunlight.

- Create compositions using sunlight, shadow, and objects.
- Arrange objects into abstract compositions or create a realistic scene.
- Have a friend or family member trace your silhouette and fill it in with colored paper or designs.



Chalk Drawing

Appropriate for: All ages

Materials: Chalk, tape, an open sidewalk.

- Chalk drawing lets you create art outdoors on a reusable canvas. Older students can create more complicated designs with tape and shadowing. Hose it off when finished or let the rain do the work!

Nature / Texture Rubbing

Appropriate for: All ages

Materials: Crayons with the label removed, paper.

- Collect leaves and flat objects from nature and place them under paper. Use the side of the crayon to rub over the shape, transferring the texture. Layer objects to experiment with color and composition.

Met Museum Coloring Pages

Appropriate for: Grades 3+

The Metropolitan Museum of Art has created coloring pages spanning Ancient Egypt, Mesopotamia, Rococo France, and colonial America — a wonderful way to engage with art across cultures.

<https://www.metmuseum.org/learn/learning-resources/coloring-pages>

Sketchbooks

Appropriate for: All ages

Sketchbooks are a great creative outlet for any age. From doodling and journaling to collaging, the possibilities are endless. Some prompts:

- Draw a house for your favorite animal. What kind of rooms would they need? Is it cozy, wild, or underwater?
- Invent a new kind of vehicle. How does it move? Where does it go — space, the ocean, the sky?
- Draw your dream playground. What fun things would it have? Add colors, slides, swings, and surprises!
- Create a silly creature by combining 3 animals. What parts come from each? What does it eat? What's its name?
- Draw yourself as a superhero. What are your powers? What does your costume look like?
- Design a restaurant for monsters. What's on the menu? What do the tables, plates, and waiters look like?
- Draw a magical tree. What grows on it? Who or what might live in it?
- Make a map of an imaginary land. Add mountains, castles, rivers, or anything you can dream up!
- Draw how you're feeling using only shapes and colors. Can you show happy, excited, tired, or silly?

Zentangle Art

Appropriate for: 4th grade and up

Zentangle is a meditative drawing method emphasizing relaxation, focus, and creativity. The 8 basic steps:

1. Gratitude & Appreciation — Take a moment to feel thankful; this helps you relax and focus.
2. Draw a Border — On a small square tile (typically 3.5" × 3.5"), draw a light pencil border near the edges.
3. Create a String — Draw a light pencil line inside the border to divide the space into sections. Any shape works — no right or wrong.
4. Tangle — Fill each section with repeated patterns ("tangles"). Use a pen, draw deliberately, and let your mind relax.
5. Use Only Basic Tools — A black pen (Micron recommended), a pencil for shading, and white paper or tile.
6. No Erasing — There are no mistakes in Zentangle. Turn any unexpected marks into something new.

- 7. Abstract, Not Representational — Keep it non-representational to promote mindfulness and creative flow.
- 8. Appreciate Your Work — Rotate your tile and view it from all sides. Acknowledge your creativity.

For more info:

<https://zentangle.com/pages/get-started>

Pop Art Inspired Paper Food Sculptures

Appropriate for: Grades 5–6

Design and create a paper sculpture of an object, food, or product of your choice, inspired by pop art.

YouTube tutorial:

<https://youtu.be/Mid3pUvHGAE?si=0pFvf-bk8JKoLhus>

Materials: White printer paper or construction paper, markers or colored pencils, clear packing tape, scissors, stuffing (PollyFill or recycled materials).

Instructions:

- Choose Your Object — Pick an item to turn into a squishy (e.g., cereal box, ice cream container, candy box).
- Draw Your Design Front and Back — Sketch, outline with a marker, then color fully.
- Cut Out and Seal — Cut out your design and cover with clear packing tape.
- Tape Edges — Place the two shapes back-to-back (colored sides out) and tape around the edges, leaving a small opening.
- Add Stuffing — Stuff through the opening to your desired squishiness.
- Seal It Shut — Close the opening with tape.

Museum Resources

- [#MetKids — Metropolitan Museum of Art \(NYC\)](#)
- [MoMA Family & Kids \(NYC\)](#)
- [Parrish Art Museum — Water Mill, NY](#)
- [Nassau County Museum of Art — Roslyn Harbor, NY](#)

■ Crafts — Summer Woodworking Explorations

Grades 3–8

1. Tree Detective

Goal: Identify and document 3–5 types of trees in your neighborhood or a park.

- Observe leaves, bark, and tree shape.
- Sketch or photograph each tree.
- Use a field guide or free app (the Seek app is great!) to identify it.



2. Joinery Scavenger Hunt

Goal: Find and sketch examples of woodworking joints around your house or at a local historical museum.

- Look for: dovetails (drawers), miter joints (picture frames), mortise & tenon (chairs and tables), dowels (furniture).
- Sketch or photograph each joint.
- Label the type of joint and where you found it.

3. Tool Time Bingo

Goal: Find common hand tools at home or in a garage.

- Make a bingo board with tool names or pictures: hammer, handsaw, chisel, clamp, level, tape measure, sanding block, etc.
- Cross off each tool as you find it.
- Ask an adult how that tool is used.
- Optional: Interview someone about their favorite tool.

4. Project Ideas

Goal: Brainstorm ideas for personal projects during free time.

- Great reference books: Woodshop for Kids, The Guide to Woodworking with Kids, and Woodworking with Your Kids.
- Create some rough sketches of your ideas.
- Try to include dimensions (How many inches tall, wide, and thick?)

5. Lumber Yard Trip

Goal: Become familiar with places to source wood.

- Visit Home Depot or Lowe's and browse the lumber section. What species do they carry? What sizes?
- Bonus: Visit a small locally owned lumberyard like Sorenson Lumber to see a wider variety of wood species.

■ Drama

Grades 1–3

These activities encourage imaginative play, storytelling, movement, and creative expression:

Costume Box: Assemble a box of "costumes" using old clothes, hats, scarves, and props. Use each costume to inspire different characters and act out fun scenarios.

Story Reenactment: Choose a favorite story or fairy tale. Act out parts of the story with family or friends using props from around the house (e.g., a towel for a cape, a spoon for a sword).

Puppet Show Fun: Create puppets using socks, paper bags, paper cups, or shadows on the wall — then use them to tell a story.

Animal Movements: Pretend to move and make sounds like different animals. Can you walk like a lion? Hop like a rabbit?

Emotion Charades: Practice showing different emotions (happy, sad, surprised, angry, excited, etc.) and have someone guess!

Body Sculpture: Ask family members to strike frozen poses to create "living sculptures." Can you form yourself into a tree, a car, or an animal without talking?

Magic Word Performance: Choose a random word (like "banana" or "sunshine") and make up a short scene where the word is part of the dialogue.

■ French

3rd Grade

Movie Activity

Watch a movie in French with English subtitles to get used to hearing the language.

Interactive Games

Digital Dialects — Practice vocabulary learned this year:

<https://www.digitaldialects.com/French.htm>

French Games:

<https://www.french-games.net/frenchgames>

Kahoot Quizzes

Play on your own or with friends! Join via the links below or enter the PIN at **kahoot.it**.

Numbers 0–20 (PIN: 01842791)

<https://kahoot.it/challenge/01842791>

Les couleurs / The Colors (PIN: 07842519)

<https://kahoot.it/challenge/07842519>

Full 3rd Grade Kahoot collection:

<https://create.kahoot.it/share/french-30/d63c3c39-5790-4842-87a1-e038de4a7039>

Grades 4–5

Movie Activity

Watch a movie in French with English subtitles.

Kahoot Quizzes — 4th Grade Review

<https://create.kahoot.it/share/4th-grade-review/fe588fda-6523-4635-9fa2-34815111e619>

<https://create.kahoot.it/share/fr40-unit1/6c0defd6-727f-43d5-a860-f4fdfe50e659>

<https://kahoot.it/challenge/03788573>

Lesson Review (Google Docs)

Review what we covered this year with these lesson documents:

[Lesson 1](#)

[Lesson 2](#)

[Lesson 3](#)

[Lesson 4](#)

[Lesson 5](#)

[Lesson 6](#)

[Lesson 7](#)

[Lesson 8](#)

Grade 5

Movie Activity

Watch a movie in French (choose a genre you typically enjoy).

Les leçons de l'année — Year Review (Google Docs)

Review the lessons from this year:

[Lesson 1](#)

[Lesson 2](#)

[Lesson 3](#)

[Lesson 4](#)

[Lesson 5](#)

[Lesson 6](#)

[Lesson 7](#)

[Lesson 8](#)

[Lesson 9](#)

[Lesson 10](#)

Vocabulary & Grammar Review

Review all vocabulary and grammar using these documents:

[Vocabulary Review](#)

[Grammar Review](#)

[Practice Exercises](#)

[Study Guide](#)

[Unit Review](#)

[Final Summary](#)

Kahoot Quizzes

Play individually or with classmates:

[General Review \(FR-50\)](#)

[Lesson 7 Review](#)

[ER Verbs Review \(PIN: 09237347\)](#)

[Lesson 6 — The Verb "Être" \(PIN: 01783178\)](#)

[Lesson 8 — Questions & Inversions \(PIN: 04378291\)](#)

■ Innovation

Rising 2nd Graders

This year we explored how things work. What fascinates your child that they'd like to understand better? Some suggestions:

- What makes a plane fly?
- How does a lightbulb work?
- How does a whistle work?

Rising 3rd Graders

Having explored electricity and circuits, we will continue to focus on objects that use electricity. Which objects would your child like to understand — or build on a small scale?

- Dishwasher
- Refrigerator
- Microwave
- Clock
- Car combustion engine or electric motor

Rising 4th Graders

We will begin the year examining the discovery of flight — from da Vinci to the present — starting with the Wright Brothers.

Paper Airplane Contest: Using a plain 8.5" × 11" sheet of paper, start designing planes to bring on the first day of class! Prizes go to the farthest-flying plane in each class. The current grade record is **43.5 feet** — a special award awaits anyone who breaks it!

Rising 5th Graders

Students with a GVS **Tinkercad** account can log in at home to design a 3D print and email it to your teacher for printing at the start of school.

Also: come prepared to define **Innovation** and share what you consider the greatest innovation of the last 1,000 years.

Rising 6th Graders

Search online for **Vexgo** to get a head start on building small robots and designing the code to make them function.

■ Music

Grades 1–3

These hands-on activities reinforce musical concepts learned this year:

Nature Rhythm Walk: Go on a walk and clap along to your footsteps. Try creating rhythms using sticks, rocks, or leaves.

Sound Hunt: List 5 sounds you hear around your home or outside, then try to imitate each with your voice or body.

Clap the Beat: Listen to music and clap or tap the steady beat. Try it with different songs and compare the tempos.

Story Song Time: Turn a favorite story or book into a song using a simple melody you know — or make one up!

Musical Patterns with Objects: Use toys or blocks to make a rhythm pattern (e.g., car-car-lego-car). Say or tap the pattern out loud.

Rhythm Card Creation: Draw quarter notes (du), eighth notes (du-de), and quarter rests. Compose 4-beat rhythms, then speak, clap, or tap them. Try increasing the tempo as you practice!

Homemade Instrument Creation: Use recycled materials to make a shaker, drum, or rubber band guitar. Draw a picture and name your instrument!

Digital Resources

- Check out the **#ConcertsforKids** playlist by Lincoln Center at Home on YouTube or lincolncenter.org. Favorites: 123 Andrés & Music From the Sole.
- Listen to **Jazz at Lincoln Center's Jazz for Kids Playlist**. Do you recognize any of the melodies?
- Experiment with **Chrome Music Lab's** digital music tools. Do you have a favorite music game?

Go See Live Music & Theater!

Seeing live musicians in person is a multisensory experience unlike anything on a screen. Some summer suggestions:

Tilles Center Jazz Festival — July 18, 2026 — Nine concerts in a day!

John W. Engeman Theater — A year-round professional theater in Northport. See Broadway shows without traveling to NYC!

Argyle Theater — Children's theater productions in Babylon.

Grades 4–6

Private Lessons

A wonderful way to maintain and strengthen musical skills over the summer is to take private lessons — singing or an instrument! Contact:

- Mr. Huckins: ehuckins@greenvaleschool.org

- Ms. Chen: jchen@greenvaleschool.org

Go See Live Music & Theater!

LI Chamber Music — Monthly concerts at Planting Fields and Caumsett Park. Founded by Mr. & Mrs. Huckins!

Oyster Bay Music Festival — Late June – early July. Summer concerts by up-and-coming young professional musicians. Run by flute teacher Lauren Ausubel.

Tilles Center Jazz Festival — July 18, 2026 — Nine concerts in a day!

Bridgehampton Chamber Music Summer Festival — July 18 – August 17, 2026. Chamber music in the Hamptons.

Rites of Spring Music Festival — Various dates throughout the summer. Chamber music on the North Fork and East End of LI.

John W. Engeman Theater — A year-round professional theater. See Broadway shows without traveling to NYC!

Classical Pieces to Add to Your Family Playlist

- "Peter and the Wolf" — Sergei Prokofiev
- "Carnival of the Animals" — Camille Saint-Saëns
- "Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra" — Leonard Bernstein

■ Spanish

Rising 2nd Graders

Review these topics over the summer using the YouTube videos below:

Introductory Video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6FEyfy5N3Nc>

Colors (Los colores):

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gBeYkZiaSB8>

Days of the Week:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v7mm8MC1MgY>

Las vocales (The Vowels):

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NgJ86n9_RaE

2nd Grade — Summer Review

El alfabeto / The Alphabet

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9LT9ltzFJTQ>

- The letter J sounds like the H in "huge."
- The letter H is silent.

Números / Numbers

Count by tens — "Gotas de diez en diez":

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k4IJGPfHidY>

10/diez · 20/veinte · 30/treinta · 40/cuarenta · 50/cincuenta · 60/sesenta · 70/setenta · 80/ochenta · 90/noventa · 100/cien

¿Cuántos años tienes? / How old are you?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xELqgReC0SE>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y0WII_7-Nz8

El calendario / The Calendar

Months of the year — "Doce Meses del Año":

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-vjhCLVVSXQ>

enero · febrero · marzo · abril · mayo · junio · julio · agosto · septiembre · octubre · noviembre · diciembre

Los días de la semana / Days of the Week

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v7mm8MC1MgY>

lunes · martes · miércoles · jueves · viernes · sábado · domingo

Los colores / The Colors

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Jz69JxNznWA>

rojo/red · amarillo/yellow · azul/blue · anaranjado/orange · verde/green · morado/purple · rosado/pink ·
café/brown · negro/black · blanco/white

3rd Grade

Numbers Review

[Quizlet: Números 1–15](#)

Numbers Kahoot:

<https://create.kahoot.it/share/numeros/c302d6a9-5f18-4b67-aebc-d1e97693a724>

Food Vocabulary (La comida)

When visiting a restaurant, think of the vocabulary words in Spanish!

- Yo quiero comer queso. (I want to eat cheese.)
- Yo quiero beber agua / jugo de naranja / un refresco / leche.

Food Kahoot:

<https://create.kahoot.it/share/la-comida/735bdc2e-c613-4867-98a3-793e4de5910c>

Video — Ordering food:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jV89vs9k1wQ>

Clothing (La ropa)

When getting dressed, say the clothing vocabulary words in Spanish!

Example: Yo llevo una camisa azul. (I am wearing a blue shirt.)

4th Grade — Summer Review

Numbers Kahoot

<https://create.kahoot.it/share/numeros/c302d6a9-5f18-4b67-aebc-d1e97693a724>

Greetings, Farewells & Basic Expressions

Spanish	English
¡Buenos días!	Good morning!
¡Buenas tardes!	Good afternoon!
¡Buenas noches!	Good night!
¿Cómo estás?	How are you?
¡Estoy bien, gracias! Estoy... cansado/a, enojado/a, triste, nervioso/a	I'm fine, thanks! sad, nervous, excited, scared.
¡Hasta mañana! / ¡Hasta luego!	See you tomorrow! / See you later!
¿Puedo ir al baño? / ¿Puedo ir a beber agua?	May I go to the bathroom? / May I go to drink water?
Me gusta / No me gusta	I like / I don't like
Tengo hambre / Tengo sed	I'm hungry / I'm thirsty
¿Cómo te llamas? Me llamo _____.	What's your name? My name is _____.
¿Cuántos años tienes? Tengo ____ años.	How old are you? I am ____ years old.

¿Dónde vives? Yo vivo en _____.	Where do you live? I live in _____.
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Days, Months & Seasons

Spanish	English
Los días de la semana: lunes, martes, miércoles, jueves, viernes, sábado, domingo (Not capitalized in Spanish)	Days of the week: Monday–Sunday (Not capitalized in Spanish)
Los meses del año: enero, febrero, marzo, abril, mayo, junio, julio, agosto, septiembre, octubre, noviembre, diciembre	Months of the year: January–December (Not capitalized in Spanish)
Estaciones: Primavera · Verano · Otoño · Invierno	Seasons: Spring · Summer · Fall · Winter

Definite & Indefinite Articles

	Singular	Plural
Definite (the) — Masculine	el	los
Definite (the) — Feminine	la	las
Indefinite (a/an/some) — Masculine	un	unos
Indefinite (a/an/some) — Feminine	una	unas

Note: Nouns use EITHER a definite OR indefinite article — never both.

Numbers 1–10

uno · dos · tres · cuatro · cinco · seis · siete · ocho · nueve · diez

5th Grade — Summer Review

Review the following verb conjugations:

Verb: SER (to be)

Yo soy	Nosotros/as somos
Tú eres	Vosotros/as sois
Él/Ella/Usted es	Ellos/Ellas/Ustedes son

Verb: TENER (to have)

Yo tengo	Nosotros/as tenemos
Tú tienes	Vosotros/as tenéis
Él/Ella/Usted tiene	Ellos/Ellas/Ustedes tienen

GUSTAR and Regular -AR Verb Conjugations

Also review **GUSTAR** and regular **-AR verbs**. Practice with:

pintar · llorar · amar · gritar · cantar · pegar · remar · estornudar · saltar · escuchar · saludar · cortar · mirar · cocinar · nadar · contestar · comprar · limpiar · descansar · usar · tocar (un instrumento) · montar (en bicicleta)

■ Technology

1st Grade

Engaging, age-appropriate summer tech activities designed for first graders to reinforce technology skills through creativity and play:

Intro to Coding & Logic

Kid-Friendly Coding Apps:

- Rodocodo — A game-based platform teaching coding fundamentals through interactive puzzles and challenges.
- Kodable — Teaches logic and sequencing through fun mazes.

Unplugged Coding Games:

- Create a "coding path" on the floor using arrows and have your child "program" a toy to follow the route.
- Use LEGO bricks to build color-based patterns and translate them into codes (e.g., red = move forward).

Problem-Solving & Exploration

STEM Exploration Apps:

- PBS Kids ScratchJr, Lightbot Jr, or Osmo (if you have the kit) teach sequencing, math, and logic.

Simple Robotics:

- Try beginner-friendly robots like Bee-Bot, Botley, or Code-a-pillar, which teach directional coding and sequencing.

Safe Internet Exploration

Internet Safety Mini-Lessons:

- Use NetSmartz Kids or Common Sense Media's Digital Citizenship Curriculum to introduce safe online behavior through games and cartoons.

Keyboarding & Typing

Keyboarding practice is a highly beneficial skill to develop over the summer:

<https://www.typingclub.com/>

2nd Grade

Engaging, age-appropriate summer tech activities designed for second graders to reinforce technology skills through creativity and play:

Intro to Coding & Logic

Kid-Friendly Coding Apps:

- Rodocodo — A game-based platform teaching coding fundamentals through interactive puzzles and challenges.
- Kodable — Teaches logic and sequencing through fun mazes.

- Tynker (Early Learners) — Beginner coding projects with themes like Minecraft or Star Wars.

Unplugged Coding Games:

- Create a "coding path" on the floor using arrows and have your child "program" a toy to follow the route.
- Use LEGO bricks to build color-based patterns and translate them into codes (e.g., red = move forward).

Create with Technology

Build a Simple Game or Interactive Story:

- Use ScratchJr to animate a favorite story or design an original game where characters navigate obstacles.

Digital Storytelling:

- Use Book Creator or Toontastic to create illustrated eBooks about summer adventures!

Media & Creativity Tools

Make a Digital Photo Journal:

- Document summer memories by taking photos on a tablet, then organize them into a slideshow or scrapbook using Canva or Google Slides.

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