

CEC's Everest Point Homeschool Academy

2021-2022 Course Catalogue

Everest Point Homeschool Academy (EPHA) is a homeschool enrichment program that is a part of Colorado Early Colleges (CEC). You should view EPHA as a supplement to your primary education at home, not as a replacement. Any course taken at EPHA can be added to your official home transcript, and courses taken at the high school level count towards graduation credit. We have worked hard to offer a variety of courses for all ages, and we believe there is something for everyone. Please note that at this time, you will probably not find all the courses you want to round out your entire academic schedule, but this is good supplementation.

Your student will be in the same five classes for the entire school year. Students in grades K-5 receive a Pass/Fail for courses, and students in grades 6-12 receive a letter grade each semester. Anything below 70% is considered failing. Secondary students receiving college credit through CEC should follow CEC guidelines. Courses taken at EPHA do not affect college credit, nor do college courses affect credit with EPHA. This catalog is not a listing for college courses.

When registering for classes, students need to have a first and second choice for each class period. Consider this when reading this catalog. Also, pay special attention to the homework expectations and required supplies listed for each course. Some courses will need extra supplies to be provided by the student.

****Homework Levels are rated 0 to 5, with 0 meaning “no work outside of class” to 4 meaning “there will be up to 4 hours of work outside of class time”. A 5 means this class will possibly include weekend work, so be prepared to work hard.****

ALL students should expect to bring basic school supplies to each class: pens, sharpened pencils, erasers, paper, folders, and coloring supplies. Some classes will require additional supplies, which are listed under each course.

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Class listing by grade level

Elementary (K-5th)

A Day in the Museum
Grade: 2 nd -5 th
Course Description: Course Description: Have you ever wanted to go to Paris and see the Louvre, travel to Belfast and explore the Titanic museum, or visit the Smithsonian in Washington DC? A Day in the Museum gives students the opportunity to explore museums around the world from the comfort of our classroom. We will cover 3-4 major museums and explore smaller museums as well. We will end our year by creating and presenting our very own wax museum!
Prerequisite: None Homework Level: 0-1
Required supplies: composition notebook, folder, pencils, crayons/colored pencils and markers, glue

AIMS 2
Grade: 2 nd -3 rd
Course Description: AIMS is also known as Adventures in Math & Science. Through the year, students will learn the different units of measurements (metric & standard), as well as learn how to make graphs as a class. Students will conduct different science experiments, identifying & classifying things, and engage in activities that bridge Science & Math together. The teacher will model experiments/activities, having students work together in teams to conduct the experiment together. Then students will complete further investigations/experiments with a partner/teams. Then the class will create class graphs to display our findings. ***If you took AIMS 1 (last year) you can take this class as we will be covering a whole new curriculum. ***
Prerequisite: Student needs to be able to read/write on their own. Homework Level: 1
Required supplies: Clipboard, 2 pocket folder, spiral notebook, pencils, color pencils. Students will be required to bring a few consumable supplies on occasion (\$5 or less per month). A sign up genius will be emailed out requesting items.

AIMS 2

Grade: 4th-6th

Course Description:

AIMS is also known as Adventures in Math & Science. Through the year, students will conduct different science experiments, identifying & classifying things, and engaging in activities that bridge Science & Math together. Activities will include the use of different types of measurements. Results are recorded and presented in different ways (bar graphs, line graphs, pie charts, etc.).

The teacher will model the 1st round of experiments/activities. Then students will complete further investigations/experiments with teams. Team results will be shared and compared with the other teams that are working together.

If you took AIMS 1 (last year) you can take this class as we will be covering a whole new curriculum.

Prerequisite: Student needs to be able to read/write on their own, know units of measurement (Metric & Standard), and read/design math graphs.

Homework Level: 1

Required supplies: Clipboard, 2 pocket folder, spiral notebook, pencils, color pencils. Students will be required to bring a few consumable supplies on occasion (\$5 or less per month). A sign up genius will be emailed out requesting items.

AmeriTowne PLUS

Grade: 4th-6th

Course Description:

Ameritowne PLUS is a smaller-scale version of Young Ameritowne. We will learn many of the same concepts of financial literacy. Some of the topics that the class will cover are economics, banking, money management, government, communications, and philanthropy. We will learn the basics of these concepts, but will also be “digging deeper” into some of them. We will finish our year with a field trip to Ameritowne in the Spring of 2022. This will be scheduled outside of our regular school day. **Additional fees for this class may apply. Due to demand and repeated material, this is a one-time only class. If you took it previously, please do not sign up for it again.**

Prerequisite: None

Homework Level: 0, Field Trip in the Spring

Required supplies: \$15 per student to cover the cost of Ameritowne supplies

Behind Bars

Grade: 2nd-3rd

Course Description:

Let's play barred instruments! Students in this class will experience fundamental music concepts (note reading, rhythm, notation, improvisation and composition) by playing fun pieces each week on the xylophones, metallophones, and glockenspiels, as well as drums and other percussion instruments.

Prerequisite: None

Homework Level: 0

Required supplies: None

Behind Bars

Grade: 4th-6th

Course Description:

This class will focus on playing barred instruments! Students will play fun and challenging pieces on the xylophones, metallophones, and glockenspiels as well as drums and other percussion instruments. Students will experience music reading, rhythm, notation, improvisation and composition.

Prerequisite: None

Homework Level: 0

Required supplies: None

Colorado History

Grade: 2nd-5th

Course Description:

Colorado history will engage students in the geography, history, economics, and environment of the beautiful state they call home. In class we will discover the stories of people who first explored the area, people who first settled the area, and people who helped Colorado grow into what it is today. During class time students will engage in hands-on projects that will encourage creativity and help to make the content personally meaningful.

Prerequisite: Proficient reading and writing skills are required

Homework Level: 0-1

Required supplies: Half-inch three ring binder with loose-leaf lined paper, scissors, glue, either crayons or colored pencils, and two pencils (mechanical or with a sharpener)

Competitive Sports and Games

Grade: 2nd-5th

Course Description:

In Competitive Sports and Games for elementary, kids will continue exploring and growing in their athletic abilities through a variety of physical games and sports. Kids will progress from simple gross motor skills and will develop better hand-eye coordination, ball control, and physical endurance in fun and challenging ways. This class is the same as elementary Sports and Games but with a competitive twist that lets those who are comfortable engage in a greater amount of healthy competition and good sportsmanship with each other.

Prerequisite: None

Homework Level: 0

Required supplies: Tennis shoes, appropriate clothing, water bottle with lid

Creative Writing

Grade: 4th-6th

Course Description:

Come find your voice in fun and interactive ways. We will explore writing through Lego creation, comics, fables, and more. This class will focus on the development of written language with an emphasis on the creative processes of “Ideas, Voice, and Word Choice.”

Prerequisite: None

Homework Level: 0-1

Required supplies: composition notebook, folder, pencils, crayons/colored pencils and markers, glue

Culinary Road Trip: Advanced Cooking

Grade: 4th-6th

Course Description:

This class will be great for the adventurous eater. We will be trying Mexican, Hawaiian, Portuguese, Japanese, Chinese, Italian, and all the different foods you can imagine.
Pending COVID GUIDELINES: Masks will be required to be worn during the cooking process in class.

Prerequisite: Students need to have a lot of experience in the kitchen. They need to know how to control themselves during wait times of cooking, read a recipe, use a knife, and use an oven/stove. Most of all — TRY NEW FOODS

Homework Level: 0

Required supplies: Spiral notebook (to hold recipes), pencil, glue sticks and a Kitchen Tool Kit. In the Kitchen Tool Kit will need: kitchen towel, apron, measuring spoons, measuring cups, fork, spoon, small knife, cutting board. Students will be required to bring their Kitchen Tool Kit weekly to class and take it home. If any consumable items are needed, there will be a sign up genius link emailed out requesting items.

First Grade

Grade: 1st

Course Description:

We will start each morning with our morning meeting. This is a great way to come together to get ready for our day! Morning meeting will include our calendar time, days of the week and months of the year. This may include a short story, phonics warm-up, math review, or a review of anything we have been learning. This is also a great time to talk about our routines and procedures, and our daily goals! I will be using learning centers during everyday during Literacy and some days during Math time. These are stations set -up around the room that have an activity or game to work on a specific skill. Centers are completed with one or two other students! Students will rotate around the room to work on each center for that day.

Language Arts Centers: Hands-on learning stations to practice and reinforce skills we are learning at home. Centers will reinforce phonics, phonemic awareness, sight words, handwriting, and much more. This is also the time where I will meet with my small reading groups to focus on individualized instruction.

Math Centers and Games: We will be working on age appropriate math concepts as a group and through hands- on math centers and games! This will help students become confident with numbers and their math skills!

Science: We will focus on science in a super fun, inquiry-based learning environment. We will learn about and investigate many different, age - appropriate science topics. Science will coordinate with our theme for the day. Ex: pumpkins, apples, spiders, penguins etc.

Arts and Crafts: A FUN time to be creative! We may draw, paint, cut and paste, or color! A time to let our creative juices flow. Crafts may be connected to a book, our science unit, seasons, or may just be something, well, CREATIVE!

**First grade is also a time to build our social and emotional skills! We will be working on these skills throughout our day by working with partners and in groups. Some centers throughout our day will serve the sole purpose of working with others, sharing, and taking turns.

Prerequisite: None

Homework Level: 0

Required supplies: First Grade supply list will be distributed before the first day of school.

Fun with Performing and Speaking

Grade: 4th-6th

Course Description:

In this class, students will enjoy participating in reader's theater, learning basic public speaking skills, and experimenting with improvisation games which will help build their confidence in acting and speaking in front of others. This class may involve a *small* amount of memorization at home, but otherwise no regular homework will be required. This class will challenge students to overcome fears of speaking and acting in front of others in a fun, safe, and encouraging environment. Class time will be creative, low pressure, and enjoyable!

Prerequisite: To participate in this class, students must have proficient skills in reading aloud! If you are in doubt, please select a different class for your student!

Homework Level: 0-1

Required supplies: Half-inch three ring binder with loose-leaf lined paper, pen, and pencils

Fun with Cursive and Spelling

Grade: 2nd-4th

Course Description:

This class will teach cursive and strengthen spelling and basic writing skills through routine practice and with supplemental activities such as word searches, crosswords, board races, story creation, and more.

Prerequisite: As we will be learning cursive in this class, it is recommended that your student be comfortable writing in print but not be able to write in cursive yet.

Homework Level: 0-1

Required supplies: Half-inch three ring binder with loose-leaf lined paper, pen, and pencils

Geographical Art

Grade: 4th-5th

Course Description:

This class will be a combination of Art and Geography! In class we will “travel” around the world learning about each area and creating art representative of that part of the world. This class will be a creative, academic, and hands on engagement with people and places all around the globe!

Prerequisite: Proficient reading and writing skills are required.

Homework Level: 0-1

Required supplies: Half-inch three ring binder with loose-leaf lined paper, scissors, glue, either crayons or colored pencils, and two pencils (mechanical or with a sharpener)

Geographical Art

Grade: 2nd-3rd

Course Description:

This class will be a combination of Art and Geography! In class we will “travel” around the world learning about each area and creating art representative of that part of the world. This class will be a creative and hands on engagement with people and places all around the globe!

Prerequisite: None

Homework Level: 0-1

Required supplies: Half-inch three ring binder with loose-leaf lined paper, scissors, glue, either crayons or colored pencils, and two pencils (mechanical or with a sharpener)

Get Artsy with Paint, Clay, and More!

Grade: 2nd-5th

Course Description:

This class will stretch your child's creative development and teach them how to think outside the box and "color outside the lines." We will laugh, get our hands messy, and have boatloads of fun, all while growing your student's fine motor skills and hand-eye coordination.

Prerequisite: None

Homework Level: 0

Required supplies: Paper and colored pencils or crayons. (Other materials will be provided by Everest Point.)

Kid Town/Around the World and Back Again

Grade: 2nd-3rd

Course Description:

Kid Town / Intro to Economics – 1st Semester

Students will learn the key social studies and economic concepts of what a community is and will be introduced to basic economic vocabulary (needs/wants, producers/consumers, supply/demand etc.) We will work in cooperative groups to build and set up stores and play the roles of both consumers and producers. We will be practicing our reading, speaking, math, and art skills as we are learning about economics and creating our stores.

We will spend the first day or two of class getting to know one another!

Around The World and Back Again! – 2nd Semester

We will begin by mapping our 7 continents and 5 oceans of the world. We will then travel back home and explore our wonderful country. We will be learning about maps and practice our mapping skills and will then dive into exploring the 5 regions of the United States of America. We will be picking one (or two) states per region to research and learn more about!

Prerequisite: None

Homework Level: 0

Required supplies: Pencil box with pencil, markers, crayons, glue stick, scissors

Kindergarten

Grade: K

Course Description:

We will spend our first few weeks of kindergarten getting to know each other, our teachers and our school, our schedule, and routines. After that, we will begin to work on literacy skills, writing, math, art projects, science, social studies, and all kinds of other fun things! Kindergarten is also a time for learning through play and developing social and emotional skills. We will be incorporating these into our day as well.

Prerequisite: None

Homework Level: 0

Required supplies: Kindergarten supply list will be distributed before the first day of school.

Kindergarten/First Grade Music, Sports and Games

Grade: K-1st

Course Description:

Music: Kindergartners and first graders will sing, play, create, and move in this fun music class. We will experience and learn about music through speech, song, drama, dancing and instrument playing.

Sports and Games: Students will play sports and games, exercise, and learn athletic skills in a fun and challenging environment. Classes will focus on gross motor skills, body awareness, and exploring different sports and games. Students will learn about teamwork, sportsmanship, and friendly competition in fun, interactive ways.

***Kinder and first grade students spend half of 3rd period in music and half in sports and games. You will not sign up for this class as kinder and first grade students automatically participate.**

Prerequisite: None

Homework Level: 0

Required supplies: Tennis shoes, appropriate clothing, water bottle with lid

MUG Meals: Intro to Cooking

Grade: 2nd-5th

Course Description:

Mug meals is a great class for students to explore the basic concepts needed in the kitchen. Students will identify tools used in the kitchen, learn about different types of measurements, and learn how to read & follow recipes. This is a slower pace cooking class that students will start by learning recipes without the use of a hot stove or sharp knife. Then, we will move on to using new kitchen skills that would need some adult assistance and monitoring. Recipes will build in skill level. All recipes will use a large mug, jar, or cup. All cooking will be done in the MICROWAVE. **If you took EITHER cooking class last year, this class is not recommended as we will repeat topics and recipes.**

Pending COVID GUIDELINES: Masks will be required to be worn during the cooking process in class.

Prerequisite: Basic reading ability (for recipes)

Homework Level: 0

Required supplies: Spiral notebook (to hold recipes), pencil, glue sticks and a Kitchen Tool Kit. In the Kitchen Tool Kit will need: large mug, kitchen towel, apron, measuring spoons, measuring cups, fork, spoon, knife. Students will be required to bring their Kitchen Tool Kit weekly to class and take it home. If any consumable items are needed, there will be a sign up genius link emailed out requesting items.

Piano Level 2

Grade: 3rd-5th

Course Description:

Continue to develop your piano skills in this interactive group setting. Group piano classes are a fun, motivational way to learn. We will be learning on electric keyboards and will use the Level 1 Piano Adventures books by Nancy Faber. Students will have weekly practice assignments for homework (20 minutes of at-home practice is required 5 times a week).

Prerequisite: This class is for students who have completed the Beginning Piano class, and/or the Piano Adventures Primer Level books.

Homework Level: 2

Required supplies: Required Supplies: bring to class: pocket folder, pencil, at home: a piano or electric keyboard is required for practice

Sports and Games

Grade: 2nd-4th

Course Description:

In elementary Sports and Games, kids will continue exploring and growing in their athletic abilities through a variety of physical games and sports. Kids will progress from simple gross motor skills and will develop better hand eye coordination, ball control, and physical endurance in fun and challenging ways.

Prerequisite: None

Homework Level: 0

Required supplies: Tennis shoes, appropriate clothing, water bottle with lid

STEM 1.0

Grade: 2nd-5th

Course Description:

This class will include Science, Technology, Engineering and Math. Students will learn by using our robots (Dash and Dot), tinkering with items, and building with recycled materials. They get to engage their minds through fun, hands-on STEM challenges! ****This class is for students who have NOT taken a STEM/STEAM class with Mrs. Adam***

Prerequisite: None

Homework Level: 0

Required supplies: composition notebook, folder, pencils, colored pencils, glue, and tape

STEM 2.0

Grade: 3rd-5th

Course Description:

If you have taken STEM/STEAM with Mrs. Adam, then this class is for you. We will continue to explore and play with Dash and Dot, tinker and build with recycled materials, and engage in all new STEM challenges.

Prerequisite: STEM/STEAM 1.0 with Mrs. Adam

Homework Level: 0

Required supplies: composition notebook, folder, pencils, colored pencils, glue, and tape

Step into Science

Grade: 2nd-5th

Course Description:

Come dive into the world's oceans and blast into outer space. Discover how our bodies work and walk with us as we explore ecosystems around the world.

We will dig into oceanography, astronomy, anatomy and biomes through hands-on lessons and experiments.

Prerequisite: None

Homework Level: 0

Required supplies: composition notebook, folder, pencils, crayons/colored pencils and markers, glue

Yeti Yowlers

Grade: 2nd-6th

Course Description:

Welcome to the choir! Students in this class will experience the joy of music by singing in a group. We will learn songs from varied cultures and traditions as well as proper singing technique and beginning music reading skills. Students will be exposed to choral music and will experience singing in harmony through the use of partner songs and rounds.

Prerequisite: None

Homework Level: 0-1

Required supplies: None

Secondary (6th-12th)

A Century of Change: How the 20th Century Impacts Your Life Today

Grade: 9th-12th (Tuesdays only)

Course Description:

Today's world was shaped by the 20th century. It was a century of massive changes, in philosophy, in technology, in culture, in science, in language; in almost every area of life, the 20th century brought about profound transformations. Sarita Holzman describes a few of the changes: "In 1900, it took days to travel from Europe to America. In 2000, it took hours. In 1900, only a wealthy few owned a car. In 2000, cars were common, if not quite universal. In 1900, even the radio had barely been invented and broadcasts were still several years away. By 2000, the radio had come and gone as primary entertainment, replaced by the television at first, and then an increasing array of electronics: cable, video games, computers, and the internet. In 1900, the airplane had not yet been invented. By 2000, men had gone to the moon, and satellites in orbit allowed many advances in communication." The things that happened in the 20th century paved the way for many of the most significant issues we face today. Our goal in this class is to explore some of these changes, how they helped create the world we live in, and why they matter to us today.

Prerequisite: Read/write English at or above grade level.

Homework Level: 3

Required supplies: Access to a computer with Internet access is preferred. Colored pencils, markers, binder with dividers (may be shared with other classes), loose-leaf paper, pencils or pens (blue or black ink)

American Sign Language/Deaf Culture 1

Grade: 6th-12th (Tuesdays only)

Course Description:

It is time to turn off your voice and open your eyes to the beauty of American Sign Language (ASL) and Deaf culture. Students will acquire a basic proficiency in American Sign Language (ASL) using a comprehensive, systematic approach. Learning over 500 vocabulary words along with Deaf Culture and History. *This course will require significant study and practice outside of class.* Our time together will be spent learning new material through playing games, videos, hand-outs and conversing with the language. This class is meant to be immersive, meaning, there will be little "voicing" in this class.

Prerequisite: Read/write English at or above grade level. Commitment to minimal "voicing" during class and a *Personal Commitment* to use the language outside of the classroom. No prior ASL knowledge necessary.

Homework Level: 1-3

Required supplies: Pencil, 3x5 index cards on a ring, a one subject notebook and binder, a mirror, access to an online dictionary and a computer /tablet for accessing and recording videos

American Sign Language/Deaf Culture 2

Grade: 6th-12th (Tuesdays only)

Course Description:

It is time to turn off your voice and open your eyes to the beauty of American Sign Language (ASL) and Deaf culture. Students will build upon the ASL Intro basic proficiency in American Sign Language (ASL) using a comprehensive, systematic approach. Learning an additional 400 vocabulary words along with Deaf Culture and History. *This course will require significant practice outside of class.* Our time together will be spent learning new material through playing games, videos, hand-outs, and conversing with the language. This class is meant to be immersive, meaning, there will be little “voicing” in this class.

Prerequisite: Read/write English at or above grade level. Completion of ASL Intro or permission from instructor. Class Commitment to no “voicing” during class and a *Personal Commitment* to use the language outside of the classroom.

Homework Level: 2-4

Required supplies: Pencil, 3x5 index cards on a ring, a one subject notebook and binder, ear plugs, a mirror, access to an online dictionary and a computer /tablet for accessing and recording videos

Beginning Handbuilding in Clay

Grade: 6th-12th

Course Description:

This course will introduce students to the wonderful world of clay! In this fun and relaxed class, students will learn beginning techniques of clay manipulation including pinch and coil methods, slab building, modeling, and surface and glaze application. There will be a mix of assigned and student-choice projects to allow for the creative process of the student.

Prerequisite: None

Homework Level: 0

Required supplies: long apron recommended, sketch book (can be inexpensive and any size), basic clay supply kit with at least all the tools included in this kit [Amazon.com: SE 8-Piece Pottery Tool Set - 4PT8: Home Improvement](#), small tub or container to store clay tools, and if needed, additional clay throughout the year.

Dabbling in Design

Grade: 6th-12th

Course Description:

Students will dip their toes into many fields of design, including photography, photo editing, marketing, graphic design, fashion, interior design, and more! We will see how the basic principles of design carry through all of these fields. Perhaps your student will catch a new hobby and open a new avenue of creativity through their discoveries in this class!

Prerequisite: None

Homework Level: 3. Homework will consist of design projects with varying time commitments. There will be little, if any, reading and writing assignments.

Required supplies: Notebook, pencil, eraser, sketch pad/paper, and colored pencils. At home, computer and reliable WiFi.

Escape Rooms!-Logical and Critical Thinking

Grade: 6th-9th

Course Description:

How do you make tough decisions? How do you problem solve through tricky situations? How do you make a personal opinion and express it well? These are all tough but empowering skills that your student will have a chance to learn in this class. We will study logical fallacies, discuss common topics of debate, and learn to communicate clearly, tactfully, and kindly. Students will also learn how to pick their battles well and know why they think the way they do. And to top it all off, we will use word problems and Escape Room games to practice these skills!

Prerequisite: None

Homework Level: 2. Students will have short weekly reading assignments and occasional research, writing, or presentation assignments.

Required supplies: Notebook and pens/pencils. At home, computer and reliable WiFi.

Escape Rooms!-Logical and Critical Thinking

Grade: 9th-12th

Course Description:

How do you make tough decisions? How do you problem solve through tricky situations? How do you make a personal opinion and express it well? These are all tough but empowering skills that your student will have a chance to learn in this class. We will study logical fallacies, discuss common topics of debate, and learn to communicate clearly, tactfully, and kindly. Students will also learn how to pick their battles well and know why they think the way they do. And to top it all off, we will use word problems and Escape Room games to practice these skills!

Prerequisite: None

Homework Level: 2. Students will have short weekly reading assignments and occasional research, writing, or presentation assignments.

Required supplies: Notebook and pens/pencils. At home, computer and reliable WiFi.

Essential Life Skills

Grade: 6th-12th

Course Description:

This will be a hands-on class where students learn and practice valuable life skills. Topics will include a wide variety of subjects—from interpersonal communication to wilderness survival. Students will also be able to share skills they already know—do you know how to edge a lawn or change a diaper? You will get the chance to teach that knowledge to others—another terrific life skill! NOTE: This is a repeatable class! We will be covering many new topics and diving deeper into others.

Prerequisite: None

Homework Level: 0-1

Required supplies: None, though families may be occasionally contacted to see if anyone has access to resources that may be needed.

Finding Your Voice with Public Speaking

Grade: 7th-12th

Course Description:

Public Speaking is the number one fear in America! This class is about finding the freedom to express yourself, to say what you mean, and to remove anything that hinders your inner voice! We will cover various types of public speaking, including comedy, persuasion, motivational, theatrical, educational, and improvisation. Students will practice diction, articulation, projection, intonation, winsomeness, credibility, creativity, imagination, and conquering fear! They will hone these skills through class presentations in a positive and affirming environment to boost confidence and enjoyment in finding their own voice!

Prerequisite: None

Homework Level: 3. Students will practice speaking skills at home and rehearse their speeches. The time commitment will vary for each project and student.

Required supplies: Notebook, pencils/pens, and 3”x5” notecards. At home, computer and reliable WiFi.

High School Composition: Creative Writing

Grade: 9th-12th

Course Description:

Research shows that creativity in composition is a valuable tool in helping students find their voice and improve their writing skills. This class will allow students to workshop their creative ideas in a variety of genres: short stories, memoir, poetry, and more. Students will use mentor texts and models to learn essential literary elements, as well as develop critical skills that can be used in any writing task: clarity, description, transition, and revision. Ultimately, the class will publish a literary journal at the end of the year, a compilation of their best work from the class.

Prerequisite: None

Homework Level: 2

Required supplies: Access to a computer with a word processing program (e.g. Microsoft Word, Pages, or Google Docs) and the ability to print copies of their work. Spiral or Composition Notebook, pen or pencils.

History of the Cold War

Grade: 9th-12th (Mondays only)

Course Description:

This class covers causes of the Cold War as well as the events that comprise the period. It is a year-long class and the reading requirements are extensive.

Grades will be based on quizzes, essays, and homework assignments, short writing assignments, scored discussions, maps and group work. Students will occasionally be given assignments dealing with modern applications of issues discussed in class. Students will be encouraged to engage in classroom discussion. Study skills, writing skills and logical argumentation will also be stressed as part of the course. There is no textbook, as all readings will be passed out as they are assigned.

Prerequisite: Read/Write at or above grade level.

Homework Level: 2-5 (This is very dependent on reading/writing level)

Required supplies: Spiral notebook; folder with 2 pockets, writing implements

“Kooking” with Kocher

Grade: 6th-12th

Course Description:

Yes, you read that right! Secondary cooking class. We will be cooking up a variety of things in class. From easy to advanced meals, either way you will gain some culinary skills to help you become a successful cook at home.

Pending COVID GUIDELINES: Masks will be required to be worn during the cooking process in class.

Prerequisite: Positive Attitude & Ready to TRY NEW FOODS

Homework Level: 1

Required supplies: Spiral notebook, pencil, glue sticks, & Kitchen TOOL Kit. In the TOOL Kit, you will have the following items: measuring cups, measuring spoons, kitchen towel, fork, butter knife, spoon. Other items may be requested throughout the year and email will let you know of the class needs. If any consumable items are needed, there will be a sign up genius link emailed out requesting items.

Math Frenzy: Games and Projects

Grade: 6th-8th

Course Description:

This class will be an engaging way to reinforce your middle school students’ math skills. We will explore a variety of games, real-world projects, and logic-centered activities. Some of the topics covered will include decision making, reasoning, pattern recognition, pre-algebra, if/then statements, ratios, geometry, estimation, fractions, percentages, process of elimination, and puzzles.

Prerequisite: None

Homework Level: 0-1

Required supplies: pencils, colored pencils, scissors, notebook, and folder

Middle School Composition: The Art of Letters

Grade: 6th-8th

Course Description:

This class will help students learn and improve writing skills through the non-threatening letter format. Using both handwritten and digital letter forms, the class will cover a variety of topics—everything from improving penmanship and developing a personal cursive signature to reviewing grammar rules and improving paragraph development. Students will experiment with different styles and purposes in their writing, trying out forms like friendly letters, letters of complaint, letters to the editor, apology letters, and more. We will also look at the role important letters have played in history. Finally, students will have the opportunity to develop both their writing skills and friendships through participating in a pen pal program!

Prerequisite: None

Homework Level: 1

Required supplies: Spiral or Composition Notebook, pen or pencils. Access to a computer with a word processing program (e.g. Microsoft Word, Pages, or Google Docs) and the ability to print their work.

Middle School Literature: Same Kind of Different as Me

Grade: 6th-8th

Course Description:

Books have the power to help us see the world from another perspective and connect to others with different backgrounds and viewpoints. This class will use books written from diverse viewpoints—from race and ethnicity to differently-abled characters—to help students understand that people are more alike than they are different. Reading, discussing, and interacting with these books will help students develop empathy and the ability to make connections with others, as well as help them review the traditional elements of literature. (Possible book selections include *New Kid*, *Other Words for Home*, *Wonder*, *El Deafo*, *Rules*, and *Okay for Now*.)

Prerequisite: None

Homework Level: 1

Required supplies: Spiral or Composition Notebook, pen or pencils. Access to a computer with a word processing program (e.g. Microsoft Word, Pages, or Google Docs) and the ability to print their work.

More Than Just Words: Communicating in Spanish

Grade: 6th-10th (Tuesdays only)

Course Description:

In this course, we will focus on communicating in Spanish, learning to listen, read, write, and converse on topics of personal interest. We will use a story- and experience-based approach to communication. The cultures of Spanish-speaking countries will also be covered. This course is intended to build a solid foundation for a lifelong love of the Spanish language and culture and the ability to understand and communicate in Spanish.

Prerequisite: Read/write English at or above grade level (**Because this is a language course, this is a critical prerequisite**). No prior Spanish knowledge necessary.

Homework Level: 3

Required supplies: Access to a computer with Internet connection is required. Colored pencils, markers, binder with dividers (may be shared with other classes), loose-leaf paper, pencils or pens (blue or black ink). A Spanish-English dictionary is not required for class, but it might be useful at home.

Practical Math for the Real World

Grade: 9th-12th

Course Description:

The principles covered in this class will be applicable to students for the rest of their lives. We will use Dave Ramsey's "Financial Foundations" curriculum with additional resources and activities to cover the following principles: financial planning, budgeting, credit and debt, insurance, income, taxes, education and career, and giving. Students will learn using real-life scenarios, and will create a financial plan tailored to their needs.

Prerequisite: None

Homework Level: 1-2

Required supplies: pencil, highlighter, notebook and folder or binder, and other supplies as needed.

Scientific Investigations

Grade: 6th-8th

Course Description:

Get ready to explore the world around us! This hands-on course will utilize the scientific method and illustrate the importance of observation while covering units on forensics, anatomy and physiology, biology, chemistry, and physics. Please note that students will be performing dissections as part of the Anatomy and Physiology unit, and will have the opportunity to determine their own blood type during the forensics unit.

This course is the same as last year's Problem Solving with Investigations and Experiments class. This class should only be taken 1 time.

Prerequisite: None

Homework Level: 0-1

Required supplies: pencils, highlighter, 3-ring binder, filler paper, tab dividers

Scientific Investigations 2

Grade: 9th-12th

Course Description:

Get ready to explore the world around us! This hands-on course will utilize the scientific method and illustrate the importance of observation while covering units on forensics, anatomy and physiology, biology, chemistry, and physics.

Please note that students will be performing dissections as part of the Anatomy and Physiology unit, and will determine their own blood type and watch selected episodes of Forensics Files during the forensics unit.

This class is the same as last year's Problem Solving with Investigations and Experiments. This class should only be taken 1 time. Scientific Investigations 2 will cover the same units of study covered in Scientific Investigations but geared for high school students.

Prerequisite: None

Homework Level: 1-2

Required supplies: Pencils, highlighter, 3-ring binder, filler paper, tab dividers

Sports and Games

Grade: 6th-12th

Course Description:

Dodgeball, anyone? Students will focus on individual and team sports, fitness activities, and team building. Kids will grow in strength, cardio, and flexibility. This class will challenge kids to move toward their athletic potential in fun, interactive ways.

Prerequisite: None

Homework Level: 0

Required supplies: Tennis shoes, appropriate clothing, water bottle with lid

The Play's the Thing: Reading and Enjoying Drama

Grade: 6th-12th (Tuesdays only)

Course Description:

Drama was never meant to simply be read; it was meant to be experienced! And that's what we will do in this class. We'll be looking a number of classic plays, plays like *Pygmalion* (the basis of *My Fair Lady*) and *The Miracle Worker* (the story of Helen Keller). We'll choose a variety of plays that cover the range of drama, from comedies to tragedies to histories and melodrama. All plays will be written in understandable English. The actual choice of plays will depend on the age and interest level of the class. In class, our focus will be on reading these plays aloud, without the pressure of performance. Class discussions of the plays will increase our understanding and enjoyment. We will consider whether to perform one or more as reader's theater depending on the class.

Prerequisite: Read/write English at or above grade level. Students will be reading aloud every class period.

Homework Level: 3 - Homework will consist almost entirely of pre-reading plays to make reading and discussion flow smoothly.

Required supplies: Two colors of highlighters are required for marking parts; more would be helpful since students may be asked to read multiple parts. Colored pencils, binder with dividers (may be shared with other classes), loose-leaf paper, pencils or pens (blue or black ink only please).

US History/Geography 1

Grade: 6th-9th (Mondays only)

Course Description:

These classes will focus on the cause and effect of actions taken by individuals and nations and they will include study of geography. Grades will be based on quizzes, essays, homework assignments, short writing assignments, scored discussions, map quizzes and group work. Students will occasionally be given assignments dealing with modern applications of issues discussed in class. Students will be encouraged to engage in classroom discussion. Study skills, writing skills and logical argumentation will also be stressed as part of the course. There will be homework every week.

Year 1- Year one covers the time span from pre-Columbian history through the Revolutionary War.

Prerequisite: Read/Write at or above grade level. It is best to take the classes in order of occurrence: take 1 before 2, 2 before 3, but not required.

Homework Level: 2-5 (This is very dependent on reading/writing level as well as degree of previous exposure to US History.)

Required supplies: Spiral notebook; folder with 2 pockets, writing implements

US History/Geography 2

Grade: 6th-9th (Mondays only)

Course Description:

These classes will focus on the cause and effect of actions taken by individuals and nations and they will include study of geography. Grades will be based on quizzes, essays, homework assignments, short writing assignments, scored discussions, map quizzes and group work. Students will occasionally be given assignments dealing with modern applications of issues discussed in class. Students will be encouraged to engage in classroom discussion. Study skills, writing skills and logical argumentation will also be stressed as part of the course. There will be homework every week.

Year 2- Year two will cover the Constitutional period through the Reconstruction (Post Civil War) period.

Prerequisite: Read/Write at or above grade level. It is best to take the classes in order of occurrence: take 1 before 2, 2 before 3, but not required.

Homework Level: 2-5 (This is very dependent on reading/writing level as well as degree of previous exposure to US History)

Required supplies: Spiral notebook; folder with 2 pockets, writing implements

US Government

Grade: 9th-12th (Mondays only)

Course Description:

This course is designed as an in-depth study of the purpose of government and the basic constitutional principles of the US. The students will learn the structure and function of national, state and local governments, civil liberties and civil rights politics and public policy. The students will also learn citizenship roles, rights and responsibilities.

Prerequisite: Students must possess critical thinking skills, research and writing skills.

Homework Level: 5

Required supplies: Spiral notebook; folder with 2 pockets, writing implements.

World History/Geography 2

Grade: 9th-12th (Mondays only)

Course Description:

Grades will be based on quizzes, essays, and homework assignments, short writing assignments, scored discussions, maps and group work. Students will occasionally be given assignments dealing with modern applications of issues discussed in class. Students will be encouraged to engage in classroom discussion. Study skills, writing skills and logical argumentation will also be stressed as part of the course. Because we meet only one day a week, we only have time to focus on Western Civilization; it will be up to the home-school programs used by families to cover much that can't be covered in these classes.

Year 2- Year two will cover the European Renaissance to the present.

Prerequisite: Read/Write at or above grade level (reading requirements are as extensive). As with US History/Geography classes, it is best to take part 1 before part 2.

Homework Level: 2-5 (This is very dependent on reading/writing level as well as previous depth of study of World History.)

Required supplies: Spiral notebook; folder with 2 pockets, writing implements.

Yetis Care: Community Service Learning

Grade: 6th-12th

Course Description:

This class will allow students to participate in thoughtfully organized service experiences, reflect on their roles in their communities, and foster a sense of caring for others and commitment to civic engagement. As a class, we will brainstorm, organize, and carry out service projects for our school and community, like a food drive for a local food bank. In class, students will learn about people (including kids their ages!) who have made a big difference by serving their communities in what seemed like small ways. Students will also be expected to log service hours outside of class each semester in some capacity—tutoring or babysitting younger siblings or writing letters to the elderly or service members for younger students, or by working as a volunteer in the community for older students. This is a terrific class for all students, whether they are already service-minded or need some encouragement to reach out beyond themselves. It will be especially helpful for high school students who need help expanding their college applications!

Prerequisite: None

Homework Level: 1-2

Required supplies: None, though families may be occasionally contacted to see if anyone has access to resources that may be needed.