

1st / 2nd GRADE BASE CAMP DESCRIPTIONS

Bead Mosaics **NEW CAMP!**

1-week sessions

Ignite your creative mind by designing small projects in mosaic-styled patterns with fuse beading. Use a bead stencil to follow a specific pattern or make your own creations with this fun beading art. Make a pet, your favorite character, a creature, or a house into keychains, wall art, or jewelry. The fun is in thinking of different characters, objects, scenes, and color combinations and watching your projects come to life. *Content will be the same each session.*

Chibi Creations

1-week sessions

Who can resist these adorable characters with their big eyes, big heads and big feelings? Learn the basics on how to create cute chibis with drawing and storyboarding, then turn your chibi loose in a 3-D world designed out of recycled materials. Work in teams with other creators to bring your characters to life in a 'zine or video. *Content will be the same each session.*

Coding with Ozobots

1-week sessions

Get a taste of coding basics through visual games and hands-on activities. Move from a simple understanding of sequencing to basic programming on the computer. We will create an original animation using the Scratch Jr. program as well as bring coding logic to life by programming an Ozobot robot to follow basic movement commands. Have a blast while you use critical thinking and problem-solving skills to build a foundation for coding literacy. *Content will be the same each session.*

Experimentation Station

1-week sessions

Conduct hands-on experiments with things gooey, strange, stinky, colorful, eruptive, surprising and always fun! Hypothesize about the science behind the reactions you see. You'll finish camp with a lab book of experiments you can do again at home. Content will be the same each session. *Please note that some experiments will involve small servings of candy (nut free), and we will make ice cream (with a non-dairy option). Ingredients can be provided upon request.*

JumpstART

1-week sessions

Want to make art that is bold, colorful, and seems to jump off the page? Be inspired by a variety of artists and art movements including the playful and distinctive Pop Art and Optical Art movements, as you experiment with color, texture, and contrast. Think like an artist and give new meaning to everyday items and images from popular culture. You'll create paintings, collages and more that are full of color and energy. *Content will be the same each session. Please dress for mess!*

Junior Detectives

1-week sessions

Solve the mystery of the stolen art with science! Become a crime scene investigator and get eyewitness accounts, match ink samples through chromatography, and analyze fingerprints and DNA (are these hair fibers from our thieves or leftover cat hair?) Each day, you'll uncover new evidence until you find the culprit. Share your analysis with a real-life crime fighter to earn your junior detective badge. *Content will be the same each session.*

LEGO Architects

1-week sessions

Use your creativity and problem-solving skills to construct celebrated natural and human-made wonders using LEGOs! Projects will build on ideas from famous Chicago-area architects such as Frank Lloyd Wright and Jeanne Gang, and contemporary architect Frank Gehry. Kids will work both individually and in small groups. We'll document our projects and share them with friends and family at the end of camp. *Content will be the same each session.*

LEGO Pre-Engineering

1-week sessions

Use LEGO mechanisms to take on exciting challenges – building machines that carry the most weight, or roll the farthest or the fastest! Working in groups or individually, you'll build vehicles, mini-robots, catapults and contraptions of all sorts. Sketch, design and create small machines, figuring out along the way what works and what doesn't. Some projects will incorporate instructions to follow while others will be free-form design, bringing out your inner inventor. *Content will be the same each session.*

LEGO Stop Motion

1-week sessions

Make an animated movie using LEGOs! Create your storyboard, build your LEGO scenery and characters, and capture each step of the action with the camera. Then put on your producer hat and bring it all together using iMotion software. Your final product will be your very own animated stop-motion video. *Bring simple, recycled materials to create your movie set (more information given during the first day of camp). You may register for multiple sessions; campers can animate different stories each session.*

Mini Music Makers

1-week sessions

Let your creativity soar in this camp where dramatic exploration and improvisation technique takes center stage. Learn the essentials of rhythm and pitch using percussive instruments and online programs, and learn the harmonica and songs to share with your friends and family! *Content will be the same each session.*

Mini Spheros **NEW CAMP!**

1-week sessions

These spheros might be mini, but this camp packs tons of fun into these little round robots! This camp is a perfect introduction to robotics and coding challenges– we'll learn to code it, drive it, make it change colors and cool animal noises! Campers will engage in fun challenges that flex their critical thinking, creative confidence, teamwork, and coding skills. *Content will be the same each session.*

1st / 2nd GRADE BASE CAMP DESCRIPTIONS

Rainforest Yoga

1-week sessions

Stretch your mind and body as you explore the rainforest with stories, music, art, jungle movement, and meditation. Build and decorate a giant rain stick to transport yourself into the wild. Learn to use your breath to both calm and energize your body, and build coordination, balance and strength. *Content will be the same each session. To participate fully in the class, children should wear comfortable clothes (e.g., leggings/sweats, not dresses, tights or jeans). In partnership with YogaKids of Oak Park.*

Sensory Science

1-week sessions

Experience chemistry and physics in action as you play and explore... with your senses. Mix, create, and play with rubbery goop, rice and ice, colorful spaghetti, homemade kinetic sand, and fluffy cloud dough. You'll also make take-home sensory bottles and bins to enjoy at home. Delight in all the fun, benefits, and hands-on gooeyness of sensory and tactile play -- it's okay to get messy in Sensory Science! *This is a great avenue for helping to meet your child's sensory needs, while also boosting self-regulation. Please dress for a mess. Content will be the same each session.*

Space Rangers

1-week sessions

Blast off on an intergalactic adventure! Get up close with outer space as you create constellations, moon craters, and balloon rockets. Step into the shoes of an astronaut and simulate walking, writing and working in a spacesuit, and Skype with a NASA astronaut doctor to learn more about space careers. You'll even sample astronaut food. *Content will be the*

same each session. Please note this camp will include a selection of freeze-dried foods, with allergy-friendly options. Ingredients provided upon request.

Speedometry

1-week sessions

Set your brain racing while using Hot Wheels cars and ramps to engage in science concepts such as energy, force, and motion. Develop creative problem-solving skills and learn scientific and engineering practices such as analyzing and interpreting data through hands-on learning. *Content will be the same for each session.*

Storybook Engineering

1-week sessions

Want to design modern endings to classic fairy tales? Get creative and engineer solutions such as a better way for Rapunzel to escape her tower, a parachute for Jack and the Beanstalk, or a re-design of baby bear's bed for Goldilocks. Experiment and work together to imagine solutions that don't require a prince or a Fairy Godmother! Just like a real engineer, put your math skills to use as you figure out a workable budget and purchase building supplies with limited funds. If at first, you don't succeed, try, try again! *Content will be the same each session.*

Textile Magic

1-week sessions

Bring together art, science, and a little bit of magic! Stir up a dye brew with chemical precision to create colorful cotton and wonderful wools. Then transform your hand-dyed fabrics and fibers through the textile arts of weaving, stitching and felting. Use both hocus-pocus and focus to concoct a one-of-a-kind piece of art that embodies your own personal magic. *Please dress for mess.*

Theater of the Wild

1-week sessions

Unleash your inner Wild Thing! Explore our local wilderness through a field trip, build camp spirit with theater games, and get inspired by nature. Then through improvisation and collaborative writing, create an original performance with costumes and scenery of your own design. Gain stage skills and confidence while becoming the next generation of caretakers for the earth. *You may register for multiple sessions; campers will write different plays each session.*

Tinker Time

1-week sessions

Become an innovator the old-fashioned way – by tinkering. Learn how things work with cool materials, real tools, and time to explore in a fun, safe space. You can build a marble run, construct ramps, plan a maze, or come up with your own original creation from scratch. Work in a team or by yourself, learn problem-solving skills, and follow your own interests.

Toy Inventors

1-week sessions

Be your own toymaker! Examine your favorite toys to understand what makes a toy great. Then you will create one-of-a-kind contraptions and toys from recycled materials such as wheels, pipes, and other reusable odds and ends. Using hand cranks and gears, learn how you can make your toys move. Collaborate on ways to improve your designs for maximum fun. Show off your cool creations to friends and family. You're welcome to bring in your own recycled materials to add to ours. *Content will be the same each session.*

Who's Outside?

1-week sessions

Use 3-dimensional art techniques to sculpt the creatures we find in our gardens, parks, forests, and backyards. Explore a variety of materials as we build likenesses of the creatures we encounter in our outdoor environments. We'll use paper-mâché, wire, fiber, clay and reclaimed or found materials to build insects, birds, snakes and small mammals. We'll experiment with a variety of finishing techniques, such as painting, texture application, and material embellishment. *Please dress for a mess.*

3rd / 4th GRADE BASE CAMP DESCRIPTIONS

Bead Builders

1-week sessions

Let your imagination soar and explore weaving with beads and other objects. Have a favorite animal? Figure out how to use ocean glass, pony beads, wire and shaping tools to craft unique designs that bring those creatures to life! Wow your friends and family during a culminating showcase at the end of camp. *You may register for multiple sessions; campers can create different designs each session!*

Board Game Makers

1-week sessions

Take your board game-playing know-how to the next level and become an inventor! In this camp, you'll start by playing popular and creative games to figure out how they work and what makes them fun -- what logical thinking, math, or memory skills do you use to play them? Use what you've learned to think outside the box and brainstorm ideas for your own tabletop games, then create and revise a prototype to play test with other campers. You'll have fun creating a catch phrase to pitch your invention to your family and friends at a game release party on the last day of camp.

Clay Exploration **NEW CAMP!**

This is a two week session!!

Come join us to learn and explore the wonders of clay! In this camp you will learn basic handbuilding techniques and use coils and slabs as a jumping off point for pots, bowls, boxes and more! Students will learn different methods of glazing, or painting their clay, to add all finishing touches to their pieces. Students will leave camp with finished pieces that can be used daily.

Crash Test LEGOs

1-week sessions

Design. Build. Crash! Engineer vehicles with top-notch safety features to protect an egg "passenger." How will you make the best use of limited building supplies — LEGOs and everyday items such as cotton balls and rubber bands — while meeting the specifications (or rules) of the challenge? Test your designs using a ramp and crash pit. Analyze the results, then rethink and re-build. Each day a different set of building supplies will be introduced. How will you combine them to keep your egg from getting scrambled? *You may register for multiple sessions; campers can build different machines each session!*

Crazy Chemistry

1-week sessions

Science is everywhere! Using common household substances such as eggs, milk, lemons and ice, examine the chemical reactions that cause them to shrink, expand, change color, and more. Play with your food by making marshmallows explode, or by transforming milk into plastic. Connect chemistry to your everyday life as you explore the role of elements, and examine molecular bonds, live cultures, and gases... all with basic ingredients from your kitchen cabinet and refrigerator. *Content will be the same each session. Note: all ingredients will be nut free, and specific ingredients used can be shared upon request.*

Critter Science: Invertebrates

1-week sessions

Inspect insects, annelids (worms), and crustaceans (pill bugs) up close and personal. Analyze and dissect real specimens, with a focus on tiny invertebrates (animals lacking a backbone). You'll learn how living organisms are built and what makes them function. Use microscopes for a closer look into the wonders of these small critters. Document your observations in a sketch journal just like a real scientist and bring it home to continue your adventures. *Content will be the same each session.*

Critter Science: Vertebrates

1-week sessions

Inspect mammals and other vertebrates (animals containing a backbone) up close and personal. Investigate owl pellets, dissect chicken wings, learn about cells and tissues of animals, bone structure and purpose, and lots more. You'll learn how living organisms are built and what makes them function. Use microscopes for a closer look into the wonders of these small critters. Document your observations in a sketch journal just like a real scientist and bring it home to continue your adventures

CSI Oak Park

1-week sessions

Use forensic science to solve a mystery! Become a crime scene investigator and get eyewitness accounts, match ink samples through chromatography, and analyze fingerprints and DNA. Each day, you'll uncover new evidence until you find the culprit. Learn tricks of the trade from real-life crime fighters to earn your spot on the CSI Oak Park crime-busting team. *Content will be the same each session.*

DrumLine **NEW CAMP!**

1-week sessions

Find yourself tapping on everything? Have a knack for rhythm? Come explore the wide world of drumming and percussion! Learn the basics of percussion and develop your musical ability. Learn some beats on bucket drums, create some individual and group performances. This is a hands-on camp for kids with little or no percussion background. *Content will be the same each session.*

Epic Contraptions

1-week sessions

Let your inner designer shine by working with found objects and Sphero Littlebits magnetic electronics to create a series of challenges that introduce mechanics, engineering and other fantastic physics. Your week will culminate by working with other campers to create a "chain reaction contraption" inspired by Rube Goldberg.

Fun with Spheros **NEW CAMP!**

1-week sessions

Forget summer brain drain! Sphero BOLT packs a whole ton of fun in its sphere. More than just a robot toy for kids, this programmable robot will help you learn how to code while completing fun and engaging activities! Campers will engage in increasingly complex challenges that flex their critical thinking, creative confidence, teamwork, and coding skills. *Content will be the same each session.*

3rd / 4th GRADE BASE CAMP DESCRIPTIONS

Junior ANIME-tors

1-week session

Explore Manga basics such as character and background design using classic Manga styles, then develop a story and create panels to develop their character and plot. By the end of camp you will learn how to bring your story creation to life through digital animation. *Content will be the same each session.*

Kinetic Power! The Science of Motion **NEW CAMP!**

1-week session

The power of the invisible! We're going to create the excitement of learning about the incredible world of movement, using magnets, wheels, gears, and rubber bands! Students will build and race magnetic cars, whirlybirds, ferris wheels, helicopters, and more! We will explore topics like design, magnetism, aerodynamics, velocity, lift and drag while working on projects in groups and independently that campers will get to take home!

Know It! Grow It!

1-week session

Ever heard the expression, "You are what you eat"? Let's investigate and examine the food we put into our bodies. We'll learn to detect sneaky ingredients and decipher mysterious food labels. From field trips to science, art and growing projects, we'll explore all aspects of the food chain. We'll take an excursion with our food from farm to table and work to attract pollinators to the garden. Finally we'll put all of this knowledge to use when we visit a community garden in Austin to work with real food crops. *Content will be the same each session.*

LEGO Architects

1-week session

Use your creativity and problem-solving skills to construct celebrated natural and human-made wonders using LEGOs! Projects will build on ideas from famous Chicago-area architects such as Frank Lloyd Wright and Jeanne Gang, and contemporary architect Frank Gehry. Kids will work both individually and in small groups. We'll document our projects and share them with friends and family at the end of camp. *Content will be the same each session.*

LEGO Engineering

1-week session

Your job is to engineer the perfect bridge in an imperfect world. You will plan, design, build, and test a bridge structure out of LEGOs. But here's the twist: you must also meet the engineering specs (size of the bridge and requirements for a minimum load weight) and manage a budget for materials with limited resources. Working in teams, you will build, analyze, test, and rebuild your bridges multiple times to fine-tune your design. *Content will be the same each session.*

LEGO Regatta

1-Week Session

How do you design a sailboat with LEGOS to glide as fast and far as possible using only the wind power of a box fan? Learn about force and motion while testing your engineering and critical thinking skills in this LEGO design-build camp. You will work in teams to brainstorm on your yacht designs — experimenting with different size sails and wheels — to make your land-boat fly across the "waves" in speed challenges. Demonstrate all you've learned about building the sleekest, speediest yacht by competing in a culminating regatta with fellow campers.

LEGO Testers

1-week session

Your job is to engineer the perfect bridge in an imperfect world. You will plan, design, build, and test a bridge structure out of LEGOs. But here's the twist: you must also meet the engineering specs (size of the bridge and requirements for a minimum load weight) and manage a budget for materials with limited resources. Working in teams, you will build, analyze, test, and rebuild your bridges multiple times to fine-tune your design. *Content will be the same each session.*

Making Mandalas **NEW CAMP!**

1-week session

What is Mandala art? The word mandala derives from Sanskrit, the ancient Indian language, and means circle. Mandala art has a center point and is surrounded by patterns. This ancient art form is found in art and architecture all over the world. Mandala formations are also found in nature, such as in flower blooms and pinecones. In this camp, students will learn how to use a compass and a ruler to create beautiful mandala art. Mandalas will be created with various mediums, including gel and metallic pens, markers, and paint pens. We will create mandala collages and we will draw communal mandalas with sidewalk chalk. We will also make impermanent nature mandalas out of flowers and plants. Once this process of creating mandala art is learned, it can become a wonderful outlet for creative expression and relaxation.

Minecraft Explore

1-week session

Join fellow campers in a secure Minecraft world for creative design challenges. We will be using teamwork and problem-solving skills to create and read maps, tackle environmental challenges, and virtually explore architecture from different places and times. We'll create our own adventures, build societies and systems, and plan treasure hunts in the immersive and creative world of Minecraft. *Previous experience with Minecraft is helpful, but not necessary.*

Mythical Magical Art

1-week session

Unicorns! Dragons! Mermaids, fairies and wizards! Let your imagination soar as you create art inspired by mythological creatures. Fabricate an enchanting vessel to store artifacts and specimens of your own creation. Invent and artfully record your creatures' habitat, diet and other distinctive characteristics. Craft otherworldly fur, hair or skin samples. Other artifacts you might make include a magic scepter or special potions. All art is possible in the fantastic world of the mythological.

Robot Wranglers!

1-week session

Learn to wrangle one of our most compact and versatile robots yet—the Edison! Use drag and drop programming to send your robot on a series of adventures. Improvise your robot design by using gears, wheels and other LEGO blocks. Learn individually, and then work in teams to complete an ever-increasing set of challenges. *Content will be the same each session.*

3rd / 4th GRADE BASE CAMP DESCRIPTIONS

Sew Monsters and More!

1-week session

Have you ever wanted to make your own silly or sweet plush toy? Transform your inventive design from sketch to lovable monster, playful stuffed animal, or useful accessory. Learn to use, adapt and create patterns; apply simple math and geometry to engineer your creations with felt, needle and thread; then add your own distinctive details using embroidery or embellishment. You'll have sew much fun fabricating one-of-a-kind creatures and creations! *You may register for multiple sessions; campers can make different creatures and creations each session.*

Song Engineers

1-week session

What are the building blocks of a great song? Learn programs such as Garage-Band and SoundTrap to gain a better understanding of the fundamentals of songwriting. Add your own lyrics, and sing, rap, or play instruments if you would like to experiment with those skills. You will write an original composition and have the option to share it with the world. No background in music required. Bring your own headphones/earbuds.

Speedometry Overdrive

1-week session

Get your engines racing for an advanced version of this hands-on physics fun, using Hot Wheels cars and ramps to engage in science concepts such as energy, force, and motion. Develop creative problem-solving skills and learn scientific and engineering practices such as analyzing and interpreting data.

Tinker Lab

1-week session

Do you love experimenting and working with your hands? You'll tinker with a variety of familiar and new materials using ideas from MAKE: magazine and a toolbox of maker supplies. You might fabricate a greeting card that lights up or an art-making bot. Boost your innovation, creativity, collaboration and critical thinking skills with new maker challenges each day, and immerse yourself in the captivating process of design and invention. *Content will be the same each session.*

Treasure Hunt: Mapping Adventures

1-week session

Join a treasure hunt with a twist! Discover both the beauty and functionality of maps, learn how to make your own compass, as well as other treasure hunting tools. Use your imagination and cartography skills to create a map for others to follow for a hidden bounty. Then be the first to find the ultimate treasures left by your fellow campers at the end of the week.

5th / 6th GRADE BASE CAMP DESCRIPTIONS

Advanced Experimentation Station

1-week sessions

Science is a messy business! Conduct hands-on experiments with items gross and gooey, stinky and surprising. Power a boat with baking soda, create a giant carbon snake out of sugar, blast off with balloon rockets, whip up a batch of heat-sensitive color-changing slime. Hypothesize about the science behind the reactions you see, and create a lab book of experiments you can recreate at home.

Biking Adventures

1-week sessions

Ready for a daily biking adventure? In this camp each day features a new theme, route and unique stops around the Oak Park area. We'll learn and practice bike maintenance and biking safety as we hit destinations such as Thatcher Woods, local cafes and recreation areas. Sign up with a friend and get ready to make new friends - it's time for a summer riding adventure! Instructors: Varies based on week. *Required daily items include a road-ready bike with gears (no dirt bikes), spare inner tube, bike lock, helmet, snacks, water bottle and closed-toe shoes. Prompt arrival is a must, and bikers ride rain or shine (although not during thunderstorms). Bicycles should be inspected and tuned up at a local shop before the start of camp. Limited loaner bikes are available; please contact the camp director for details.*

Cardboard City

1-week sessions

Design and construct a small-scale city with upcycled cardboard, and give all those shipping boxes a second life. Put on your urban planner hat and determine the

essential parts of a successful community. Learn about the structural properties of different types of cardboard, from corrugated boxes to paperboard cartons. Then use this expertise to engineer and assemble buildings and structures for a preschool play area cardboard city. All design, engineering, and construction will be camper-led. *Content will be the same each session.*

Carnival Game Maker

1-week sessions

Do you enjoy playing skee-ball, ring toss, and other games of chance? Take your hand at designing and building your own versions of popular carnival and board-walk arcade games. Flex your maker muscles as you turn recycled materials, LEDs, motors and more into interactive games large and small. From mini pinball machines to ball tossing catapults, you'll be limited only by our collection of supplies and your imagination. Add the finishing touches, then invite your family and friends to test your creations at the end-of-week with a DIY carnival extravaganza. *Content will be the same each session.*

Frisbee Physics

1-week sessions

Learn STEAM concepts such as force, velocity, pitch, angle, gravitational pull, lift, drag, angle and buoyancy. Students will predict the flight path of a frisbee and test their predictions. We will take our physics lesson to the field and work on playing Can Jam, Frisbee Golf and Ultimate Frisbee. *Content will be the same each session.*

Green Avengers

1-week sessions

Put on your green cape and become a superhero for Planet Earth! There is so much to learn about what it takes to make our planet more sustainable--from healthy soil and biodiversity to recycling and alternative energy--and this is the camp to help you dig a little deeper. Design a mini green roof. Build a model of a food system. Watch what happens inside a worm composting bin. Create your own solar-powered machine. Through hands-on projects and field trips, you will discover what you can do to make a difference.

HoverCraft Discovery

NEW CAMP!

1-week sessions

Experiment, build, and play in the world of Hovercraft science! Learn how hovercrafts move and travel on air by applying Newton's Law of Motion and scientific properties of pressure and lift. Start with a simple balloon hovering prototype and then move on to constructing a mini floor cruising model of a hovercraft racer! By the end of the week, you'll understand the mechanics of flight, as well as the fun in exploring hovercraft dynamics. *Content will be the same each session.*

Jumpstart Robotics Girl Power! Robotics

1-week sessions

Jumpstart your journey into the world of design and technology! Using barcode programs and drag-and-drop software, this camp will explore fundamental robotic concepts and inspire improvisation, creativity and teamwork. Using fun and compact programmable robots, team up with fellow campers to transform your designs into fun projects -- such as an

artist or alarm clock, a security system or candy dispenser. Instructor Paula Spring. *Content will be the same each week, but campers could repeat the camp and try new challenges. Note about the Girl Power Week: Our goal is to encourage girls to feel more confident in the world of robotics by providing an environment that focuses on their active participation. The camp is open to all, but would be especially welcoming to campers identifying as female or non-binary.*

Level Up! Video Game Design

1-week sessions

Climb into the captain's chair and design your own video game! Develop original characters, tell compelling stories, create intriguing graphics, and more. Learn basic video game coding concepts by making a variety of different types of games, including racing, platform, launching, and quest games. This camp uses Kodu Game Lab.

Lift Off! Aeronautics

1-week sessions

Investigate and test the dynamics of flight by building different aircraft models and learn first hand about combustion and trajectory by launching your own rockets. Investigate physics concepts such as energy conservation, buoyancy and the forces of flight. During the week you'll design, build, and test airplanes, rockets, Chinese lanterns and more. The sky's the limit as we explore the science of aeronautics. *Content will be the same each session.*

5th / 6th GRADE BASE CAMP DESCRIPTIONS

Manga Mania

1-week sessions

Use your ANIME-gination to create those awesome Manga characters, creatures, and beasts. You will learn how to take an idea or sketch a character, and develop it into a stylized, colorful, animation-ready rendering. Learn the basics of animation techniques and bring your designs to life. The possibilities are endless as you begin the journey of character design and animation exploration! *Content will be the same each session.*

MINDSTORMS Robotics

1-week sessions

Imagine how you could change the world with a robot to command. Want to clean the ocean? Explore the solar system? Pick up your room? With Mindstorms, you'll be on your way. Learn to design, build and program robots using LEGO's most advanced robotics technology – Mindstorms EV3. Work as a team to complete projects and games created specifically for EV3. New to robots? Not a problem! Through the engineering design process, you will gain the skills needed to build and program robots and understand how technology works in real-world applications.. *You may register for multiple sessions; you can take on new challenges with each.*

Minecraft Create

1-week sessions

Join fellow campers to explore architectural and urban planning endeavors through Minecraft. We will collaborate to build a fully functioning city, balancing all necessary construction while respecting the landscape and environment around us. You will build your own homes and then move on from there, developing food and water sources, schools, parks, while over-

coming fun challenges, all within a secure Minecraft world. *Previous experience with Minecraft is helpful, but not necessary. Content will be the same each session.*

Mythical Magical Art

1-week sessions

Unicorns! Dragons! Mermaids, fairies and wizards! Let your imagination soar as you create art inspired by mythological creatures. Fabricate an enchanting vessel to store artifacts and specimens of your own creation. Invent and artfully record your creatures' habitat, diet and other distinctive characteristics. Craft otherworldly fur, hair or skin samples. Other artifacts you might make include a magic scepter or special potions. All art is possible in the fantastic world of the mythological.

Orbit Robotics with Sphero

NEW CAMP!

1-week sessions

Forget summer brain drain! Sphero BOLT packs a whole ton of fun in its sphere shaped bot. More than just a robot toy for kids, this programmable robot will help you learn how to code while completing fun and engaging activities! Campers will engage in fun and hands-on learning that flex their critical thinking, creative confidence, teamwork experience. From learning about speed and distance calculations, sensors, and coding through its drag and drop program that converts to JavaScript so you can see your work progress. We may even be able to play a group game of soccer with these bots! *Content will be the same each session.*

Outdoor Escape Room

1-week sessions

Head outside and experience the best elements of escape rooms, classic treasure hunts and geocaching into one fast-paced week of adventure! Working cooperatively in small groups, you will use math and science skills combined with logic, compass/directional skills and community knowledge to unlock clues that will help you escape a looming disaster. Along the way, prevent a zombie invasion, locate a long-lost formula and create your own outdoor escape/scavenger hunt challenge.

Pattern and Print

1-week sessions

Make your mark... with fabric surface design. Learn the basics of silk screening and transfer a design from screen to cloth. Explore positive and negative space, repeating patterns, and more with stamps. Color fabric using the power of the sun, or Shibori resist dyeing techniques. Embellish with needle felting or hand stitching. Experiment and have fun with multiple processes for textile printing and pattern creation. *You may register for multiple sessions; campers can create different designs each session. Dress for a mess.*

Printmaking Discovery

1-week sessions

Design, play and experiment with an introduction to relief printmaking: monotypes, block prints, mini screen prints, and more. Work individually and collaboratively to create one-color and multi-color prints. Explore many different printmaking techniques, from stamping to making your own printing plates, and experiment with gelli printing. We will also look at ways different artists use printmaking in their work. *Content will be the same each session. Dress for mess!*

REACH Sailing

1-week, full-day session

Learn to sail on Lake Michigan and explore the science, technology, engineering and math that sailors use every day. We'll take a bus each morning to the Columbia Yacht Club. Using REACH, US Sailing's STEM education curriculum, answer questions like: How does this boat float? What does geometry have to do with sailing? Does the wind pull or push a sailboat? Half your day will be spent inside the yacht club doing hands-on, sailing-related STEM activities, and the other half out on the lake on a J/22 sailboat with a US Sailing -certified instructor and five campers per boat. Campers will be grouped by grade, 5th/6th and 7th/8th. *Content will be the same each session. Price includes lunch at the yacht club plus daily bus transportation to and from an Oak Park school. In partnership with the Columbia Yacht Club.*

**PREWEEK- June 12 to June 16;
8:30 AM to 4:30 PM; departing from
a D97 elementary school TBA**

Science of Sweets

1-week sessions

Studying sugar sure is sweet! In this camp you'll take a close look at the delicious science of sugar. Examine how temperature influences crystal formation and see first hand how science works to create different textures in sucrose. Density, saturation, and dynamic equilibrium are just a few terms you'll explore while experimenting to make glass, rock, gummy, slimy and spongy sweets. *Content will be the same each session. Note: All ingredients will be nut free.*

5th / 6th GRADE BASE CAMP DESCRIPTIONS

Tinker Lab

1-week sessions

Do you love experimenting and working with your hands? You'll tinker with a variety of familiar and new materials using ideas from MAKE: magazine and a toolbox of maker supplies. You might fabricate a greeting card that lights up or an art-making bot. Boost your innovation, creativity, collaboration and critical thinking skills with new maker challenges each day, and immerse yourself in the captivating process of design and invention! *Content will be the same each session.*

Treehouse Design with Green Architecture NEW CAMP!

1-week sessions

Create your own treehouse model and learn about sustainable architecture principles! Let's have fun imagining and sketching what your treehouse looks like and how it feels to be inside of it. Then let's think about your building materials and floor plans. You will learn about green architecture principles and fun ways to incorporate them into your treehouse designs. We will look at using recyclable materials and learn about renewable energy sources - such as the sun and the wind. Use cardboard, popsicle sticks, string, and other recyclable materials to build a treehouse model to learn about solar energy by creating your very own mason jar solar lamp. This promises to be a fun and engaging week for you architecture enthusiasts! *Content will be the same each session.*

YouTube NEW CAMP!

1-week sessions

Campers will harness their creativity to discover what it really takes to create a youtube channel through planning, storytelling, filming and video editing. While we can't promise YouTube Stardom, we're sure kids will leave with a new lens on screen time... let's get them producing and directing their own ideas instead of simply watching other people's! *Content will be the same each session.*

7th / 8th GRADE BASE CAMP DESCRIPTIONS

3D Modeling with SketchUp

1-week session

If you can imagine it, you can build it in SketchUp! Learn to create models of objects and buildings with this easy to use 3D computer modeling program used by architects and designers. You'll focus on creating a retail space or product of your own imagination. Start by drawing lines and shapes, then push and pull surfaces to turn them into 3D forms. Consider all the elements that make a building or object functional and distinctive, then bring it to life in three dimensions.

3D Modeling: City Planner with SketchUp

1-week session

Create a mini town with your classmates, and team up to become SketchUp urban planners. Start by drawing lines and shapes, then push and pull surfaces to turn them into 3D forms. Design and build a 3D city with homes, businesses and other needed buildings. Decide how your parks and streets work together to form a unified community...but here is the twist: Is your city on Earth, another planet, underwater, inside a volcano? You're the city planner, you decide!

Advertising Agents **NEW CAMP**

1-week session

In this creative/critical thinking, artistically driven course, students will learn the process of advertising through television commercials, magazine print ads, outdoor billboards, product placement and social media. Students will assume multiple advertising roles (Creative Director, Art Director, Storyboard Artist and Copywriter,) creating ad campaigns and ultimately pitching those campaigns.

Anime Quest

1-week session

Boost your passion for Anime! Embark on a quest to imagine and learn how to design your very own anime characters and stories. You will participate in fun and interactive artistry that will help you create characters, landscapes and storylines from illustration to animation to cosplay. Develop your artistic style by exploring Manga illustration techniques to bring your anime project to life.

Biking Adventures

1 week session

Ready for a daily biking adventure? In this camp each day features a new theme, route and unique stops around the Oak Park area. We'll learn and practice bike maintenance and biking safety as we hit destinations such as Thatcher Woods, local cafes and recreation areas. Sign up with a friend and get ready to make new friends - It's time for a summer riding adventure! Instructors: Varies based on week. *Required daily items include a road-ready bike with gears (no dirt bikes), spare inner tube, bike lock, helmet, snacks, water bottle and closed-toe shoes. Prompt arrival is a must, and bikers ride rain or shine (although not during thunderstorms). Bicycles should be inspected and tuned up at a local shop before the start of camp. Limited loaner bikes are available; please contact the camp director for details.*

CTA: Chicago Through Adventures - **FULL DAY**

1- Week session

Discover little-known sights and new neighborhoods as you learn to navigate the city through public transit. Together with other campers, you will help design a weeklong itinerary that will help you build

confidence while learning how to safely ride CTA's trains and buses. Map and plan routes, complete group scavenger hunts, and show off your mad skills during a culminating journey with invited family. All campers will be provided with a Ventra card to use during camp. Most of this camp will be spent outdoors and walking, so please dress accordingly. *Content will be the same each session.*

Earth Ambassadors

1-week or 2-week session.

You care about making the world a more sustainable place, but you don't know where to start? Then this is the camp for you. Understanding the science of sustainability--from climate change to biodiversity to alternative energy--will help make you a more informed citizen and effective activist. Build a model of a food system. Watch what happens under the surface of a worm composting bin. Create your own solar-powered machine. Visit a resale shop to recycle "fast fashion." Through hands-on projects, guided discussion and immersive field trips, discover where your true environmental passion lies.

Frisbee Physics

1-week session

Learn STEAM concepts such as force, velocity, pitch, angle, gravitational pull, lift, drag, angle and buoyancy. Students will predict the flight path of a frisbee and test their predictions. We will take our physics lesson to the field and work on playing Can Jam, Frisbee Golf and Ultimate Frisbee. *Dress in comfortable clothes, with closed-toe shoes.*

Graffiti Art

1-week session

Explore hip-hop culture through visual and poetic art. Learn about your relationship with the natural environment through indigenous folktales, then merge your wisdom with fine art and graffiti art skills. Practice calligraphy, discover the tenets of graffiti writing, and create a unique lettering style of your own. End the week creating a mini-mural with acrylic and non-toxic spray paint which incorporates poetry and collaged images into a narrative promoting environmental stewardship and cultural appreciation. This camp presents hip-hop arts as a vehicle for self-empowerment and community beautification. *Content will be the same each session. Please dress for a mess.*

Latin Dance **NEW CAMP**

1-week session

This dance class offers students cultural awareness through dance moves! The dance program will enable students to learn about different dance styles throughout Latin America. The students ability will include learning to dance: 1. Cumbia, 2. Bachata, 3. Merengue, 4. Salsa, 5. Nortenas. The students will also have an opportunity to create their own dance moves!

Level-Up! Video Game Design

1-week session

Climb into the captain's chair and design your own video game! Develop original characters, tell compelling stories, create intriguing graphics, and more. Learn basic video game coding concepts by making a variety of different types of games, including racing, platform, launching, and quest games. This camp uses gaming-making software that caters to everyone, from entry-level novices to experienced game developers.

7th / 8th GRADE BASE CAMP DESCRIPTIONS

Magic of DJ Engineering

1-week session

Unleash your inner music producer! This camp combines your love of music with your desire to mix, scratch and more! Create your own music and learn about tempo, pitch control, beats matching, and how to design sounds with special effects. This camp will allow you to explore the art, technology, and engineering of layering beats, music and sound effects to create your own custom tracks.

MINDSTORMS Masters

1-week session

Throw out the instruction book and push yourself to the next level of mastering LEGO Mindstorms EV3 robots. Tackle a new set of programming tasks to grow your knowledge and experience with engineering and programming. You will design, assemble, and program custom creations to achieve your personal robotics goals while completing carefully mapped challenges that educate and entertain at the same time! *Previous experience with LEGO Mindstorms is helpful, but not required.*

Mobile Street Photography

1-week session

Don't miss taking that awesome snap during the perfect moment. Learn to take photos from your most accessible device - your cell phone. Experiment with what makes better selfies; and improve your photos with better lighting, composition, and focus. Explore the basics of photography from working with a smartphone camera to using creative apps to develop and enhance your images. Finish the week with a digital slideshow of your work and showcase your new skills gained as a visual storyteller!

Printmaking Discovery

1-week session

Design, play and experiment with an introduction to relief printmaking: monotypes, block prints, mini screen prints, and more. Work individually and collaboratively to create one-color and multi-color prints. Explore many different printmaking techniques, from stamping to making your own printing plates, and experiment with gelli printing. We will also look at ways different artists use printmaking in their work. *Content will be the same each session. Dress for mess!*

Full Day Camp REACH Sailing

1-week, full-day session

Learn to sail on Lake Michigan and explore the science, technology, engineering and math that sailors use every day. We'll take a bus each morning to the Columbia Yacht Club. Using REACH, US Sailing's STEM education curriculum, answer questions like: How does this boat float? What does geometry have to do with sailing? Does the wind pull or push a sailboat? Half your day will be spent inside the yacht club doing hands-on, sailing-related STEM activities, and the other half out on the lake on a J/22 sailboat with a US Sailing-certified instructor and five campers per boat. Campers will be grouped by grade, 5th/6th and 7th/8th. *Price includes lunch at the yacht club plus daily bus transportation to and from a D97 elementary school. In partnership with the Columbia Yacht Club.*

**PREWEEK - June 12 to June 16
8:30 AM to 4:30 PM; departing from
D97 elementary school**

Shoe Drip - Apparel Art

1-week session. Let your creativity up your wardrobe game. Have you ever looked at a pair of sneakers or other duds and wished you could add that one thing to make it your own design? Embellish and customize your own gear. Start with a bandana or canvas bag, then bring your shoe art to life with paints, bling, or other materials. Walk out with your own unique pair of footwear. *Content will be the same each session. Please dress for a mess.*

Short Order Cook **NEW CAMP**

1-week session

Join us for a culinary adventure! This is a fun and entertaining camp that will introduce teens to joy of cooking quick and healthy meals. Campers will learn the concepts of T.A.S.T.E and the "The Healthy Delicious Plate" from the instructor's book, "Norma Can COOK!" We will take a trip to the grocery store and shop for our ingredients, learn how to read food labels and will cook every day to create a variety of quick delicious healthy meals and snacks. All meals can be made vegetarian and for campers with food allergies. *Content will be the same each session.*

Start-Up Entrepreneur

1-week session

Build your creativity and leadership skills in a team-based environment by tackling fun and interactive exercises that help you explore your business ideas. Develop a product or service that responds to a community need - brainstorm with your team to create an elevator pitch, consider the financials, along with a marketing and branding strategy. With each step of business development, gain support from your peers by obtaining 'Start-up Bucks'. Then use this currency to purchase supplies and construct a prototype of your idea for your potential investors with recycled

materials. We will finish the week with a final showcase where you'll be able to present your ideas and discuss your team's development process.

Stick to the Script (Screenwriting) **NEW CAMP**

1-week session

In this exploratory writing intensive course, students will be introduced to the wonderful art of screenwriting. Students will transform an original story idea from pitch to story to treatment, and finally to screenplay or script. As budding screenwriters, students in this class will develop their traditional notebook stories into structural detailed works suitable for a film-short. They will learn screenwriter's language such as plot, scene development, dialogue, conflict and conflict resolution, the three-act film, and character development. The stages of screenwriting will come to fruition as students gain an understanding of what makes a story better, and how it all begins with a basic screenwriting format.

YouTube Channel Production **NEW CAMP!**

1-week session Learn the exciting process of creating a successful vlog/video for YouTube! Identify an audience, create a brand, brainstorm a creative format, produce engaging content, and create at least one YouTube-style video. Valuable skills like scripting, acting, filming, creating special effects, editing, and more are also covered in this exciting camp! Utilizing the hands-on format of this course, you'll learn the skills you need to create your own vlog/video for YouTube channel. By the end of the week, you'll have created at least one video, a description for a YouTube Channel, and learned about strategic ways to make YouTube channels a success. *Content will be the same each session.*

7th / 8th GRADE BASE CAMP DESCRIPTIONS

VEX Robotics

1-week session

In this robotics camp, campers will start off learning engineering, problem solving skills. Using the V5 VEX Robotics Design System, students will work in small groups to build robots and participate in competition challenges. Our staff will guide the students through the robotics build and competition process so that kids can experience the joy and fun of robotics while learning programming and engineering concepts. VEX is an ideal platform for students to explore important STEM concepts. This is a great opportunity for those with no experience, as well as students with previous experience, to experiment, learn and have fun!