

## STEAM Access Key

Use the key below to easily identify which aspects of Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics your BASE Camp will focus on.

### STEAM at BASE Camp

STEAM Education is our hands-on, minds-on approach to learning that uses Science, Technology, Engineering, the Arts and Mathematics as access points for guiding camper curiosity, expression and critical thinking.

#### **S** SCIENCE

**Science:** Encourages curiosity, observation, and experimentation, fostering an understanding of the natural world.

#### **T** TECHNOLOGY

**Technology:** Involves the use of tools, software, and digital platforms to solve problems and enhance learning experiences.

#### **E** ENGINEERING

**Engineering:** Promotes design thinking and problem-solving through hands-on projects and the engineering design process.

#### **A** ART

**Arts:** Incorporates creativity and expression through various artistic mediums, fostering a holistic approach to learning.

#### **M** MATH

**Mathematics:** Provides the foundational skills for logical reasoning, quantitative analysis, and problem-solving.

**\*\*Following the STEAM graphics, please note the icons that represent District 97's Portrait dimensions to Oak Park out-of-school learning opportunities for youth.**

#### Aqua Lab (1st-2nd)

**1-week session** Water is all around us but how much do we actually know about it? Get ready to be astonished by all the amazing things water can do that you never knew were possible. We'll discover how water interacts with other liquids, experiment with what happens when different objects are dropped in water, and learn about how water moves through our world. We'll even use water to create beautiful works of art! *Content will be the same each session.*

Weeks 1, 2, 3 

#### Bead Mosaics(1st-2nd)

**1-week session** 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.*

Weeks 3, 4, 6 

#### Chess Mini-Masters (1st-2nd)

**1-week session** A mix of games and fun, your child will develop their chess skill by learning techniques and strategies to help them better understand the game and reinforce logical thinking and problem solving. They will participate in a variety of other activities that prompt kinesthetic learning and strategic thinking.

Weeks 5 & 6 

#### Chibi Creations (1st-2nd)

**1-week session** 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.*

Week 4 

### Dress for Mess (1st-2nd)

**1-week session** Do you love to accessorize, making everything you touch into a magical, wearable creation? Then this is the camp for you! Every creation will be more dazzling than the next! We'll make some beautiful, wearable art in this camp- everything tie-dyed, puffy painted and bejeweled! Plan to bring a plain pillow case that can get dyed, and, as the title says... dress for mess! *Content will be the same each session.*

Weeks 4, 5, 6 

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### Experimentation Station (1st-2nd)


**1-week session** Conduct hands-on experiments with things goey, 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. *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. Content will be the same each session.*

Weeks 1-6 

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### Junior Detectives (1st-2nd)

**1-week session** 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.*

Weeks 1, 4, 5 

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### LEGO Architects (1st-2nd)

**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.*

Week 1, 2 

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### LEGO Pre-Engineering (1st-2nd)

**1-week session** Use LEGO mechanisms to take on exciting challenges – building machines that carry the most weight, or vehicles that 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 designs, bringing out your inner inventor. *Content will be the same each session.*

Weeks 1, 2, 4, 5 

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### LEGO Stop Motion (1st-2nd)

**1-week session** 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 will be given on the first day of camp). *Content will be the same each session but campers can animate different stories if signed up for multiple sessions.*

Weeks 1, 2, 5, 6 

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### **Magic Tree House (1st/2nd)\* NEW**

**1-week session** Where do you think we'll travel to in the Magic Tree House this week? Maybe we'll go back in time to the Cretaceous period to meet the dinosaurs. Or head to Ancient Egypt to explore the Pyramids. We might even get to attend the first Olympic Games in Ancient Greece. One thing is for sure, wherever we go will be a magical expedition through our imaginations! *Content will be the same each session.*

**Week 2, 4, 5** 

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### **Mini Music Makers (1st-2nd)**

**1-week session** 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 paint a visual picture with the notes you play. Record your own song and wow your friends and family!

*Content will be the same each session.*

**Week 6** 

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### **Mini Spheros (1st- 2nd)**

**1-week session** 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 create 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.*

**Weeks 2, 3, 6** 

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### **Nature Makers (1st/2nd) \* NEW**

**1-week session** 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. *Content will be the same each session.*

**Weeks 3, 4** 

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### **Painting-Palooza; All about Paint!\*NEW**

**1-week session** Calling all artists! In this class, campers will learn about different artists and painting styles. Each day campers will try a new style of painting and make their own creation to take home. Campers will try painting with watercolors, sponge painting, tempera painting, dot painting and more. Dress for a mess and bring your imagination! *Content will be the same each session.*

**Weeks 5, 6** 

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### **Playground Physics (1st-2nd)**

**1-week session** It's easy to investigate the science of energy, force and motion- all from the playground! We'll do a variety of experiments and design our own playground that maximizes the potential energy it could create. We'll be outside as much as possible, so dress for the weather and get excited for this awesome camp! *Content will be the same each session.*

**Weeks 3, 5** 

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### **Speedometry (1st-2nd)**

**1-week session** Rev your engines! 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.*

**Weeks 1, 2** 

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### Skateboarding\* **NEW** (1st-2nd)

**1-week session** All you need is a well-fitting helmet and the desire to try something new! Partnering with Chicago Skateboard School, this brand new camp will help beginner skateboarders learn the fundamentals of this beautiful sport. Skateboards and additional pads are included in the camp fee, so don't let anything stop you from getting out on a board this summer! *Content will be the same for each session. Includes off-site walking field trip to Stevenson Park. Campers must provide their own helmet.*

Weeks 3, 4 

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### Storybook Engineering (1st-2nd)

**1-week session** 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.*

Week 4 

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### Sensory Science (1st-2nd)

**1-week session** 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.*

Weeks 3, 4, 5 

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### Space Rangers (1st-2nd)

**1-week session** Blast off on an intergalactic adventure! Get up close to 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! Please note that this camp will include a selection of freeze-dried foods, with allergy-friendly options. A list of ingredients can be provided upon request. *Content will be the same each session.*

Weeks 1, 2, 3 

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### Textile Magic (1st-2nd)

**1-week session** 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 a mess. Content will be the same each session.*

Week 2, 3 

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### Tinker Time (1st-2nd)

**1-week session** Welcome to Tinker Time – a world of wonder and imagination where budding young minds come together for a magical experience! Campers will become innovators the old-fashioned way – by tinkering. We'll build marble runs, construct balloon cars, create popsicle stick racers, build pom pom launchers, and so much more! Our camp is a playful space designed to ignite curiosity and creativity in the youngest of engineers and inventors. Join us for a week of innovation, laughter, and unforgettable memories! *Content will be the same each session.*

Weeks 1, 4 

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### Theater of the Wild

**1-week session 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*

Weeks 5, 6 

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### Toy Inventors (1st-2nd)

**1-week session** 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*

Weeks 1, 2 

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### Weather Wonders (1st/2nd)

**1-week session** We'll become mini-meteorologists as we learn about all types of weather! With hands-on experiments, we'll uncover the mystery of how different types of weather form including rain, snow, clouds, tornadoes, and rainbows. We'll even create some weather of our own! We'll try our best to be outside as much as possible so we can experience our experiments with the outside world around us, so dress for the day and dress for a mess. *Content will be the same each session.*

Weeks 1, 2, 5 

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### Yoga and Crafts (1st-2nd)

**1-week session** Stretch your mind and body as we learn new poses, explore mindful meditation and create beautiful art projects. We'll do crafts, collaborative art, and definitely a bit of running around. We'll introduce kids to the real meaning of yoga - to be thoughtful and kind, both to one another and to themselves! To participate fully in the class, children should wear comfortable stretchy clothes. *Content will be the same each session.*

Weeks 1, 2 