

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.

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| <p>S SCIENCE Science: Encourages curiosity, observation, and experimentation, fostering an understanding of the natural world.</p> | <p>T TECHNOLOGY Technology: Involves the use of tools, software, and digital platforms to solve problems and enhance learning experiences.</p> | <p>E ENGINEERING Engineering: Promotes design thinking and problem-solving through hands-on projects and the engineering design process.</p> | <p>A ART Arts: Incorporates creativity and expression through various artistic mediums, fostering a holistic approach to learning.</p> | <p>M MATH Mathematics: Provides the foundational skills for logical reasoning, quantitative analysis, and problem-solving.</p> |
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****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.**

Bead Builders (3rd-4th)

1-week session Let your imagination soar and explore weaving with beads and other objects. Have a favorite animal, creature, or food you'd like to recreate with beads? Figure out how to use ocean glass, pony beads, wire and shaping tools to craft unique designs that bring them to life! *You may register for multiple sessions; campers can create different designs each session!*

Weeks 1, 3 

BASE Camp News (3rd-4th)

1-week session Join us as we become investigative journalists and take a hard look into the news of BASE Camp. Campers will create their own news channel, investigate stories and report on the news of the day. Prefer to be behind the camera? We'll also work on recording and editing our news segments to share with all of BASE Camp at the end of the week. *Content will be the same each session.*

Weeks 5, 6 

Breakdancing (3rd-4th)

1-week session Breakdancing is an awesome form of self expression, and is a great way for campers to become more physically active, interact with others and creatively express themselves. This camp will focus on advanced dance techniques and choreography of breakdancing, developing balance, coordination, style and technique. Campers will learn the foundations of breakdancing which include Top Rock, Footwork, Transitions and Freezes. *Content will be the same each session.*

Weeks 1, 2 

Board Game Makers (3rd-4th)

1-week session 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 test out with other campers. You'll have fun creating a catch phrase to pitch your creation to your family and friends at a game release party on the last day of camp. *Content will be the same each session.*

Weeks 3, 4 

Crazy Chemistry (3rd-4th)

1-week session 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. *All ingredients will be nut-free. A list of ingredients can be provided upon request. Content will be the same each session.*

Weeks 1, 2, 4, 5 

Chess (3rd/4th)

1-week session Whether your camper is just starting out or is already familiar with the wild world of chess, this camp will help them develop valuable critical thinking and problem-solving skills, and a love of the beautiful game. We'll strategize and game plan together, culminating in 1-on-1 battles in a tournament to end the week. No previous chess experience required. *Content will be the same each session.*

Week 1 

Critter Science: Vertebrates & Invertebrates (3rd-4th)

1-week session Inspect insects, annelids (worms), and crustaceans (pill bugs) and also mammals and other vertebrates (animals containing a backbone) up close and personal. Analyze and dissect real specimens. Use microscopes for a closer look into the wonders of small invertebrates critters. Investigate owl pellets, learn about cells and tissues of animals, explore bone structure and purpose, and lots more. You'll learn how living organisms are built and what makes them function. Document your observations in a sketch journal just like a real scientist and bring it home to continue your adventures.

Week 3 

CSI Oak Park (3rd-4th)

1-week session 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.*

Weeks 3, 4 

DrumLine (3rd-4th)

1-week session 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 and 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.*

Week 6 **S T E A M** 

Felting (3rd-4th)

1-week session Have you ever wanted to create your own fabric or textile art? This camp will begin with an introduction to needle felting basics. With daily specialty workshops, campers can create felted soap, wet felted landscapes, 3-D animals, and wearable art. Free time is provided to apply new skills in individualized projects with the support of tailored instruction to make each project a success. *Content will be the same each session.*

Week 4 **S T E A M** 

Fire Wings; Dragons! (3rd-4th)* **NEW**

1-week session Spread your wings and prepare your fiery breath because this week is all about dragons! We'll use the popular series "Wings of Fire" as inspiration, but no book knowledge is necessary to have fun at this camp. You'll create your own dragon, learn about the mythology and history of dragon lore. All dragons are welcome as we create a story together that is sure to be an epic adventure! *Content will be the same each session.*

Weeks 1, 2, 5, 6 **S T E A M** 

Fun With Spheros (3rd-4th)

1-week session 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.*

Weeks 5, 6 **S T E A M** 

Innovative Engineering (3rd-4th)

1-week session Engineers work to find solutions to challenges that exist around us in our everyday lives. In this camp we will work as a team creating fun designs to a new challenge presented every day. Projects may include designing a safer roller coaster seat, a tower or fence that can withstand tornado winds, or a popsicle contraption that is less messy when the treat melts. Improve your problem-solving skills by creating new inventions, gadgets, and thingamajigs everyday with fun recycled materials. We will also practice presenting our innovations in preparation for a Family Friday Showcase. Please dress for mess and creativity! *Content will be the same each session.*

Weeks 3, 4, 6 **S T E A M** 

Intro to Biking (3rd-4th)

1-week session Your biker might not be quite ready to hit the road yet, but we'll be ready by the end of camp! This new camp will teach your child bike safety, road rules, driver awareness, and most importantly– a love of biking! By the end of camp, we'll take some short trips as a group on local roads, working up to a 3 mile round trip. *Camp Prerequisites: Campers must know how to ride their bike safely, using hand brakes and gears. Required daily items include a road-ready bike with gears and hand brakes, bike lock, helmet, snacks, water bottle and closed-toed 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.*

Weeks 1, 3, 4, 5 

Junior ANIME-tors (3rd-4th)

1-week session: "Can't get enough Anime? Come join us to dive deeper into Anime creation." Explore Manga basics such as character and background design using classic Manga styles. Then develop a story and create panels to expand 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.*

Weeks 3, 4 

Kinetic Power! The Science of Motion (3rd-4th)

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! Campers will build and race magnetic cars, whirlybirds, ferris wheels, helicopters and more! We will cover topics of design, magnetism, aerodynamics, velocity, lift and drag. The campers will be assigned to groups for some projects, and others will be an individual effort. All projects can be taken home. *Content will be the same each session.*

Weeks 4 & 5 

LEGO Crash Test (3rd-4th)

1-week session Design. Build. Crash! Build and crash your lego designs. During this camp we will focus on designing different structures and machines, and then test their crash sturdiness!

- **"Cruisin' for a Bruisin'"** We build Lego cars and test them going down the slides on the playground and the ramps in the school to see if they can go in a straight line, travel far and survive crashes
- **"Sinkin' Ships"** We build Lego boats and test them with weights to see if they will float
- **"Shakin' Skyscrapers"** We build Lego buildings on a base plate and test them to see if they will survive an earthquake aka being taped to a chair and getting rocked back and forth
- **"Release the Hounds"** We build a Lego catapult and ball then test to see how far we can make the ball fly, and whether or not it stays together

You may register for multiple sessions; campers can build different machines each session!

Weeks 3, 4, 5 

LEGO Testers (3rd-4th)

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.

Weeks 5, 6 

Magic of Harry Potter (3rd-4th)

1-week session Grab your wizarding robes and your trunk because your Hogwarts letter has arrived! Through spellbinding science experiments, enchanting art projects, and mesmerizing engineering challenges, you will feel immersed in the magical world of Harry Potter. Whether you've read the books, seen the movies, or just love the fantasy world, you will surely be enchanted and will be able to captivate your friends and family with your new found magical skills! Please note that this camp will include making a Harry Potter themed treat using nut-free ingredients. A list of ingredients can be provided upon request. *Content will be the same each session.*

Weeks 1, 2, 5 

Making Mandalas (3rd-4th)

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. In this camp, campers will learn how to use a compass and a ruler to create beautiful mandala art-created with various mediums, including gel and metallic pens, markers, and paint pens. We will create mandala collages, draw communal mandalas with sidewalk chalk,-as well as nature mandalas out of flowers and plants. Join us for this fun and wonderful outlet of creative expression and relaxation. *Content will be the same each session.*

Week 5 

Minecraft Explore (3rd-4th)

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.*

Weeks 2, 4, 6 

Oregon Trail (3rd-4th)

1-week session Campers will relive the pioneer experience of the early 1800's in our classroom as we simulate historical events and activities in the journey on the Oregon Trail. This class is a Dungeons and Dragons-style role playing experience. Campers won't even realize they're learning because they're having so much fun as a wagon team making decisions that can determine if they successfully make it to Oregon! At the end of the program, campers should be taking home a first-person diary they created depicting the events they experienced during their simulation. *Content will be the same each session.*

Week 5, 6 

Pokemon Adventure (3rd-4th) *NEW

1-week session Embark on a thrilling adventure at Pokemon Adventure Camp! Enter a world filled with your favorite characters and exciting activities designed to unleash your inner Pokemon trainer. From crafting Oshawott masterpieces to unleashing creativity in group battle mat creations, each day offers new challenges and opportunities for cooperative learning. Join us for a week packed with activities like making your own Pokemon card, learning how to draw Charmander, and creating your own new Pokemon. This week will leave you feeling like a true Pokemon Champion! *Content will be the same each session.*

Weeks 1, 2, 3 

Robot Wranglers! (3rd-4th)

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. Improve 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.*

Weeks 1, 2 

Science of Sound (3rd-4th) *NEW

1-week session Become a sound scientist! Investigate how sound travels through the world, explore how different factors can make sounds change, and discover how sounds are used in nature. You'll even create some sounds of your own by making musical instruments! Bring your D97 iPad to every session. *Content will be the same each session.*

Weeks 1, 5, 6 

Sew Monsters and More! (3rd-4th)

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.*

Weeks 4, 5 


Skateboarding* NEW (3rd-4th)

1-week sessions Let's get out and ride! This camp has something to offer for skaters of any skill level, with access to professional instructors and a variety of obstacles. Partnering with Chicago Skateboard School, this brand new camp will help new skateboarders not only learn the fundamentals of skateboarding at your own pace, but you will be able to progress as a group, meet new friends, and gain confidence on your board. Skateboards and additional pads are included in the camp fee, so all you need is a well-fitting helmet and the desire to try something new! *Content will be the same for each session. Includes off-site walking field trip to Stevenson Park. Campers must provide their own helmet.*

Weeks 2, 3 

Speedometry Overdrive (3rd-4th)

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. *Content will be the same each session.*

Weeks 1, 2, 3 **S T E A M** 

Ultimate Game Day (3rd-4th)* **NEW**

1-week session Get your game face on for daily outdoor field games like soccer, flag football, capture the flag and kickball. We might even get to be the first camp to break in the new Ga-Ga pit at Beye! Athletes will learn each sport through skill-based games, scrimmages and friendly competitions that will grow their confidence while surrounded by a community of new friends.

Weeks 1, 2 **S T E A M** 