

## 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.

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

#### Apparel Art (5th-6th)

**1-week session** Let your creativity up your wardrobe game! This project-based camp will make connections to fashion and clothing styles while teaching campers some fun painting and drawing techniques. We'll embellish and customize our own gear; starting with bandanas, shirts or canvas bags, or BYO shoes that you can bring to life with paints, bling, or other materials. *Content will be the same each session. Please dress for a mess.*

Weeks 2, 3, 6 

#### Architecture Studio (5th-6th)\* **NEW**

**1-week session** This drawing-centric intro to architecture camp will give curious kids the opportunity to dive into the beautiful world of architecture and draft their own ideas. We'll scale and model a one room living space with our sketchbooks and, through a variety of building activities and design challenges, create a 3-D model to take home. *Content will be the same each session.*

Weeks 5, 6 

#### BASE Camp News; Scripts and Tech (5th-6th)\* **NEW**

**1-week session** Coming to you live from BASE Camp 2025! This camp offers a deeper focus on what goes into every story -- from the idea to the research, the pitch, framing, and production. Whether you want to be in front of the camera with the hard-hitting facts, or behind the scenes making it happen, we will dig a bit deeper into what's really going on at BASE Camp. *Content will be the same each session. Please bring your D97 iPad to every session.*

Weeks 5, 6 

### **Biking Adventures (5th-6th)**

**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! *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.*

**Weeks 1-6** 

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### **Cardboard City (5th-6th)**

**1-week session** 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 city. All design, engineering, and construction will be camper-led. *Content will be the same each session.*

**Weeks 3, 4** 

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### **Carnival Game Maker (5th-6th)**

**1-week session** Do you enjoy playing skee-ball, ring toss, and other games of chance? Try your hand at designing and building your own versions of popular carnival and boardwalk 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.*

**Week 4, 5** 

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### **CYC Sailing (5th-8th)- FULL DAY \*SCHOLARSHIP ONLY\***

**1-week session** Chicago Yacht Club Foundation is partnering up with BASE Camp this summer to offer this program to our campers receiving scholarships. A day in Adventure Boating consists of several of the following fun activities: kayaking, stand-up paddle-boarding, sailing on our 23' Sonar Keelboats, and marine-based STEM education. This is a fantastic option for youth who want to have a great time on the water with friends! Camps take place in Chicago's Belmont Harbor. Limited space available and this camp is only for campers who receive scholarships from OPEF.

*Daily bus transportation to and from Julian Middle School will be provided. In partnership with the Chicago Yacht Club Foundation.*

**Weeks 4 and 5** 

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### **Digital Drawing and Design (5th-6th)\* NEW**

Campers in this new Digital Drawing and Design camp will learn how comics, cartoons, and anime become more than just art forms we see all around us. Campers will learn how cartoons come into being and then create their own animation using their digital sketchbooks. Whether your child has never drawn a stick figure or they are an anime master, these budding artists will create projects using some amazing digital tools. Bring your d97 iPad for this camp. *Content will be the same each session.*

**Weeks 5, 6** 

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### Dungeons and Dragons (5th-6th)\* **NEW**

**1-week session** Calling all dragon masters! Campers will learn everything they need to know to get started playing D&D and will participate in several adventures over the week. Players will learn how to build characters and engage in a series of structured adventures designed to teach the core rules. Campers will finish the week with breaks from their main stories and experience shorter, more enclosed adventure “one-shots”. *Content will be different each week.*

Weeks 4, 5, 6 

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### Eat the Art; Pastry Decorating (5th-6th) \* **NEW**

**1-week session** Are you ready for our showstopper decorating challenge? We'll create some delicious and beautiful creations; flooded sugar cookies, cake balls, cocoa bombs, and more! Every day we'll bake, make and decorate a new creation that will show off our piping and edible decorating skills. And of course, the best thing about this class is that we'll have edible treats to bring home! Please let us know of any allergies upon registration. *Content will be the same each session.*

Weeks 1,3 

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### Frisbee Physics (5th-6th)

**1-week session** Learn STEAM concepts such as force, velocity, pitch, angle, gravitational pull, lift, drag, angle and buoyancy. Campers 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.*

Week 5 

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### Graffiti Art (5th-6th)

**1-week session** Is your child drawn to the vibrant and expressive world of graffiti art? Graffiti art offers a unique opportunity to learn spray paint techniques, create murals, and express their creativity in a safe and supervised environment. This camp will foster artistic expression, street art culture, and responsible artistic practices. *Content will be the same each session. Please dress for a mess.*

Weeks 1, 2 

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### Hydroponics (5th-6th)\***NEW**

**1-week session** Exploring hydroponics will help campers learn about what it takes to make our planet more sustainable. From healthy soil and biodiversity to recycling and alternative energy, this camp will help you dig a little deeper. How can we provide support for plants without soil? How do plants grown with just water and nutrients compare with plants grown in soil? How can we get the tallest plants using a hydroponics setup? We'll find out as we visit OPRFHS's hydroponics lab to sample, grow and harvest from their lab! Through hands-on projects and field trips, you will discover what you can do to make a difference.

Week 3 

### Imaginary Game (5th-6th) \*NEW

**1-week session (full day)** The Imaginary Game is a live action role playing game where you'll become a small band of crafters, warriors, and magic-users. Come learn the secrets of the Cardboard Dueling Circle. Get the feel for medieval weaponry and armor made of cardboard; train in the basics of combat tag, from footwork to heads-up play. And get a taste of the safety, kindness, and fun of The Imaginary Game! This camp is in partnership with the Imaginary Game.

Sessions are full day, 9:00-3:00pm and different every week.

Weeks 3, 4 

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### Jumpstart Robotics/Girl Power! Robotics (5th-6th)

**1-week session** 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. *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.*

Jumpstart Robotics Week 1, Girl Power Week 2 

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### Makers Lab (5th-6th)

**1-week session** Welcome to the Makers Lab – a thrilling adventure where young minds come together to unleash their creativity and engineering prowess! This camp is an immersive experience where campers dive into the world of engineering by building exciting projects using recyclable materials. Throughout the camp, campers will be guided through the engineering design process, encouraged to work as a team, and challenged to develop critical thinking. Join us for a week of innovation, laughter, and unforgettable memories! *Content will be the same each session.*

Weeks 4 

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### Minecraft Create (5th-6th)

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

Weeks 1, 2 

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### Mobile Street Photography (5th-6th)

**1-week session** Don't miss taking that awesome snap during the perfect moment! We'll take walking field trips around Oak Park with our iPads, capturing beautiful moments as we go! Experiment with what makes better selfies; and improve your photos with better lighting, composition, and focus. Explore the basics of photography by working with your iPad to use 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! *Content will be the same each session.*

Weeks 1, 4 

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### Orbit Robotics with Sphero (5th-6th)

**1-week session** 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.*

Weeks 1, 2 

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### Outdoor Escape Room (5th-6th)

**1-week session** 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.

Weeks 5, 6 

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### Planes and Projectiles (5th-6th)\* **NEW**

**1-week session:** Did you ever want to launch your own rocket? What about fly a drone? Join us for this reimaged camp where we'll 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. During the week you'll design, build, and test airplanes, rockets, Chinese lanterns and more. Use our drones or bring your own as we explore the science of flight! *Content will be the same each session.*

Weeks 5, 6 

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### Printmaking Discovery (5th-6th)

**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 a for mess!*

Week 1, 6 

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### REACH Sailing (5th-8th)

**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 Chicago 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 middle school. In partnership with the Chicago Yacht Club.*

**PREWEEK- June 9-13 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM; departing from D97 middle school** 

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### Reimagine and Repurpose (5th-6th)\* **NEW**

**1-week session** Art can be made out of anything! Through the magic of found art and upcycling, campers will learn to see the potential in unexpected materials, transforming discarded items into works of art. We'll explore ways to recycle and reuse materials in artwork, turn discarded items into tools for making art and learn about artists who are known for their art from recycled items. Come with a bold imagination and dress for a mess.

*Content will be the same each session.*

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

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### Science of Sweets (5th-6th)

**1-week session** 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.*

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

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### Skateboarding\* **NEW** (5th-6th)

**1-week session** Whether you are a pro on your board, or this is your first time, come out and try something new this summer! Partnering with Chicago Skateboard School, this brand new camp will help skateboarders learn the fundamentals of skateboarding and standard skatepark etiquette, with plenty of obstacles to diversify their skill sets. 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, 4 **S T E A M** 

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### Treehouse Design with Green Architecture (5th-6th)

**1-week Session** 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 use 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.*

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

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### Intro to VEX Robotics-(TWO week session! Incoming 6th graders only)

**Two-week session** Using the V5 VEX Robotics Design System, campers will work in small groups to build robots and participate in competition challenges. Our staff will guide the campers 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 campers to explore important STEM concepts. This is a great opportunity for those with no experience so they can be ready to join the robotics club in middle school! *Please note that this camp meets at Julian Middle School.*

**Two week session, Pre-Week and Week 1; June 9-20, no camp June 19th** **S T E A M** 

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### VEX IQ (5th-6th)

**1-week Session** Come try out some new hardware with this VEX IQ system! We'll work in small groups to design, build and test our creations, with a new challenge every day. This is a fun opportunity for campers to level up their engineering skills, conquer a new design and expand their coding knowledge. Great for beginners who want to learn or campers who are more advanced, come check out VEX IQ and see what you can do! *Content is the same each session.*

Weeks 5, 6 

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### Zines (5th-6th)

Zines are self-published magazines full of things the author is passionate about– the sky's the limit to what we can create! In this camp, we will look at a handful of zines and study a bit of the history of zines. Using a variety of creative prompts, campers will write, draw, paint, use textiles and found items to create their own zine. Join us in the creative process! *Content is the same each session.*

Weeks 2 

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