Blog It!

Do you have something that you love to do, like dance, basketball, horseback riding, or painting? Why not create a blog about it? Armed with a reporter’s notebook and camera, you can become a journalist. You will learn how to conduct interviews, take photos and videos, and create articles. During this class we will work on researching, writing, and editing skills that can be used in your blog and any other writing you choose to do. In the end you will have created your very own blog that showcases your interest and/or passion!

Build It!

Do you love building things? Whether it is a fort in your bedroom, a doll house, or your own world in Minecraft, creating new structures can be an exciting and challenging experience. In this class you will acquire the knowledge and skills you need to become a better builder, building designer, or architect. Over the course of our five sessions, we will explore the different scales of building in architecture and look at interesting examples of furniture, building structures, and materials used in construction. Our learning experiences will include a variety of engaging hands-on projects. Throughout the class, you will use everyday materials in our environment to construct new and useful objects, while also learning about fundamental principles of construction and architecture. Let’s build it!

Civil War Technology

Have you ever wondered about the origins of submarines, railroad networks, steel bridges, instantaneous communication, mobile photography, or modern professional nursing? All of these things came about during the American Civil War! In this course you will become familiar with the men and women who were responsible for these and other important scientific and industrial developments during this fascinating time in American history. Our learning experiences will include engaging with visual and textual primary source material, participating in guided discussions, and exploring interesting and important historical facts through varied interactive activities. In this course, history and science will come together in a powerful way. Welcome to the world of Civil War technology!

The Future is Here: 3-D Printing

3-D printing is a game changer in human-machine interaction. What you can make is almost limitless—if you can stack it, you can print it! In five years, 3-D printers that make building materials, tissues, and food have revolutionized construction, medicine, and culinary arts. In the next 10 years, 3-D printing could revolutionize space travel, allowing us to manufacture everything needed to survive outside of Earth. In this class, we’ll work together to identify personal and group projects, creating 3-D files and printed projects that address a need. Come explore the world of 3-D printing with us! Come explore the future.

Course descriptions for 4th/5th grades continue on next page:
It’s a Small World After All

We live in an exciting world full of all kinds of living things too small to see with our eyes, like microbes! Microbes do much more than just make us sick: they help make bread, yogurt, vitamins, and medicines. Did you know that some of these microbes live where no other plants and animals can survive, such as within the ice in Antarctica or inside of a volcano? We will be learning all about these microbes through question-based discussions, games, and experiments. During this course we will learn about the microbes found in different environments around the world, how they are used to make the foods that we eat, and what some of the little microbes that live inside of our bodies look like! Join us as we take a peek into the tiny and fascinating world of microbes!

Got Questions? Get Answers!

Have you ever had questions you weren’t quite able to answer? Have you ever found yourself asking whether a leaf is dead or alive? Whether one person can know everything? What your imagination actually is? During this course, we will learn how to think about these questions and many more! You will become a philosopher and learn how to tackle tough questions with an arsenal of logical tools. Along the way, we will learn about how famous thinkers, such as Plato and Aristotle, chose to think about the world and develop our own understanding of the “what” and “why” of the world around us.

Unlock the Mysteries of the Human Brain

What do YOU think the brain does? What do you think it doesn’t do? It probably does that too! In this course, we will learn about how the brain works and discover the thousands of things that it does each and every day. Through a variety of hands-on and engaging activities, we will analyze the differences between human brains and the brains of other animals, investigate the important and exciting jobs of different parts of the brain, and begin to understand how our brains work. At the end, you even get the chance to touch a real human brain! Put on your thinking caps and get excited to unravel the mysteries of the human brain!

The Way We Are Wired: Thinking about Intelligence

Have you ever wondered what intelligence is, or how it appears in each person differently? This course aims to answer these questions by exploring the history of intelligence and how it is related to the brain. We will also talk about theories of intelligence (like Dweck’s mindset and Gardner’s multiple intelligences) and discover how our different personalities can lead us to express intelligence in different ways. Along the way, we will engage in debates, construct models of the brain, and create concept maps of our personalities and intelligence to explore how we are wired. Take on the rare opportunity dive into your own brain and understand how you learn!