Saturday Enrichment Program
University of Virginia
2017

A Saturday Morning Enrichment Program for
Gifted and/or High Ability Students
in Grades K-5

Located on the Grounds of the University of Virginia

January 21 through February 18
Snow make-up date: February 25

9:00 – 11:00 a.m. (early session) or
11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. (late session)

Application Deadline: December 1, 2016
Confirmation of Acceptances: December 16, 2016
Payment Deadline for Accepted Students: January 4, 2017

APPLY ONLINE!

Visit our website: http://curry.sites.virginia.edu

Sponsored by University of Virginia Curry School of Education
What are our program goals?
For almost 40 years, the Saturday Enrichment Program has offered unique learning opportunities to over 24,000 highly capable young children. Our instructors develop courses intended to:
- Expose students to new areas of interest and extend existing understandings
- Provide intellectual stimulation through interaction with other students with similar interests and abilities
- Provide learning experiences which challenge the students and target their learning preferences
- Encourage creative and critical thinking and problem solving
- Foster skills for independent learning
- Develop habits of mind of the professional in a specific discipline or across disciplines

Who should apply?
Students in grades K-5 who are currently participating in a gifted program and/or who demonstrate above average abilities and/or achievement in one or more areas should apply. Home-schooled students who exhibit the same characteristics are also welcome to apply. Applicants should demonstrate a desire to learn and the ability to work independently, as well as cooperatively, in a classroom setting. Previous application or acceptance to the program has no bearing on the consideration of this application.

What is the cost?
The cost is $175 per course.

How do we pay?
If accepted, we will send you information about how to pay. Payment is due upon notification of acceptance and no later than January 4, 2017. Prompt payment prevents forfeiture of your child’s placement. We accept credit card payments online (Visa and MasterCard only), checks online, and checks and money orders by mail. No refunds are possible after January 11, 2017.

Are financial scholarships available?
$75 scholarships are available for students who are eligible for their school’s free/reduced lunch program; this scholarship reduces the total cost to $100.

What session do I choose?
The same course material is taught from 9:00–11:00 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m. You can sign up for the time slot that best fits your family’s schedule. Due to the popularity of this program, each student may only attend one session.

How do students select a class?
Students should indicate which classes they would most like to take by prioritizing their top 4 choices (or more, if you want to write them in.) Every effort will be made to place qualifying students in one of their top choices of class. However, if certain classes are very popular, they may be offered a class that is not high on their priority list.

How do I apply?
Applications are completed online at http://curry.sites.virginia.edu. Parents/Guardians complete the information section and the Parent Evaluation. Your child’s teacher completes the Teacher Recommendation. Alternately, you can print a hard copy, fill it out and mail it to us along with the Teacher Recommendation Form in a sealed envelope to:

Saturday Enrichment Program
P.O. Box 400264
University of Virginia
Charlottesville, VA 22904-4264

How are applications processed?
All completed applications will be processed after December 1. Comments furnished by school personnel are strictly confidential. The SEP staff evaluates recommendation forms, student requests, and class space and makes acceptance decisions. We make every effort to place qualifying students in one of their top four choices. Applications received after the December 1, 2016 deadline are automatically placed on a waitlist. Space permitting, we will invite students from the waitlist to participate.

DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS IS DECEMBER 1, 2016
Notification of acceptance will be sent via e-mail on or before December 16, 2016
Grades K – 1

Four choices

Around the World in Five Saturdays

Ever wonder where your ancestors came from, or about what other parts of the world look like? Join us as we dive into various cultures from across the world. Through indoor excursions, students will be exposed to various cultures in Africa, Europe, and Asia. As a class we will explore multiple aspects of these cultures through literature, videos, and personal accounts. Our journey will conclude with a creation of our own culture books, highlighting favorite aspects of each culture discussed. Come explore the globe!

Exercising Eggs, Running Ravioli, and Leaping Lettuce: How Food and Energy Combine

Did you know there are foods that can make a kid run faster, jump higher, and throw a ball farther? In this class, we’ll talk about the delicious foods that give us the energy we need to do the activities we love. We’ll learn about the science of fueling our bodies for work and play, such as how the protein becomes strong muscles in our bodies and calcium strengthens our bones. We will learn how the food can work with physical activity to keep our bodies and minds active and strong. At the end of this class, you will understand how the foods you find in the grocery store allow you to run, jump, and play every single day.

Fairytale Mishaps and Mathematical Solutions

Math is everywhere—even in fairytales! Some well-known fairytale characters have come across problems that they need help solving. That’s where you come in. In our class you will help fairytale characters with the problems they face. Help Jack see how much money he has, graph and analyze what different types of bread crumbs Hansel and Gretel have, build a bridge to help the Gingerbread Man get over the river without the fox, and more! Come work like a mathematician and help these fairytale characters out!

Science and the Art of Construction

Ever wonder why skyscrapers can be so tall or why cars can drive across bridges? Let’s explore together! Through hands-on activities, we will experiment with shapes, forms and forces used in building the world around us. To illustrate these ideas, we will also journey across time from the first humans who sought shelter for survival to our modern world where sometimes looks can matter as much as function. Be prepared to bring your own ideas as we lay the foundation for our budding architects, engineers, and scientists!

NOTE: Students must be at least five years old by February 1, 2017 and enrolled in kindergarten
Seven choices

The Ecology of Our Communities: Science All Around Us
Fun with Creative Writing!
Human Diseases and How We Fix Them
Medieval to Modern—An Exploration of Sound!
Money Matters!
Physics: The Way the World Works
The Surprising Science of the Chesapeake Bay

The Ecology of Our Communities: Science All Around Us

Ever wonder about what makes the water in our homes different from the water in puddles or ponds? Or how the way we travel between school and home affects the environment? This course will explore questions like these, which show how science is a huge part of our everyday lives. Come join us as we explore Charlottesville and the surrounding areas and develop scientific studies of your questions that you can explore.

Fun with Creative Writing!

Want to be the next J.K. Rowling? Here's your start! In this course, you will unleash your imagination through various activities, which will include developing characters, settings, and plots. You'll also be writing poetry like haiku (a traditional Japanese poem), and you'll challenge yourself by trying to tell an entire story with only 10 words. You'll also get the chance to find inspiration from famous stories and poems, develop stories as a group, and get helpful feedback from your teacher and your classmates. You'll walk away feeling full of potential and ready to write the next mega-bestseller!

Human Diseases and How We Fix Them

In this course, students will learn the fundamental concepts of human physiology, pathology, and health. We will explore questions like: What happens when the human body no longer functions normally? How does each organ work to maintain health when things go awry? How does modern medicine treat diseases? Each class will address a specific healthy physiological state, how this healthy state can begin to decline, describe the physiology of the unhealthy state, and explore how the human body and modern medicine together fight this disease. Come explore the fascinating world of human health!

Medieval to Modern—An Exploration of Sound!

Gather around as we explore music throughout the ages! Prepare for a fantastic journey that will allow you to hear music that graced the halls of kings, inspired architects, impassioned painters, galvanized poets, and invigorated soldiers. Together we will map the development of music from the Medieval Era onward. We will discuss how music deeply impacted art, politics, science, war, and much more! You will explore how musical instruments were created throughout history and listen to their different timbers. There will also be live classroom demonstrations on many contemporary and ancient instruments, and an opportunity to build one of your own!

Money Matters!

Fast-forward 20 years into the future: you're all grown up and have a job! All your dreams can come true, but what should you do with your money? Join us in Money Matters to find out! You will work as your own financial adviser as you learn to budget your money, and then make decisions about how to spend your money. We will take our talents to Wall Street to try our luck with the stock market, using data to track how our stocks do over time. We will explore questions like: How much money should you save every month? What kind of car should you buy? Which stocks are best to invest in? Come use your critical thinking and problem-solving skills to create a life you want to live!

Physics: The Way the World Works

Calling all junior scientists and engineers! Unlock the everyday mysteries of modern life by exploring the basic physics we interact with on a daily basis. This course will investigate some of the core principles in scientific areas, such as mechanics, kinetics, and thermodynamics. Along the way you will learn about famous scientists who asked many of the same questions you have and devised clever ways to answer them. We will go beyond the facts and use our scientific knowledge and math skills to predict the outcome of simple, hands-on experiments we can perform in class. Then, we will use critical thinking to evaluate the results and reinforce/advance our knowledge. Finally, we will explore how these concepts apply to modern, real-world issues using engineering problem-solving skills. Bring your curiosity and your thinking cap to class!
The Surprising Science of the Chesapeake Bay

Are you interested in becoming a scientist? What better way to start than to learn more about what’s around you! Specifically, this class will look at the Chesapeake Bay, which is east of Charlottesville, and aquatic ecology. We will explore the watershed and the organisms that live there. Through hands-on experiments and scientific investigations, we will learn about topics like chemistry, eutrophication (excess nutrients), invasive species, food chains, and other physical aspects of aquatic environments. Topics may include aquaculture, amphipods, and anoxic environments. Come explore what’s really going on in the water!

Grades 4 – 5
Eight choices

Choose Your Own Adventure! Scripting a Narrative Game
Community Speaks: Reporting on the World around Us
Fighting Off Infection: The Never-Ending Battle to Keep Us Healthy!
The Foundations of Architecture: Understanding Place and Space
Lights, Camera, Action!
Naturalists in Action!
Parts of the Whole: The Microscopic Things That Make Up the Universe
You Are What You Eat: Human Metabolism at Work!

Choose Your Own Adventure! Scripting a Narrative Game

Ever wonder “what if I did _____ instead of _____?” Want to explore the different outcomes of potential decisions? This interdisciplinary class will teach students how to script non-linear, multiple plot/ending story lines PC games using Twine and Kodu. Game development will be more focused on narrative as opposed to action, but there are plenty of creative ideas that you are encouraged to explore in a “what if/what next” multi-play-through experience. Come explore the outcomes!

Community Speaks: Reporting on the World Around Us

Hello, reporters! I am looking for inquisitive, creative and thoughtful storytellers to participate in a special project at my organization, Community Speaks. You will be an integral member of a team of specialists who are creating a community news website that chronicles your experiences, events and ideas through effective storytelling. We need your perspective and your voice! You will receive on-the-job training in recognizing perspective in storytelling, identifying your own perspective, developing effective interviewing skills and improving your storytelling skills through text, videos and image. In this undertaking, you will be presented with ample opportunities to share your stories as well as collect and report on the various experiences and ideas of the members of your community. These learning experiences will require you to use your critical thinking skills, develop your own voice and activate your community-building skills. You will finish the course having cooperatively created a professional, polished news website that showcases the unique stories and hard work of your own community!

Fighting Off Infection: The Never-Ending Battle to Keep Us Healthy

Every day we are exposed to tiny microbes, unseen by the human eye...so why aren’t we always sick? Thankfully, we have immune systems, a.k.a. the body’s defense against these tiny germs that don’t belong. During this course, we will meet the types of microbes that our body encounters and the brave cells in our body that keep them from causing harm. Students will follow the course of infection from beginning to end, appreciating what makes microbes hard to kill and the various interventions we can use to help our immune system win the fight.

The Foundations of Architecture: Understanding Place and Space

What are the components that make up a building? How do light and ventilation affect a room? These are not only important questions that architects must ask themselves about every project, but important components of this course. Join us as we use these to guide us in hands-on activities, such as measurement, drawing, and the creation of models, that will lead to the construction of miniature rooms of the students’ own design. Students should leave with a good understanding of the foundations of architecture. Come and build your knowledge!

- Courses for Grades 4/5 continued on next page -
Lights, Camera, Action!

Do you love movies? Have you ever wanted to create your own? In this class, we will explore the art of visual storytelling as you work together with your peers to create a short film. Filmmaking is more than just knowing how to use a camera—some of the techniques we may investigate include how to create a storyboard, structure a screenplay, navigate video editing software, and organize a production. We’ll examine popular films to learn from the experts about what it takes to make a story come to life. Through a multitude of hands-on activities, you’ll discover just how much problem-solving, resourcefulness, creativity, and fun is involved in producing a film!

Naturalists in Action!

Do you like to stop and watch insects as they scurry, inch, and scuttle along the ground? Do you catch yourself snatching up curious plants and flowers when out on a walk? Are you just as interested in the shells and pebbles at the beach as you are in swimming and playing in the water? If so, then guess what? You already have the makings of a great naturalist! Our class will learn how historical men and women used the “toolkit” of their senses and other creative talents to reveal the wonders of nature, starting in their own hometowns and city streets. We will also use the natural landscape of UVA as inspiration for developing our own talents of observation, interpretation, and communication, skills that are at the very heart of being a scientist. Skills like collecting, sketching, and presentation have been practiced by everyone from Leonardo Da Vinci to Charles Darwin—and even Thomas Jefferson! Join us as we create a picture of our nature experiences, learn how science can be storytelling, and how the first page in these nature stories is opened in our own backyards!

Parts of the Whole: The Microscopic Things that Make Up the Universe

The universe seems like a gigantic place, but when you break it down, it really isn’t all that big after all. It is actually made up of teeny-tiny particles that form gases, solids, and liquids. These come together to form planets and life. In this class, we will examine how and why such small particles can form such large and important structures. We will start at the universe, examining how planets are formed and orbit the sun, move on to looking specifically at earth, and finish by focusing on what makes up all living things: cells. We’ll interact with the concepts by creating gases, making rocks, and building model cells, so you’ll be able to see for yourself what makes up the universe.

You Are What You Eat: Human Metabolism at Work!

How does food get processed by the digestive system? How do organs convert food into the energy we use for physical activity? How does the body respond to hunger or cravings? Our class will explore these core concepts to show how the food you eat gets converted into the energy you use. Students will study metabolism from multiple levels, employ active learning, laboratory demonstrations, and inquiry guided activities. This course will be as engrossing as it is gross! Come see how it all works!
PART I:
To be completed by parent / guardian

Please mail with Parts II and III to be considered for acceptance.

Application Form 2017
Saturday Enrichment Program
P.O. Box 400264
University of Virginia
Charlottesville, VA 22904-4264
Office: 434-924-3182

Application Deadline:
December 1, 2016

You may also apply online at
http://curry.sites.virginia.edu

Student & Parent/Guardian Contact Information

Student’s Name ____________________________________________ Gender ________ DOB __/__/__
First MI Last MM DD YY

Mailing Address ____________________________________________________________
Street City State Zip

Parent Guardian Name: __________________________________________________ email address ______________________

Parent/Guardian Name: __________________________________________________ email address ______________________

Please list phones numbers where we can reach you now and during the Saturday morning classes:

Parent/Guardian: (_____) _____-_________ cell number (_____) _____-_________ home number

Parent/Guardian: (_____) _____-_________ cell number (_____) _____-_________ home number

What school does the student currently attend? ____________________________________________

Current Grade (Circle one): K 1 2 3 4 5

Does your child have any current medical conditions / allergies we should be aware of? __________________________

Are your child’s immunizations / shots current? _____Yes _____No

How did you hear about SEP? __________________________________________________________

List courses for your grade level in order of preference: (Note: Students may be placed in any of their choices; please do not list any classes you are not willing to take).

1. ____________________________________________ 3. ____________________________________________

2. ____________________________________________ 4. ____________________________________________

Are you submitting an application for more than one child? If yes, please list names and grades:

1. ____________________________________________ 2. ____________________________________________

Please indicate time preference: _____ Early (9:00 – 11:00 a.m.) _____ Late (11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.)

Scholarship information:
You can be considered for a $75 scholarship if your child is eligible for the free or reduced-price lunch at school. If you wish to be considered, please indicate whether or not they are eligible here: __________________________
Part II: To be completed by Parent / Guardian

Application Deadline: December 1, 2016.
Please mail completed packet—including Parts I, II, and III (teacher’s portion)—to be considered for acceptance.

Name of Student: ____________________________________________
Current grade: ____________________________________________

Please draw upon your knowledge of your child and determine the degree to which you agree or disagree with the statements below using the following scale:

4 = Strongly Agree (SA) that the child demonstrates this behavior
3 = Agree (A) that the child demonstrates this behavior
2 = Disagree (D) that the child demonstrates this behavior
1 = Strongly Disagree (SD) that the child demonstrates this behavior

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<th>Statement</th>
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<td>4</td>
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<td>2. The child follows through on a task until completion even if the work is difficult.</td>
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<td>3. The child demonstrates exceptional understanding of, and insight into, material presented.</td>
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<td>6. The child notices many things that other children do not notice.</td>
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<td>7. The child communicates in creative ways: building, drawing, body language, music.</td>
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<td>8. The child is highly imaginative in artwork, play, or use of materials or ideas.</td>
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<td>9. The child generates numerous ideas or solutions to problems and questions.</td>
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Parent/Guardian Name ____________________________________________
Date __________________________________

Parent/Guardian Signature _________________________________________
Part III: Teacher Recommendation Form 2017

Part III: Sections A & B must be filled out completely by the TEACHER in order for this application to be considered. All comments furnished by school personnel are strictly confidential. Please fold, staple or seal, place the student’s name where indicated, and sign where indicated. Return the completed, sealed form to the family for inclusion in the complete application packet.

Name of Student: ___________________  Current Grade (Circle one): K  1  2  3  4  5

SECTION A, COMMENTS: Please give specific examples of this student’s behavior in the areas of:

Social/emotional maturity:

Independent learning:

Collaborative learning:

Task commitment:

SECTION B, RATING SCALE: Please draw upon your knowledge of this student's behavior in a classroom situation and determine the degree to which you agree or disagree with the statements below using the following scale:

4 = Strongly Agree (SA) that the child demonstrates this behavior
3 = Agree (A) that the child demonstrates this behavior;
2 = Disagree (D) that the child demonstrates this behavior;
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University of Virginia
Curry School of Education
Saturday Enrichment Program

STUDENT’S NAME ___________________________________________ GRADE ______________

RECOMMENDING TEACHER’S SIGNATURE _________________________________________________

RECOMMENDING TEACHER’S PRINTED NAME _____________________________________________

School Name ___________________________________________________________________________

NOTE TO RECOMMENDING TEACHER:

Please complete this form, fold, staple or seal it, and return it to the student’s parent / guardian for inclusion in a complete application packet. You may also place this form in an envelope and sign across the flap of the envelope. Please **DO NOT** send this recommendation to SEP separately.
2017 Saturday Enrichment Program
Application Packet Checklist

___ Information section and Parent Evaluation section completed by parent or guardian
___ Teacher Recommendation Form completed by teacher, folded and sealed with teacher’s signature where indicated

The best way to apply is online at: http://curry.sites.virginia.edu though if you prefer to send an application via regular mail, we will gladly accept it. Thank you for your interest in our programs!

Summer Opportunities:

Please visit our website to find out about our Summer Enrichment Program which is a residential summer camp for students who are rising into grades 5 – 11, offered on Grounds at the University of Virginia. Dates for this summer are:

Session 1: June 18-29, 2017
Session 2: July 2-13, 2017
Session 3: July 16-27, 2017