Saturday Enrichment Program
University of Virginia
2018

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 20 through February 17
Snow make-up date: February 24

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

Application Deadline: December 1, 2017
Confirmation of Acceptances: December 15, 2017
Payment Deadline for Accepted Students: January 4, 2018

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, 2018. 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, 2018.

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, 2017 deadline are automatically placed on a waitlist. Space permitting, we will invite students from the waitlist to participate.

DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS IS DECEMBER 1, 2017
Notification of acceptance will be sent via e-mail on or before December 15, 2017
Grades K – 1

Six choices

Drama Unfolding

Do you enjoy reading and telling stories? Theater inspires us, challenges us, and helps us to be our best and most creative selves. In this course we will work together to learn about the different people and professions that work together to create theater. Drama and will create and enact several small group and whole class skits. Improvisation and imagination games.

Happily Ever Engineering!

The Enchanted Forest is in desperate need of engineers! Jack is stuck on the beanstalk with no way down, Rapunzel needs to build a staircase for her tower, and Baby Bear needs a new chair! Using the fun, whimsical context of classic fairy tales, we will tackle engineering-design challenges in order to learn basic design principles, physics concepts, and the scientific method. Each week, we will collaborate to create a solution to one of the Enchanted Forest’s many problems in open-ended, student-driven engineering projects. Then, we’ll discuss the features that make each solution effective. We welcome princes and princesses alike to engage in these hands-on STEM learning activities.

Kinesiology Kids!

Take heads, shoulders, knees, and toes to the next level as you become Kinesiology Kids! This course gives you the chance to develop a better understanding of form and function while using your own body as an example. We will focus on types of joints, body actions, muscles, injuries, and applications of how the human body moves. Kinesiology Kids will test out topics of human movement by observing their knees, elbows, hands, fingers, and more. Later in the course, topics like exercise science and careers will surface to shed light on kinesiology in the context of an active lifestyle. Join us to gain knowledge about human motion!

Making Word Magic!

Do you love reading and writing? Then come explore the magic of poetry with us! We will be inspired by reading and performing famous poems. We will read, share, and revise our own poetry collections and experiment with rhythm, metaphor, imagery, and other elements of powerful poetry. But don’t be fooled...we won’t be sitting and writing the whole time! We will adventure outside to write nature poems. We will crank up the music to explore rhythm and beat. We will also play group games to stretch our imaginations and flex our creative muscles. Come express yourself and play with the power of words!

Sensational STEM Seasons!

Do you have a favorite season? You will be able to learn more about it and more in this course, which covers all four: Spring, Summer, Fall, and Winter. The course is an integration of science, literacy, math, and engineering, so that you are able to truly understand multiple disciplines and how they all are incorporated into the seasons here in Virginia. You will engage in discussions about stories and informative articles, work as engineers to build items like nests for birds, and become scientists to investigate questions like how leaves turn different colors. Learning is always in season!

Exploratory Ecology!

Interested in the outdoors? Try learning about ecology! Ecology is the relationship between organisms and their environment. During this class, you will be introduced to ecology and biogeography, with a focus on plant and animal species and their impact on Virginia. You engage in hands-on activities to gain an understanding of what controls animal and plant distribution, how animals absorb energy; and the biology of various marine and terrestrial habitats. Come aboard and get ready to explore ecology!

NOTE: Students must be at least five years old by February 1, 2018 and enrolled in kindergarten
Do-It-Yourself Energy
Ever wondered how rockets launch, or how cars run? It all has to do with chemistry! In this class, we’ll explore how chemistry makes exciting things possible. You will be chemists in training, learning about what energy is and how to store and use it. This class will focus on hands-on experiments in small groups and will include some larger-scale reactions as a class. Some of these will be loud, some will be messy, but all will be fun and thought-provoking. Before each experiment, you will predict what will happen based on our discussions of energy in class. Join us and learn about the chemistry of energy!

Engineering 101
What do engineers do? The field that deals with designing materials, structures, products and processes is called engineering. In this course, students will learn about the main types of engineering as well as the design and problem-solving process all engineers follow. Students will plan solutions for different challenges by considering constraints, such as cost, time, materials needed, environmental concerns, and trade-offs; evaluating the product or design they have created; and learning to communicate the process of the technological design. Potential activities include designing an assembly line to manufacture automobiles, using the principles of aerodynamics to improve the flight times of paper planes, studying inventions, and designing and building a drink holder for a major airline. In each activity, students will follow the design process and see firsthand that learning what doesn’t work can be just as valuable as seeing what does.

It IS Rocket Science
You might hear people say “it’s not rocket science”... but this course actually is! Come and embark on a journey that really reaches for the stars. In this course, we will discover that it is easy to think like astrophysicists and aerospace engineers. You will learn how to break down complex mathematical theories through rocket science concepts that everyone can understand, like the aerodynamics of paper airplanes to the combustion of rocket fuel demonstrated through Coke and Mentos. We will go above and beyond to answer questions that got humans to the moon, looking at the effects of geometric angles, flight times, gravity, orbital motion, and vacuum chambers. Preconceptions of the difficulties in hard science will be blown away. We will also recognize the historical figures that made it all possible, discovering that they are just like you and me! So buckle up, start the countdown, and get ready for an expedition that is out of this world!

Lively Linguistics!
Ever wonder what’s in a word? Linguistics, the study of language and its structure, can help you figure that out! In this course, students will learn the sound systems of English and other languages by exploring etymology, vocative areas of the body, and more! Students will also be able to interact with Germanic, Romance, and non-Western language patterns. All of the exploration will culminate in a final project about a linguistic test in a different language. Join us and explore the structure of our sounds!

Masters of Modern Art
Have you ever seen a piece of art and thought, “Hmmm...I could do that!!”? This is your chance! In this course, we will discuss the foundations of Modern Art and how artists express messages and emotions through colors and shapes. Famous artists and their works will come alive through faux-interviews and instruction about their techniques. Hands-on activities will include problem-solving famous works, painting emotions, creating your very own style and many fun
The Mysteries of Mathematics

Have you ever wondered where numbers come from? Or thought about when, how, and why people started doing math? How would the world be different if we didn’t have numbers? Together we will discuss these questions as we explore ancient civilizations to uncover early math history. We will be doing a variety of fun math and art projects each day, as well as having discussions and debates about some of math’s most interesting questions. Join us as we put on the hats of archaeologists, investigators, mathematicians, architects, artists, and philosophers to discover the many mysteries of mathematics!

Energize and Break-through Material!

Do you ever want to bend something just to see if it will break? Come explore different objects and learn how and why they break, bend, and stretch. Together we will experiment with objects to learn about elasticity, expansion, brittleness, and plastic deformation. Ever wonder why the sidewalk can feel hot in the winter and metal rails can feel cold in the summer? We will observe the way heat affects different objects and the ways it can be transformed into different types of heat. We will talk about why energy needs to be transformed and the many ways to do it. Most importantly, we will actually transform energy from one type to another. In fact, your body is transforming energy as you read this!

The Science of Energy

Have you ever wondered why the sky is blue? Or why wood burns when gasoline explodes? How about why fireworks burst into so many colors? In this course, we will be answering questions like these by learning about light, energy, and heat. We will become physicists as we learn about and experiment with different forms of energy. Then we will become engineers and work in teams to put our knowledge to the test as we create Rube Goldberg Machines. Take this class and you will know all about the science of energy!

Grades 4 – 5
Eight choices

Engineering Everywhere!
Thinking Like Shakespeare
Walking Through History
Psychology in the Magical World of Harry Potter
Solving Engineering Problems with 3-D Printing
Defenders of the Realm: How good cells destroy bad bugs
From Math to Mona Lisa: Mathematics in Art
Welcome to ArchiBuild!

Engineering Everywhere!

Calling all future engineers—we’re looking for talented students to take on big challenges. This course will give you a peek at the amazing engineering all around us and let you tackle some interesting engineering problems of your own. You will use mechanical engineering principles to accomplish things like building structures, make music, and other things you might have thought impossible. Using some math and critical thinking, we will analyze different situations and figure out what we need to do to get to the answer. Going from theory and analysis to reality may sound tough, but that’s just what you’ll learn to do in this course. After getting a broad presentation of engineering applications, students will utilize hands-on experiences to understand the engineering process. Come and see what engineers might face on any given day!

Thinking Like Shakespeare

Want to be a wordsmith? William Shakespeare did an amazing job communicating lots of ideas in just a few words, both in his poetry and his plays. During this course, you will learn how to read and think like Shakespeare by closely reading some of his most famous plays and poems, and thinking about all of their meanings. We will further learn about the connections he made onstage by rehearsing and putting on portions of the plays ourselves, while also thinking about communication through body language, stage design, and costumes. This course will include lots of close reading activities, group work, examinations of
different films, and performances. By the end of this course, not only will we be Shakespeare scholars in our own right, we will be better listeners and think more deeply.

Walking through History
Step into the shoes of 16th-century explorers as we take an in-depth look at the Age of Exploration. We will learn about the process museum curators go through to tell the story of their exhibits in order to make our exhibits shine. Our learning experiences will include mapping and planning out our own journeys, writing to our respective monarchs, building model ships, and creating a museum exhibit all about our journey. You will leave this class having learned all about the trials of exploration, but also having gained a greater appreciation of museums as a whole!

Psychology in the Magical World of Harry Potter
Welcome to Psychology in the Magical World of Harry Potter! During this course, we will examine the minds and behaviors of major characters in the Harry Potter series, using basic psychological theories and principles. On our journey through Hogwarts, we will get sorted into houses, have lively class discussions, examine psychological research, and look more closely at the Harry Potter texts and related podcasts and other content. We will also have a “dueling club” with psychological topics taking the place of spells, as knowledge is power!

Solving Engineering Problems with 3-D Printing
Want to learn the engineering design process from start to finish? This course will teach how to solve a real-world problem in five logical steps. Students will start with a challenge that is relevant to engineers today, brainstorm ideas about how to solve this problem, and then create rough 3-D models with household supplies. The real fun begins with user-friendly computer-aided drafting software. Students will be able to create virtual constructs of their 3-D models on computers. These 3-D objects will then be printed out and put to test. After testing, students will revisit their design and make necessary changes. Come have fun learning the engineering process with hands-on 3-D printing!

Defenders of the Realm: How good cells destroy bad bugs
Our body’s immune system is composed of microscopic armies of cells that specialize in finding and destroying all kinds of harmful bugs that would otherwise make us sick. Come join me as a young immunologist to learn all about different kinds of bad bugs (like bacteria, viruses, and cancer cells), as well as the heroic immune cells that keep us healthy! Although you may not realize it, questions about immunology are actually pretty common nowadays (What’s the deal with vaccines? Why are people so worried about Zika virus? What happens when I get the flu?). Learning about how our bodies handle disease is both fascinating and relevant to our daily lives. Along the way, we will learn basic principles of how to be a real scientist, including using experiments to test a hypothesis, keeping careful records, and learning how to clearly communicate scientific findings to others.

From Math to the Mona Lisa: Mathematics in Art
What are some of your favorite pieces of art or architecture? The Starry Night by VanGogh? The Mona Lisa by Da Vinci? Now try and think of some of your least favorite works. Why do you like some works of art but not others? In this course, we will be exploring just what exactly gives rise to our reactions to art: math! As it turns out, math plays a very important underlying role in how we feel about artwork, whether we hate a certain piece or love it. Over the course of this class, we will be looking at different mathematical concepts that appear in art, ultimately using those concepts to create our very own exhibit of artwork!

Welcome to ArchiBuild!
Welcome to ArchiBuild! If you are interested in math and architecture, then this is the course for you! You will become an apprentice architect as you are introduced to the basic elements of architecture. Specifically, we will learn the fundamentals of mathematics to understand how buildings stand up and work through a series of fun building challenges. Using paper, building blocks, household objects, and other materials, you will experiment with different ways of making a variety of building types. The end result will be a fun group project where you get to show off your new knowledge in the field of mathematics and architecture to build your ultimate dream design!
Student & Parent/Guardian Contact Information

Student’s Name ________________________________________________________________
First MI Last
Gender ________ DOB ___/___/___ MM DD YY

Mailing Address ________________________________________________________________
Street City State Zip

Parent Guardian Name: ____________________________________________________________ email address ____________________________

Parent/Guardian Name ____________________________________________________________ email address ____________________________

Please list phone 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, 2017.
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>4. The child demonstrates ability to apply knowledge to practical situations.</td>
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<td>5. The child learns easily and readily.</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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<td>10. The child is sensitive to the opinions and ideas of others and listens readily to peers’ comments.</td>
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Parent/Guardian Name ___________________________________________ Date __________________________

Parent/Guardian Signature _______________________________________
Part III: Teacher Recommendation Form 2018

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;
1 = Strongly Disagree (SD) that the child demonstrates this behavior

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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.
2018 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 17-28, 2018
Session 2: July 1-12, 2018
Session 3: July 15-26, 2018