



2024/2025 Class Choice Descriptions



Grades	Teacher	Class	Class Description
K	TBD	Kindergarten	Calling all kindergarteners who make learning and having fun their full time job! Our cozy kindergarten provides an intimate learning environment that fosters a sense of community while placing an emphasis on personal educational goals. This kindergarten curriculum integrates art, music, physical education and whole language academics to create lesson plans that reinforce skills for emergent readers. Solid number sense and logical math concepts are reinforced through centers, manipulatives and real-life experience. No worries, we've carved out plenty of time for social development through organized play and a few exciting field trips. We count it our privilege to partner with home-school parents in this noble endeavor of educating our next generation. See you this fall!
K-1	Mrs. Coil	Art	Introductory level art class designed for the needs of Kindergarteners and 1st graders.
K-1 and 2-3	Mrs. Shi	Listen, Sing, Play	From learning basic music theory to experimenting with rhythm and melody, this class will spark creativity and foster a love for music in young learners. By encouraging active participation and fostering a collaborative musical environment, "Listen, Sing, Play" aims to ignite a lifelong passion for music in every student.
1	TBD	Author Study	We will focus on a different children's book each week. We will read the book and do a related project, craft, writing activity, or game. During this class, we also celebrate some special days like Apple Day, Dr. Seuss Day, Gingerbread Day...
1	TBD	All About My World	In this geography class, we will learn about where we live in the world, our state, and our country. We'll also learn about continents, oceans, landforms, and maps. As part of this class we do a special unit on taking care of the Earth.
1	TBD	Animals Galore	Learn about all kinds of animals, life cycles, ecosystems, and habitats! We will study animals in the wild, farm animals, and insects. Students will also be working on animal research, and a lab investigation/unit on the life cycle of butterflies.
1	TBD	Character Education	Students will learn about feelings and core values such as honesty, respect, empathy, kindness, cooperation, responsibility, and gratitude. We'll learn through various activities that promote these values. Peacekeeping circles are also part of this class.
2-12	Mr. Eastin	Physical Education	No pre-req's for each class—just need to meet the age/grade level of that class. Physical Education classes will focus on age-appropriate games and sports. These activities are designed to teach and nurture sharing, conflict resolution, problem solving, trust, leadership, communication, listening skills, teamwork and cooperation. In addition to our continued commitment to warm-up games, stretching, push-ups, crunches, and jumping rope, some of the units we will cover include: ● Cooperative Games ● Soccer ● Flag Football ● Speed Stacking (also known as cup stacking. See www.speedstacks.com for more info) ● Basketball ● Ultimate (cross between basketball without the net, soccer without the kicking, and football) ● Volleyball ● Hockey ● Lacrosse ● Badminton ● Physical Fitness Testing **Please note that not all of the sport units can be taught completely due to facilities and number of students. In those cases, we will modify the games and/or teach sport specific skills independently to be able to be proficient in those sports
2-3	TBD	Insects and Plants!	In this hands-on science class, students will be exploring different insects. We'll learn all about different life cycles, characteristics, habitats, and facts. Some of the insects we'll study are mealworms, darkling beetles, roly polys, ladybugs, ants, and we will work on a research project on spiders. Several live insects will be in the classroom throughout the year. In the plant unit, kids will be learning about plant life cycles, seeds, roots, stems, and parts of plants. We will be doing a planting project as well. Both units will be centered around hands-on activities, experiments, critical thinking, observations, lab investigations, vocabulary, and reading and writing around the topics.
2-3	Mrs. Coil	Artsy Animals	Crawl, slither, run, fly, or hop to join us as we discover the wonderful world of animal art! Students will use a variety of media and techniques to create 2-D and 3-D artworks while developing foundational art skills and knowledge.
2-3	Mrs. Smith	Globetrotting	Ready to travel around our world together? One country from each continent will be our focus throughout the year. We will learn words in other languages, try special foods, discover unique natural places and animals, and complete hands-on activities while exploring these countries.
2-3	Mrs. Richardson	Adventures with Jack and Annie	This class we are going to go on many adventures together as we join Jack and Annie as they explore the world around them. We are going to dive into many Magic Treehouse books that we will read together and enjoy in their adventures while also doing our own activities that go along with each book. We will cover lots of content areas all while having fun and using our imagination!
4-5	Mrs. Richardson	Life Hacks for kids	This is going to be a fun hands-on class where students will learn fun, essential and practical life skills that will help them with some awesome life skills. This class will mix both 21st century skills as well as the most basic timeless skills that everyone should know. We will learn and implement using a planner, goal setting, growth mindset, sewing, basic outdoor skills, money skills and so much more! The hope is students will leave the class being able to implement and use these practical skills throughout their life.
4-5	Mrs. Richardson	Sell It!	Calling all entrepreneurs! Do you have amazing ideas of things you could make and sell to earn money?? This class is for you! In this class we will be learning all about marketing, advertising, creating, and the cost of starting your own business. Students will then get to put all they have learned into action in a Leap store where the school will get a set amount of "Leap Dollars" and students will get to sell their products. Come join in this fun hands-on class!
4-5	Mrs. Richardson	Brown Bag Engineering	Let's discover the world of engineering and the many different kinds of engineers. This class will be a mixture of different engineering challenges, where students will have to think outside the box to create or solve a problem. We will also get a chance to look into different careers and things that engineers do in the world.
4-6	Mrs. Richardson	US History takes the Stage	If you love history and theater or trying your hand at stage production come join us on our journey through time. We will begin by doing some fun reader's theater and learning about important events in history. Then we will take what we learned and apply it to create our own play. We will pick a historical time/event, and research, create props, scenes, costumes and get a chance to perform our final production. This will be a fun new way of learning about HISTORY!
4-5	Mrs. Smith	Mystery Science	Let's uncover some science mysteries. Each class starts by asking a science question, watching a short science video, and completing a hands-on activity to help us answer our question. Units include: Web of Life, Our Watery Planet, Rocks, and Spaceship Earth. Sample questions from each unit are: Do worms really eat dirt? How can you save a town from a hurricane? Could a volcano pop up where you live? Why do the stars change with the seasons? No units will be repeated from last year.
4-5	Mrs. Smith	National Parks	Mountains, and geysers, and oceans, oh my! Do you enjoy learning about our natural world? "Tour" some of our nation's National Parks in this class. We will discover our country's unique natural landscapes, wildlife, and fun things to see and do in each park. Virtual visits with park rangers and a field trip to Rocky Mountain National Park will compliment our learning.
4-5	Mrs. Smith	WILD!	Are you curious about animals and places in our wild world that are endangered, vulnerable, or threatened? Learn what makes these animals and places special and important, what their extinction risks are and why, and what we can do to help. Units include: sea turtles and oceans, freshwater dolphins and freshwater resources, monarchs and their migration, tigers and forests, elephants, and polar bears. Engaging lessons will be provided by the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF).
4-5	Mrs. Smith	Drive Time (Genius Hour)	What are you passionate about? What do you want to learn and teach your friends? In this class YOU are in the driver's seat. With guidance you will choose a topic, create a Drive Time question that you explore through research, then be creative by making a project to share your Drive Time findings with the class. We will complete multiple Drive Time projects during the year. Come ready to explore, create, teach, but most importantly Drive.
4-5	Mrs. Flanscha	Math Periphery	"Periphery" can be defined as an area lying beyond the strict limits of a thing. So, in Math Periphery, we will explore fun topics that relate to math, like practical real-world problems, graphing, money, measuring, fractions, 2-D and 3-D shapes, time and other subjects that relate to numbers. Also, even though it will not be our main focus, we will work on super-fast mastery of the basic operations: adding subtracting, multiplying and dividing.
4-6	Mrs. Henton	Best Recipes in the World	This class is for the adventurous cook, and the adventurous appetite! We will cook a different recipe each week from a specific state in the US, or foreign country, learning interesting tidbits about the cultures along the way. Students in this class will show off their skills by participating in the winter bake sale in December. (More info on that to come :))
4-6	Mrs. Coil	Art and the Earth	Calling all art and nature lovers! Discover the wonders of nature through drawing, painting, sculpting, printmaking and more. Lessons include botanical and wildlife drawing, outdoor observation, landscapes, and environmental art.
4-6	Mrs. Flanscha	Animalia – the Vertebrates	We will learn all kinds of fascinating things about the animals with backbones: birds, fish, reptiles, amphibians and (everybody's favorite) mammals. We even will have animal visits! Every few weeks there will be some study and preparation at home involving research and writing.

4-6	Mrs. Flanscha	Speak Out	This class is all about talking to each other and speaking to a group – which at some point all of us will be called to do. We will have fun together playing a lot of games as we learn to speak in front of a group and listen to each other. We will also use drama, puppets, and reader's theatre. The experiences will help boost students' confidence as we practice in a safe and encouraging environment. As our skills grow, we will learn to give short talks. Let's dispel that "fear of public speaking". There will be some preparation at home. Reading skills will be necessary for this class.
4-6	Mrs. Flanscha	Medieval Fun	The medieval period, or "Middle Ages," was a time that covered over a thousand years of history. Our focus will focus on what was happening in Europe. Much in the Middle Ages has influenced our modern world today, from art to language to government. Each week we will read about an element of Middle Ages history and then do a related project or assignment. We will get to learn about castles and kings, knights and jousting, cathedrals and monasteries, peasants and plagues, etc.,
4-6	Mrs. Flanscha	Singing Cowboys	This is a choir class where we will sing some of the great old Western cowboy songs like "Don't Fence Me In" and "Deep in the Heart of Texas". The class will also learn how to warm up the voice, proper posture, good singing technique, rounds for teaching harmony, and some music literacy. It's fun to sing together!
4-6 and 7-12	Mrs. Henton / TBD	Cake Decorating Level 1	Would you like to make beautiful cakes and cupcakes? Then this is your class! This class is for beginning decorators with baking experience. You will learn the basics of handling a pastry bag, making icing, piping beginner flowers and shapes, as well as simple borders, lines and letters. Students in this class will show off their skills by participating in preparation of the annual winter bake sale in December, as well as cupcake sales throughout the year. This class may be repeated if you have taken Level 1 in the past and aren't quite ready to make the leap (haha!) to level 2.
5-12	Mrs. Henton / TBD	Cake Decorating Level 2	Students in this class will build on the mastery of skills learned in Level 1. Class content will focus on cake design and buttercream flowers. Students will show off their skills by participating in the preparation for the annual bake sale in December and cupcake sales throughout the school year. This class may be repeated if you've taken it before and want to more finely hone your skills.
6-12	Mrs. Henton / TBD	Crochet Crew	This class is for the beginner to intermediate crocheter. We will focus on the 4 core stitches, while creating various small projects. These projects will include individual, whole-class, and community outreach.
6-12	Mrs. Braun	English Is On The Menu...	This sumptuous English Comp Course will begin with a Letter Writing Campaign as our appetizer. Our main dish will include Basics of Journalism with a seasoned side of Essay Writing sprinkled with a bit of Source Citation. No course would be complete without an ample helping of Critical Thinking.
6-12	Mrs. Braun	Democracy 101	"We the students at LEAP hold these truths to be self-evident..." Join this exciting journey as we discover the core values necessary for our nation's democracy to thrive. Be prepared to compare our 2024 presidential candidates as we unpack specific issues as they relate to core democratic values. Lively debates will surely ensue as we navigate how to honor differences in political viewpoints while embracing our democratic roots.
6-12	Mrs. Braun	Hero or Villain?	Who has been celebrated as a famous "Hero in History," and who will eternally be known as a "Villain?" We will investigate historical facts in relation to iconic figures in history and discern if history reveals their true motives and historical impact...Hero or Villain??
6-12	Mrs. Peterson	Botany	Are you a "green thumb" or would you like a bit of help? This class could be the answer! Plant anatomy, how plants grow and develop, and how they survive and interrelate within their environments are topics of study covered in this class. Take this class - your plants will thank you.
6-12	Mrs. Peterson	Anatomy	The leg bone's connected to the knee bone, the knee bone's connected to the thigh bone, the thigh bone's connected to the hip bone . . . wanna know more about the skeletal system and other systems of the body? Discover the parts and function of most body systems, how they work together, and what happens when a system doesn't work correctly.
6-12	Mrs. Peterson	Genetics	What makes you, YOU? What are the odds that a person will have blonde hair? Students will begin by studying the basic building blocks of the body - the cells. Students will study cell division, genes, and heritable traits.
6-12	Mrs. Peterson	Zoology	Students in this class will study each phylum (group) of animals to determine what characteristics and behaviors they share. One animal will be chosen from each phylum to study in depth. Please come to this class willing to get messy and maybe a little grossed out! (We will be dissecting things in this class!) FEE REQUIRED
6-12	Mrs. Peterson	Weather (Meteorology)	How does one predict the weather? How are different types of weather created? Take this class to get the answers! Students will discover the basics of weather, how to predict the weather, and study about extreme weather including what to do if caught in these events. Come ready to tell stories about how weather has impacted your life!
6-12	Mrs. Peterson	Exploring Space (Astronomy)	If you've ever looked at the night sky and been amazed or looked at a black hole and wondered how it was formed, this may be the class for you! In this class students will study what is outside of Earth, the planets and dwarf planets (Pluto is one of them), and finally, asteroids and comets and how we study them. The closure of the class will be the study of black holes and their unique features.
6-12	Mrs. Flanscha	Movin' to Music	Folk dancing used to be a main social activity when people got together, because it is FUN! This class teaches rhythmic movement and folk dances from around the world. You will learn steps that apply to many different dances. It requires team effort and is great body AND brain exercise! This class will do more complicated and challenging dances. (Note: no prerequisite)
6-8	Mrs. Braun	South America or Bust!	What continent is south of North America, extremely rich in natural resources, is home to the world's largest rainforest and its inhabitants speak 350 different languages?? You guessed it, South America! As we plan our virtual trip, we will identify physical, political and cultural features of the continent and explore its fluid relationship with the US.
7-12	Mrs. Henton / TBD	Baking 101	What's the difference between a biscuit and a scone? What's the difference between batter and dough? What is "gluten" and why does it matter? Learn the answers to these questions and more when you spend the school year in Baking 101. Content will include units where you'll learn the science behind baking basics, and will include a unit on allergen-friendly baking as well.
7-12	Mrs. Braun	English Lit	Don't throw a fit, it's English Lit! Saddle up as we read novels, poetry, dabble in drama, and evaluate Children's Literature. We will expand our vocabulary and embark on creating an original piece of literature as a class.
7-12	Mrs. Braun	Oral Communication	Do you fear speaking in front of an audience? You are not alone! This course elevates student opportunities to creatively communicate publicly in a variety of non-threatening and even entertaining ways. We will create a safe and encouraging culture as we navigate the joy of public speaking together!
7-12	Mrs. Coil	Portraits and Figures	This course teaches the fundamentals of drawing and painting human faces and clothed figures. Lessons include proportions, shape and form, shading and texture, emotion, and movement and action. This is a great foundation for students who want to draw people realistically or in a fantasy or comic style.
7-12	Mrs. Coil	3-Dimensional Art	This course introduces students to 3-dimensional design including basic techniques, concepts, and materials found in sculptural arts. Students will apply critical thinking and creativity to create functional and decorative objects including pottery, weaving, and mobiles. Students will explore a variety of materials including textiles, cardboard, clay, and paper.
7-12	Mr. Eastin	Peak Performance	In this class, students will explore everything from the vital role that nutrition plays in achieving peak athletic performance to effective leadership. From understanding nutrients to learning about hydration strategies and pre/post-workout meals, students will delve into the science behind fueling their bodies for success. Through interactive discussions, hands-on activities, and real-life case studies, students will develop practical skills to strengthen and develop their leadership abilities. Whether they are aspiring athletes or simply interested in learning how to be an effective, compassionate leader, this course will empower students to make informed choices to reach their peak performance levels.