

Homeschool Hub

Northwest Cary YMCA



2023/2024 Course Catalog

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Homeschool Hub - Program Overview

Here at the Homeschool Hub, we partner with you to support your child's homeschool education. We provide engaging courses that enrich your homeschool student's development through opportunities to learn and grow in collaborative, hands-on classes. Our classes are capped at 15 students, with the exception of our Little Explorers and Cooking classes, which are capped at 12.

Official registration as a homeschooling student with the North Carolina Department of Education is required to participate in this program for all students 7 years old or older. We are unable to provide classes for students enrolled in public or private schools.

Our program aims to be an inclusive environment where all students can feel welcome and thrive. We train all of our teachers in meeting the needs of all types of learners, and we value parent partnerships to help meet the unique needs of each student. Additionally, while the Y is a Christian organization, we utilize secular curriculum in our classes and serve families from a variety of faith traditions and cultural backgrounds.

The Y Mission

Our Mission is to put Christian principles into practice through programs that build healthy spirit, mind and body for all.

Our Mission compels us to embrace, reflect and celebrate the richness of diversity within each other and the many communities we serve. In that Christian principles are caring and inclusive, we are respectful of various expressions of faith and serve families and individuals from all traditions, backgrounds and perspectives. Together, we work to ensure that everyone has the opportunity to reach their full potential with dignity at our YMCA.

The Y's Diversity and Inclusion Statement

To fulfill our Mission and purpose of strengthening our community for all, the YMCA of the Triangle is committed to being a multicultural, anti-racist and inclusive organization, fully leveraging our collective resources and impact to address social inequities.

Types of Classes

Semester-Long Enrichment Classes

These classes are designed to build understanding of the course topic throughout the semester. Each class operates for 14 weeks, 2 hours per week. Classes are 55 minutes long. Students may enroll in these classes in either half day or full day blocks. Registration for these classes takes place through the YMCA of the Triangle website. Students who attend our full day program have the opportunity to participate in a supervised lunch/recess break in the middle of the program day. Currently we only have capacity for our full day students to participate in our lunch/recess hour.

Mini-Session Enrichment Classes

These classes are more flexible and operate just 4 weeks at a time. Mini-session classes can be large group (15 students), small group (6 students), or individual (1 student). These classes occur outside of our regular semester class times (before or after program, or on Tuesdays) and allow us to create a class quickly in order to follow student interest or needs. Mini-Session schedules will be released prior to the start of each semester and are only shared with current families.

High School Hybrid Classes

These classes are only available to our students who are 13 years old or older. They offer students a more thorough look at the course content, and will include required work outside of the in-person class time.

Age Cohorts

Our classes are multi-age, but are divided among 5 different age cohorts. We do have some flexibility for students at the border between groups (age 5, 7, 10 and 11). These students may take classes in either of the cohorts appropriate for their age, depending on what is in their best interest both socially and academically. If you have a question about what cohort is best for your student, feel free to reach out to Megan Runion to discuss.

There are no age exceptions for our High School classes. Additionally, some classes are restricted to a narrower grade or age range to best meet the developmental needs of our students. Please pay close attention to the class descriptions for more information.

Our Explorers will remain with the same group of students throughout the day, to help them build confidence and develop relationships with both their teachers and peers. When registering, you will choose which group (labeled A, B, C, or D) based on their interests. Core subjects, as well as the arts, are integrated into their 2 hour classes.

- Little Explorers- Ages 3-4
- Explorers - Ages 5-7
- Elementary - Ages 7-11
- Upper School - Ages 11-17
- High School - Ages 13-17

2023/2024 Calendar

Fall Semester	
August 17, 2023 6-8pm	Fall Family Orientation
August 21, 2023	First Day of Fall Semester
September 1, 2023	End of Fall Drop/Add Window
September 4, 2023	Closed for Labor Day
September 5 - 28, 2023	Fall Mini-Session 1
October 2-12, 2023	Fall Break
October 23 - November 16, 2023	Fall Mini-Session 2
November 20-24, 2023	Thanksgiving Break
December 14, 2023	Last Day of Fall Semester
Spring Semester	
January 11, 2024 6-8pm	Spring Family Orientation
January 16, 2024	First Day of Spring Semester
January 26, 2024	End of Spring Drop/Add Window
February 5 - 29, 2024	Spring Mini-Session 1
March 11 - April 1, 2024	Spring Break 2024
April 8 - May 2, 2024	Spring Mini-Session 2
May 9, 2024	Last Day of Spring Semester

Daily Schedule

Enrichment Classes - Monday/Wednesday/Thursday

	Explorers, Elementary, Upper School	Little Explorers
8:00-8:55	Mini-Session Classes	
8:15-8:50	Rides-In	Rides-In
8:50-9:00	Transition to Classes	Transition to Classroom
9:00-9:55	Period 1	Morning Preschool
10:00-10:55	Period 2	
10:55-11:00	Half Day AM Dismissal	
11:00-11:55	Lunch/Recess	
11:55-12:00	Half Day PM Arrival	
12:00-12:55	Period 3	
1:00-1:55	Period 4	Story Hour
1:55-2:15	Rides-Out	Rides-Out
2:15-3:10	Mini-Session Classes	
3:10-3:15	Mini-Session Dismissal	

Mini-Session Classes- Tuesday	
8:50-9:00	Transition to Classes
9:00-9:55	Period 1
10:00-10:55	Period 2
11:00-11:55	Period 3

High School Hybrid Classes - Tuesday/Thursday	
8:15-8:50	Morning Study Hall (Optional)
8:50-9:00	Transition to Classes
9:00-10:55	AM Class
10:55-11:00	Half Day AM Dismissal
11:00-11:55	Lunch/Recess
11:55-12:00	Half Day PM Arrival
12:00-1:55	PM Class
1:55-2:30	Afternoon Study Hall (Optional)

Fall 2023 Schedule

Monday/Wednesday

	Little Explorers	Explorers A	Explorers B	Elementary				All Ages:7+	Upper School		
9:00	Morning Preschool	Game Based Learning A	Wonder Workshop B	Elementary PE	Garden Science	Coding with Scratch	Masters of Art 2.0 Grades 2-5	Discovery Labs	Theater	Pre-Algebra	US Geography
10:00				Art 1-2	Chorus	US Geography	Visual Math Grades 2-3	Discovery Labs	Dry Ice, Bubbles, and Chemical Reactions	Fluency Games	Upper School PE
12:00		Wonder Workshop A	Game Based Learning B	Art 3-4	Theater	Hands on Equations Grades 4-5 Janny	Beginner Minecraft Building	Discovery Labs	Clare Vanderpool Author Study	Photography	Human Anatomy and Physiology
1:00				Story Hour	Scientist’s Toolbox	Hands on Equations Grades 2-3	Master Builders	Advanced Minecraft Building	Discovery Labs	Debate	Art Gr 5-6

Thursday

	Little Explorers	Explorers C	Explorers D	Elementary				All Ages: 7+	Upper School		
AM	Morning Preschool Story Hour	Yoga + Nature Exploration	Wonder Workshop D	Road Trip USA	Game Based Literacy	Understanding Fractions and Decimals Grades 3-5	Beginner Cooking	Discovery Labs	Theater	Teen Leadership Development	No Rules Sewing
PM		Wonder Workshop C	K/1 Visual Math	Artistic Math	Illustrated Writing	Bubbles, Potions, and Secret Formulas	Yoga + Nature Exploration	Discovery Labs	Wordpress	Creative Problem Solving	Math in the Kitchen

Spring 2024 Schedule

Monday/Wednesday

	Little Explorers	Explorers A	Explorers B	Elementary				All Ages: 7+	Upper School		
9:00	Morning Preschool	Game Based Learning A	Wonder Workshop B	Elementary PE	Artistic Math	Coding with Scratch	Kid Art Lit Grades 2-5	Discovery Labs	Theater	Pre-Algebra	US Geography
10:00				Art Gr 1-2	Chorus	Drawing Through History	Real World Geometry Grades 2-5	Discovery Labs	Garden Science	Fractions, Decimals and Percents	Upper School PE
12:00		Wonder Workshop A	Game Based Learning B	Illustrated Writing	Theater	Art Gr 3-4	Hands on Equations Part 2 Grades 2-5	Discovery Labs	Advanced Minecraft Building	Graphic Novels	Invertebrate Zoology
1:00	Story Hour			Scientist's Toolbox	Game Based Math Grades 2-5	Graphic Novels	Beginner Minecraft Building	Discovery Labs	Debate	Art Gr 5-6	Biology Part 2

Thursday

	Little Explorers	Explorers	Explorers	Elementary				All Ages: 7+	Upper School		
AM	Morning Preschool	Yoga + Nature Exploration	Wonder Workshop D	Hungry for Art Grades 2-5	Game Based Literacy	Mastering Multiplication and Division Grades 4-5	Beginner Cooking	Discovery Labs	Theater	Public Speaking/ Broadcast Journalism	No Rules Sewing
PM	Story Hour	Wonder Workshop C	Building Block Engineering	North Carolina History	Illustrated Writing	Science of Mysteries and Magic	Yoga + Nature Exploration	Discovery Labs	Wordpress	Creative Problem Solving	Math in the Kitchen

Little Explorers/Explorers - Course Descriptions and Supply Lists

Class Name	Semester	Teacher	Description	Required Supplies
Little Explorers	Fall, Spring, or Both	Anita Hayes Ashley Davis	This 3-hour class is the perfect place for your four-year-old to prepare for their first day of Kindergarten! In this class, your student will participate in a variety of hands-on activities such as Letterland, storytime, science, art, music, and play to prepare socially-emotionally and academically for Kindergarten. Children must be 4 years old by August 31, 2022.	Tote Bag 2 Pocket Folder Change of Clothes
Story Hour	Fall, Spring, or Both	Anita Hayes	In this 1 hour add-on class, our Little Explorers will enjoy a shared story and then participate in activities related to the story of the day.	None
Building & Engineering	Spring	TBD	In this class, students will examine the foundational principles of engineering through fun building challenges. Students will work independently or collaboratively with others in the class. We will also examine real-life structures around our community as we look for examples of the principles we are exploring.	None
Game Based Learning	Fall, Spring, or Both	Meg Stone	In this class, students will work both individually and cooperatively, using many different types of hands-on games (board games, card games, etc.). This gives younger students the opportunity to build their teamwork and interpersonal skills, while also developing their problem-solving, critical thinking, creative thinking, logical reasoning, and basic STEM skills. Students will also be able to enjoy stories together as a class and have the opportunity for creative free-play time, both inside and outside. *Class content changes from one semester to the next, so students are welcome to repeat this class.	None
K/1 Visual Math	Fall	TBD	A solid foundation of number sense is so important as young students build their understanding of math! In this class, students will learn how numbers work through hands-on and visual lessons, projects, and games. Concepts explored will include: Counting, addition and subtraction, deconstructing and constructing numbers, classifying shapes by attributes, measurement, and more!	None
Wonder Workshop	Fall, Spring, or Both	TBD	In this class, students will engage in a variety of learning processes as they explore the world around them through theme-based units. This class will blend science and social studies topics with literacy skills, art, music, and movement. <u>Topics explored will be different each session:</u> Group A- Living Things Group B- Things that Move Group C- Light, Sound and Color Group D- Family and Community	None
Yoga + Nature Exploration	Fall, Spring, or Both	Emily Behr	This playful class weaves together environmental education and yoga/mindfulness in a fun and engaging way. Using the Growga® research-based mindfulness curriculum, students will learn basic mindfulness and yoga techniques and experience nature through outdoor art, story times, mindfulness activities, science exploration, and lots of play!	Inexpensive Yoga Mat

Elementary - Course Descriptions and Supply Lists

Class Name	Semester	Teacher	Description	Required Supplies
Advanced Minecraft Building	Fall Only	Teacher TBD	Individuals will learn how to build advanced structures in a game. They will also learn to work together to build structures and to learn to respect each other's builds. They will also learn in game coding such as how to change the weather and spawn in creatures. Supplies include a tablet or phone or computer.	A phone, a tablet, or computer
Artistic Math	Fall, Spring, or Both	Teacher TBD	In this class, students will explore the connections between mathematical concepts and art. Students will complete art projects during each class, discussing and building understanding of the math as they go.	Graph Paper Notebook Pencils, Colored Pencils
Art - 1st/2nd Grade	Fall, Spring, or Both	Andrea Diagonale	Students will develop their basic art knowledge and further develop techniques in art. Children will explore the great world of art using oil pastels, paper and paint. This unique learning experience places an emphasis on having fun while exploring creativity. Additionally the students will develop an understanding of the 7 elements of art.	None
Art - 3rd/4th Grade	Fall, Spring, or Both	Andrea Diagonale	Students will explore interests, will learn to see themselves as artists, will explore a variety of media, and will learn the fundamental skills and concepts related to art. Students' focus of study will be the elements of art. Children will explore the world of both two and three dimensional media, such as pencil, colored pencil, paint, and clay.	None
Beginner Cooking	Fall or Spring Class content will repeat each semester	Meg Stone	Students will be introduced to and become familiarized with basic kitchen equipment and tools, as well as basic cooking techniques for everyday cuisine. The pace and progression of the class will be determined by the readiness of the students, with the goal being to address food prep (chopping, blending, measuring, mixing, etc.) use of a skillet and stock pot, oven baking, and more. Students will create and enjoy many different types of everyday food. *Students are expected to adhere to safety requirements involving the use of knives and heat sources!	Apron (optional)
Beginner Minecraft Building	Fall, Spring, or Both	Teacher TBD	Individuals will learn the basics of the game and how to survive via working together. They also will have multiple chances to build different types of structures and learn how to strategize within the game. They will learn to think before acting as well as team-work.	A phone, a tablet, or computer
Bubbles, Potions, and Secret Formulas	Fall Only	Barbara Cameron	In this class, we will be thinking like scientists and learning about chemistry (and maybe a little math). We'll do activities with bubbles; create our own secret formulas for things like paste and cola and then test what we make; we'll create potions that fizz, heat up, and change colors. There will be plenty of playful exploration as well as learning how to set up experiments, organize results, and ask new questions.	Composition notebook
Chorus	Fall, Spring, or Both	Chelsea Knapp	Chorus is all about the enjoyment of singing mixed with the knowledge of music literacy. We will be singing a variety of songs from different genres and time periods. We will use the selections to learn rhythms, pitches, harmonies and dynamics. There will be a short chorus concert on the last day of class.	2 pocket folder
Coding with Scratch	Fall or Spring	Janny Frazier	Love to play and watch animation? Learn to build your own using the MIT Media Lab Scratch software. Begin to learn how to code and bring characters to life with stories and games.	Laptop or tablet with keyboard

Discovery Labs	Fall, Spring, or Both	Renee Banko	Our Discovery Labs serve as spaces to inspire creativity, imagination, and collaboration (if desired). This is an ideal environment for students with lots of big ideas, who thrive when following their own curiosity outside of the structure of a traditional classroom. Additionally, quiet rooms for independent homeschool work or projects will also be available. Some materials will be provided, but students may also bring the materials they need for their projects. Current labs include an Art Studio, the Construction Zone - Legos and other building materials, an Animation Studio, a Break Room (Sensory/Movement/Board Games), The Library - Quiet reading, writing, or research, The STEM Lab (science, engineering, and math projects), The Den - puzzles, quiet activities, and the company of our rotating class bunny visitors. If students need support, our Discovery Labs teacher works with each individual student to develop a plan for their time each day, to help them stay engaged and learning within this flexible environment. Students may sign up for as many of these hours as they would like to attend and are not limited to one session per day	Personal device if the student will be working on coding, stop motion animation, etc.; work from home if the student will be using class time for independent study time
Drawing Through History	Spring Only	Cathy Pica	Students will draw their way through historical time periods. As we draw we will also take time to dive in a bit about the history behind the drawings. We will cover both World and US History.	3 Ring Binder, art supplies, notebook
Elementary Physical Education	Fall, Spring, or Both	Dan Taylor	Building good habits of health and wellness. Physical education will focus on body weight exercises, running form, and plyometrics. Children will learn fun games that focus on individual mastery and teamwork. The cool down will include nutrition education and self care.	Activity appropriate footwear and clothing. Water bottle
Elementary Theater	Fall, Spring, or Both	Chelsea Knapp	Students will rehearse and perform a play. They will learn how to audition and how the rehearsal process works. There will be a performance on the last day of class. (Show TBD)	2 pocket folder
Film and Lit Studies	Spring Only	Teacher TBD	In this class we will read classic children's books and compare them to their movies. Those include, Matilda, Holes, and The Never-Ending Story.	Novels - 1 copy of each Spiral Notebook
Garden Science	Fall Only	Teacher TBD	In this class, students will explore biology through observation and hands-on learning in our Community Garden! Students will learn about what plants need to grow and thrive, as well as develop their understanding of interdependent relationships within ecosystems.	Composition Notebook, Pencils, Colored Pencils
Game Based Literacy	Fall, Spring, or Both	Cathy Pica	Students will participate in literacy games to help build vocabulary, grammar, sentence building, storytelling skills and more!	None
Game Based Math - Grades 2-5	Spring Only	Janny Frazier	Have fun with math and reinforce fundamentals through game playing. The class will encourage engagement and cooperation and creativity.	None
Graphic Novels	Spring Only	Jenn Walski	In this course we'll celebrate the entertaining, yet powerful, genre of graphic novels. Students will analyze literary elements such as plot, character, conflict, and theme as we read a selection of texts.	2 pocket folder, single subject notebook
Hands on Equations - Grades 2-3	Fall Only	Janny Frazier	The Hands-On Equations Learning System is a manipulatives-based instructional system that provides young children with an introduction to algebraic linear equations. In this class, students will explore the balanced relationship between two sides of an equation and how equations can help us solve real world problems. This class is appropriate for students at 2nd-3rd grade level (this is not an advanced class).	None

Hands on Equations - Grades 4-5	Fall Only	Janny Frazier	The Hands-On Equations Learning System is a manipulatives-based instructional system that provides young children with an introduction to algebraic linear equations. In this class, students will explore the balanced relationship between two sides of an equation and how equations can help us solve real world problems. This class is appropriate for students at 4th - 5th grade level (this is not an advanced class).	None
Hands on Equations - Part 2 Grades 2-5	Spring Only	Janny Frazier	This class is a follow up to our Fall Hands on Equations class. Students who enroll in this class should have taken the Fall class, or should have an understanding of the Hands on Equations system before enrolling. If your child would like to take this class but does not have previous experience, please reach out to Megan Runion for pre-work that your child can complete at home to be prepared for the first day!	None
Hungry for ART	Spring Only	Andrea Diagonale	A class for food art enthusiasts! This class will make your mouth water. Artists in this class will focus on the painting, sketching, and sculpting of food; from sushi boards to sweet desserts. The elements of art and the principles of design are reinforced by applying the elements to 2D and 3D projects.	None
Illustrated Writing	Fall, Spring, or Both	Cathy Pica	Students will be encouraged to write short stories based off of their own illustrations. We will also work on grammar and spelling along with their writing skills. Hands-on learning will also be incorporated with games.	Sketch book, notebook, pencil, dry erase board with sentence lines on one side, dry erase markers, a sock or eraser
Kid Art Lit 1.0	Spring Only	Andrea Diagonale	KID ART LIT is all about creating art inspired by picture books. Students will learn and apply the techniques illustrators use to create illustrations. In each class, a new book is introduced and explored in a way that offers artists a deeper connection to stories and the characters that they meet. Repeat of KAL Fall 2022	None
Master Builders	Fall Only	Jenn Walski	Each week, students will be given a specific design challenge. Working independently or in a team, students will use a variety of materials to create a build worthy of competition. Students will look to foundational principles of engineering and real world creations to guide their builds.	Medium Sized (484 piece) LEGO set Link Here
Masters of Art 2.0	Fall Only	Andrea Diagonale	This class looks to both the masters and contemporary artists for inspiration. Students will learn about famous master artists from history and the creative ideas we can learn from them.	None
Mastering Multiplication and Division	Spring Only	Camille McCabe	Using hands-on activities, games, tips and tricks, the students will build their fluency and understanding of both multiplication and division.	Notebook, folder, a red pencil, 4 different color highlighters - yellow, pink, green and blue.
Real World Geometry	Spring Only	Janny Frazier	Learn geometry through hands on building projects and pattern recognition	None
Road Trip USA	Fall	Andrea Diagonale	Take an art exploration trip across the USA from the coast of Maine to the coast of California. Students will explore the many regions of the US from coastlines to mountains and everything in between and make some incredible art along the way!	None

Science of Mysteries and Magic	Spring Only	Barbara Cameron	In this class, we will use science to help us make magic and solve mysteries. We'll collect evidence and solve mysteries using logical problem solving to crack the case. We'll create magic of our own with potions that change color and maybe even dry ice! We'll learn about the chemistry behind things that seem like magic. There will be plenty of playful exploration as well as learning how to set up experiments, organize results, and ask new questions.	Composition Notebook
Scientist's Toolbox	Fall, Spring, or Both	Cathy Pica	Become a scientist as we work through a variety of labs touching on all subjects of science! Focus of the coursework will be teaching students the Scientific Method and how to apply it.	None
Understanding Fractions & Decimals - Grades 3-5	Fall Only	Camille McCabe	We will learn fractions by using hands-on activities, games and worksheets to understand what a fraction/decimal is and then apply their knowledge to everyday things that they know.	Spiral Notebook, Folder, White dominoes with colored dots (link here)
US Geography	Fall Only	Cathy Pica	US Geography (will wrap up what we do not get to this semester but will still allow new students to join in and pick up where we left off) Students gain knowledge about each state ranging from animals, landforms, natural resources, famous foods and people as well as basic facts such as the capitals, state flowers and birds.	3 Ring Binder
Visual Math - Grades 2/3	Fall Only	Janny Frazier	Build understanding of foundational math concepts through pictures, graphs, hands on manipulatives and riddle problem solving.	None
Yoga + Nature Exploration	Fall, Spring, or Both	Emily Behr	This playful class weaves together environmental education and yoga/mindfulness in a fun and engaging way. Using the Growga® research-based mindfulness curriculum, students will learn basic mindfulness and yoga techniques and experience nature through outdoor art, story times, mindfulness activities, science exploration, and lots of play!	Inexpensive Yoga Mat

Upper School - Course Descriptions and Supply Lists

Class Name	Semester	Teacher	Description	Required Supplies
Advanced Minecraft Building	Spring Only	Teacher TBD	Individuals will learn how to build advanced structures in a game. They will also learn to work together to build structures and to learn to respect each other's builds. They will also learn in game coding such as how to change the weather and spawn in creatures. Supplies include a tablet or phone or computer.	A phone, a tablet, or computer
Art - Grades 5/6	Fall, Spring, or Both	Andrea Diagonale	Learners will focus on the elements and principles of art and design. Deeper exploration of the elements and principles will help to create the backbone of a student's art experience. Students will develop observation and technical skills in drawing, painting, printmaking, sculpture, and various other art mediums.	None
Biology	Fall, Spring, or Both	Tina Hammer	We will learn about topics such as cell structure and function, organization and vital processes of living organisms, genetics, plant anatomy and reproduction, body systems, ecology, classification, scientific skills, famous scientists and more. This is a year-long course, including discussion of biological topics and labs. Students are strongly encouraged to read chapters ahead of class discussion, so we can spend more time on labs.	REAL Science Odyssey Biology Level 2 Textbook Link Here Student Workbook Link Here
Clare Vanderpool Author Study	Fall Only	Jenn Walski	In <i>Navigating Early</i> , we'll embark on a quest along the Appalachian Trail with Early Auden, "the strangest of boys", and Jack Baker. Our journey involves bears, rattlesnakes, a school hero, the number pi, family, and friendship. In <i>Moon Over Manifest</i> , we'll join Abilene Tucker on her search for answers about her father's past and the long-held secrets of Manifest, Kansas.	<i>Navigating Early</i> Link Here <i>Moon Over Manifest</i> Link Here
Creative Problem Solving	Fall, Spring, or Both	Jenn Walski	Students will be presented with problems that require creativity, ingenuity, and teamwork to solve. Working with a group throughout the semester, they'll develop solutions that meet given criteria while incorporating research, writing, design, STEAM, and acting.	Single subject notebook, 2 pocket folder
Debate	Fall, Spring, or Both	Chelsea Knapp	Students will work on preparing speeches, researching and organizing information, and speaking in front of a variety of audiences. Each week, students will be presented with a new current and relevant topic to research and argue either side.	notebook/pencil, laptop or tablet for research and note taking
Discovery Labs	Fall, Spring, or Both	Renee Banko	Our Discovery Labs serve as spaces to inspire creativity, imagination, and collaboration (if desired). This is an ideal environment for students with lots of big ideas, who thrive when following their own curiosity outside of the structure of a traditional classroom. Additionally, quiet rooms for independent homeschool work or projects will also be available. Some materials will be provided, but students may also bring the materials they need for their projects. Current labs include an Art Studio, the Construction Zone - Legos and other building materials, an Animation Studio, a Break Room (Sensory/Movement/Board Games), The Library - Quiet reading, writing, or research, The STEM Lab (science, engineering, and math projects), The Den - puzzles, quiet activities, and the company of our rotating class bunny visitors. If students need support, our Discovery Labs teacher works with each individual student to develop a plan for their time each day, to help them stay engaged and learning within this flexible environment. Students may sign up for as many of these hours as they would like to attend and are not limited to one session per day	Personal device if the student will be working on coding, stop motion animation, etc.; work from home if the student will be using class time for independent study time

Drawing Through History	Spring Only	Cathy Pica	Students will draw their way through historical time periods. As we draw we will also take time to dive in a bit about the history behind the drawings. We will cover both World and US History.	3 Ring Binder, art supplies, spiral notebook
Dry Ice, Bubbles, and Chemical Reactions	Fall Only	Teacher TBD	Let's learn some chemistry! In this class, we will use dry ice, bubbles, and all sorts of chemical reactions to learn the fundamentals of chemistry. There will be fizzing, popping, heating up, and changing colors. The focus will be on engaging hands-on exploration and learning how to set up experiments; organize and analyze results; and ask new questions.	Spiral Notebook Folder
Fluency Games	Fall Only	Mary Chyatte	In this class, students will continue to build a solid foundation of math concepts using hands-on activities, and games. Fluency games will cover a variety of concepts including: exponents, number lines, positive/negative integers, multiplication/division, factors, fractions, and percents.	Notebook Folder
Fractions, Decimals and Percents	Spring Only	Mary Chyatte	Using hands-on activities, group projects and fun games, students will build a stronger fluency and confidence with fractions, decimals, and percents.	Notebook Folder Colored Pencils
Garden Science	Spring Only	Teacher TBD	In this class, students will explore biology through observation and hands-on learning in our Community Garden! Students will learn about what plants need to grow and thrive, as well as develop their understanding of interdependent relationships within ecosystems.	Composition Notebook, Pencils, Colored Pencils
Graphic Novels	Spring Only	Jenn Walski	In this course we'll examine the ways in which authors effectively use illustrations to tell powerful stories. Students will analyze literary elements such as characterization, conflict, tone, and theme. We will read a selection of graphic novels and use the model texts to guide us in writing stories of our own.	Single subject notebook, 2 pocket folder
Human Anatomy and Physiology	Fall Only	Tina Hammer	This course is the study of the structures and functions of the body. It covers all major systems of the body including the nervous and sensory, integumentary, digestive, urinary, endocrine, reproductive, circulatory, respiratory, skeletal, muscular, immune and lymphatic systems. Labs will be used to reinforce topics throughout the course. Students are strongly encouraged to complete short readings, when assigned, before class, to facilitate lively discussion and learning.	3 ring binder w/ paper, writing instruments, eraser, colored pencils, scissors
Invertebrate Zoology	Spring Only	Tina Hammer	More than 96% of Earth's species are invertebrates. They are strange, beautiful, fascinating, sometimes devastating, but also essential to our survival. In this class, we'll learn about invertebrates and how they are different from "us", and we'll go in "deep" on the most common phyla. This will be a lecture/lab class, with no outside work required-but also with the goal of making students WANT to explore the subject matter deeper.	None
Math in the Kitchen	Fall or Spring	Teacher TBD	In this class, students will explore the intersection of math and cooking! We will explore new math skills each week through recipes from the book The Math Chef.	None
No Rules Sewing	Fall, Spring, or Both	Barbara Cameron	In this class, we will learn hand-sewing skills and use them in a variety of student-led projects. We will start by learning how to use a needle and thread to create both practical and decorative stitches, and then move on experimenting with those techniques to create art and/or functional items. Examples of projects that students have created are pincushions, bags, fabric brooches, cat toys, mini-quilts, hats, hair accessories and even simple garments. For each class meeting, there will be a technique or prompt to inspire their work, but students are always welcome to explore whatever sparks their interest. This class will be a good fit for students who enjoy directing their own projects and implementing their own ideas.	None (if students have ambitious or specific project ideas, they may need to supplement with their own supplies)

Photography	Fall Only	Cathy Pica	Students will learn basic photography techniques and tips to help them take better photographs.	A device that takes pictures such as a phone, tablet or camera.
Pre-Algebra	Fall, Spring, or Both	Mary Chyatte	Through the Fall and Spring semesters, students will begin their introduction to pre-algebra. The goal of this class is to provide each student with the necessary foundation for Algebra I. Students will be working collaboratively and have lots of hands-on activities during both semesters.	Notebook Folder Colored Pencils TI-30x Calculator Graph Paper, Ruler
Public Speaking/ Broadcast Journalism	Spring Only	Jenn Walski	In this class, students will build their confidence and hone their public speaking skills as they deliver various types of speeches. This class will also develop and deliver the Homeschool Hub Weekly News, a recorded news program.	single-subject notebook and folder; device with camera, bluetooth/wifi, and video editing
Teen Leadership Development	Fall Only	Jenn Walski	Using our YMCA CILTS program as a model, our teen students will develop their leadership skills as they learn more about themselves, work together as a team, and serve their community through projects on and off our Y campus. This class is for students who are 13+.	Single-subject notebook, 2 Pocket Folder
Theater	Fall, Spring, or Both	Chelsea Knapp	This theater course will be geared towards older middle and high school students. Topics discussed will be similar to those discussed in 9th Grade English courses. We will perform a show specifically designed to teach moving with a purpose, two person scene work, play script analysis and the Meisner technique. There will be a performance on the last day of class.	Scripts - TBD
Upper School Physical Education	Fall, Spring, or Both	Dan Taylor	Building good habits of health and wellness. Physical education will focus on body weight exercises, running form and plyometrics. Children will learn fun games that focus on individual mastery and teamwork. The cool down will include nutrition education and self care.	Activity appropriate footwear and clothing. Water bottle
US Geography	Fall Only	Cathy Pica	US Geography (will wrap up what we do not get to this semester but will still allow new students to join in and pick up where we left off) Students gain knowledge about each state ranging from animals, landforms, natural resources, famous foods and people as well as basic facts such as the capitals, state flowers and birds.	3 ring binder basic art supplies
Wordpress	Fall, Spring, or Both	Camille McCabe	In this class, students will learn the history and components of a website, including overview of html and css, choose a template to design, and write content for a free Wordpress website.	Computer (not phone, preferably a laptop), notebook, black, blue and red pens, highlighter.

High School Hybrid Classes

Our High School Hybrid classes are designed to provide your student with a more thorough exploration of a given course than a 2 hour/week class can provide.

These classes will have both an in-person component, as well as additional required work outside of class. Students will be expected to keep up with their assignments, submit them on time, and communicate with their teachers through our online learning platform (TBD). These classes are year-long and will meet during both Fall and Spring semesters.

Grades will not be provided, but teachers will provide students and families with feedback on their assignments and learning that families can choose to include in their own assessment and awarding of High School class credit.

Additionally, the Homeschool Hub will provide each student enrolled in any of our High School Hybrid classes opportunities for social engagement, college or career planning, and more. We will have a dedicated staff member who will provide support and guidance for our high school students and their families.

Students can take a combination of High School Hybrid classes and our Upper School Enrichment classes, so both types of classes should be considered as you build your student's schedule.

If you have any questions, please contact Megan Runion at Megan.Runion@YMCATriangle.org.

High School Hybrid Class Schedule

Class	Class Description	Required Materials
<p>Biology Tuesday AM</p> <p>Barbara Cameron</p>	<p>The class will comprehensively cover the topics typically covered in an introductory high school biology class including evolution, energy, cell biology, living systems, genetics, reproduction, development, and ecology. Class time will focus on discussion, inquiry-based labs and hands-on activities, with some lecture/explanation as needed to clarify understanding. Students will spend time outside of class reading, watching videos, and doing online activities to provide both background for and extensions of material covered in class, as well as working on projects and writing assignments. There may also be interactive online opportunities to work with the teacher and their classmates. Students should expect to spend 3-5 hours working outside of class for each class meeting. The focus of the course will not be on cramming in as much content as possible, but rather in gaining a deep understanding of concepts while developing generalizable skills (teamwork, problem-solving, critical thinking, writing, and study skills). Assessments (including presentations, lab reports, projects, and take-home exams) will focus on analysis, application, and higher-order thinking rather than regurgitation of facts.</p>	<p>BSCS Biology: A Human Approach, either the 4th (ISBN# 0757571921) or 5th (ISBN# 1465275967)</p>
<p>English-Creative Writing Tuesday AM</p> <p>Jenn Walski</p>	<p>This course is designed to develop and expand students' interest in reading and writing poetry, essays, and short stories. Students will grow as creative writers as they study the styles of a diverse set of authors. Students should be prepared to read and write extensively outside of class in order to be prepared for in-class writers' workshops and discussions. The class will also support students who wish to submit their work for publication through contests or literary magazines.</p>	<p>1" binder with loose leaf paper</p>
<p>Algebra 1 Tuesday PM</p> <p>Barbara Cameron</p>	<p>This hybrid course will use engaging investigations and real-world problems to explore the topics of Algebra 1, including solving equations; solving inequalities; working with units; linear equations and graphs; functions; linear word problems; sequences; systems of equations; inequalities (systems and graphs); absolute value and piecewise functions; rational exponents and radicals; exponential growth and decay; polynomials; factorization; quadratics (multiplying, factoring, functions, and equations); irrational numbers.</p> <p>Wondering if your student is ready for this class? Take the course challenge for "Getting Ready for Algebra 1" on Khan Academy, and be sure to review any areas that need attention before class starts in the fall.</p>	<p>Algebra 1 Textbook TBD</p>
<p>Literature and Composition (Persuasive Writing) Thursday AM</p> <p>Debbie Santee</p>	<p>In this class we will use the workbook, Lost Tools of Writing to equip students with the tools to write effectively and persuasively. The students will read four pieces of literature each semester. The literature will be both short stories and novels, including To Kill a Mockingbird by Harper Lee. Each week the students will learn skills/"tools" to apply in their persuasive writing essays. We will spend two hours in class engaging in discussion about the novels, learning new skills and practicing applying those skills. Students will learn to use precise verbs, dependent and independent clauses, alliteration, similes and metaphors. Students will learn tools to help create a thesis, and to build proofs and sub-proofs when presented with a topic. Students will write several persuasive essays that have a clear thesis and counter-thesis with proofs and sub-proofs. There will be approximately 3-4 hours of homework each week outside of class to work on reading the stories and writing their essays.</p>	<p>Lost Tools of Writing Workbook</p>
<p>High School Spanish 1 Thursday PM</p> <p>Chelsea Knapp</p>	<p>Spanish 1 will follow the NC World Language Essential Standards. We will cover beginning grammar and vocabulary. Students will work on basic reading, listening and conversation skills.</p>	<p>Spanish 1 Book- TBD</p>

Teacher Bios

Teacher Name	Classes	Bio
Andrea Diagonale	Art	I have had over 31 years of teaching experience in both public and private schools. I have been a classroom teacher, reading tutor, school librarian, and a K-8 art teacher. I am endlessly inspired by the creativity, joy, and imagination of children. I firmly believe that creativity is an integral part of education. Through art, children are taught to tap into their innovative side to think creatively and problem solve. I am excited to be a part of the NW Cary YMCA Homeschool and to expose kids to the world of visual arts.
Anita Hayes	Little Explorers	Anita Hayes has been working with all ages of youth, working for places like the Boys and Girls club to track out camps since she could legally work. She has her cosmetology license and has also worked with an orthodontic office but decided to give homeschool a try- she's hooked :) Her mission is to love, to learn, and to teach.
Ashley Davis	Little Explorers	Ashley Davis is a graduate of East Carolina University with a bachelor's degree in Psychology and a minor in Child Development and Family Relations. She became a stay at home mom after the birth of her son Christian in 2018. Once her son started preschool she volunteered in the classroom regularly and enjoyed her time so much with the students that she decided to become a preschool teacher. She gets so much fulfillment out of teaching and spending time with her students.
Barbara Cameron	Science of Mysteries and Magic Dry Ice, Bubbles, and Secret Formulas No Rules Sewing HS Algebra 1 HS Biology	Barbara Cameron is a parent to two always-homeschooled college students. She loves teaching and learning, and spends as much time as possible in her textile art studio (aka basement). Before having kids, she taught high school biology at Durham Academy and 8th grade math and science at The Duke School, and has taught science and creative arts classes to homeschoolers for many years. She has a BA in Biology from Mount Holyoke College and and MA in Cell and Molecular Biology from Duke University, as well as a degree in social work from UNC-Chapel Hill.
Camille McCabe	Wordpress Understanding Fractions and Decimals Mastering Multiplication and Division	I am excited to share my knowledge and love of learning with my students. My goal for these classes is to use my knowledge, background and creativity to teach the children in a fun and memorable way so that they can bring what they learn in my classes to all aspects of their lives. I have a BS in Math and Computer Science, a Certificate in Advertising, Graphic and Web Design, a Security+ certification, experience working in various fields and I homeschooled my 4 children, 3 through high school. I look forward to seeing the "Ah-Ha" moments on the children's faces and their joy in learning.
Cathy Pica	US Geography Drawing Through History Game Based Literacy Illustrated Writing Photography	I have right at 20 years experience working with children in both Prek and Elementary School. I have homeschooled for the past 3 years and have loved the journey of exploring the individual learning needs of my 2 boys. I am excited to join a team that values that same aspect of homeschooling and am looking forward to providing that same individual learning with others! I love hands-on learning and seeing when things "click" through discovery! I am a Chatham County native residing in Pittsboro, NC with my husband, 2 boys, 2 dogs, a pig and a leopard gecko! We enjoy church, camping, gardening, hiking, cooking, metal working, sports and just being together!
Chelsea Knapp	Theater Chorus Debate HS Spanish 1	Chelsea Knapp graduated from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro in 2012 with a degree in Music Education. She worked at Barriskill Dance Theater as the Vocal and Theater Instructor for eight years. In 2015, she started working with the Chapel Hill/Durham Homeschoolers teaching theater and music classes through Friday Enrichment. In 2017, she founded Piper's Players Homeschool Theater Company.
Dan Taylor	Elementary PE Upper School PE	I was an international professional chef for 25 years and retired to spend more time with my family. I began coaching youth sports 7 years ago, leading basketball, football, baseball, soccer and ultimate frisbee. I became a PE teacher for 3 years before deciding to be a homeschool teacher for my family. I love animals, playing sports and being a lifetime learner.

Debbie Santee	Literature and Composition (Persuasive Writing)	Debbie has homeschooled four children starting in preschool and two through high school graduation. She currently has a high school and middle school student at home. She has a BS in elementary and early childhood education. She has taught Middle School students Writing, Literature, Geography, Math, Science and Latin in a homeschool community for 10 years. She has experience teaching students who struggle with reading and writing. She is a certified structured literacy dyslexia specialist, recognized by the Center for Effective Reading Instruction. She teaches students online and at the NW Cary YMCA. She enjoys helping all learners enjoy writing, reading and literature. In her free time she enjoys kayaking. She is excited to join the YMCA homeschool group with her youngest daughter.
Emily Behr	Yoga + Nature Exploration	Emily Behr, ERYT-200, CYAEP, has over 10 years of experience teaching yoga to adults and children and has trained and managed over 150 youth yoga and mindfulness instructors throughout the Southeast. Her organization, Growga®, has been taught in the largest school districts and fitness chains in North Carolina. Emily also has a passion for nature-based learning and is currently completing her NC Environmental Education Certification. She is an avid gardener, hiker, and explorer who believes that exposure to the outdoors not only benefits humans' physical wellness, but also their intellectual, emotional, and relational wellbeing. Emily is a homeschooling mother of two girls, both of who are enrolled in the classes at the NW Cary YMCA.
Janny Frazier	Hands on Equations 2/3 and 4/5 Visual Math Grades $\frac{2}{3}$ Coding with Scratch	I have a math degree from UNC-CH and I am thrilled when a student grasps a concept that has been elusive and all of a sudden, the student can visualize the math problem in his/her mind, and from there, can solve almost anything.
Jenn Walski	Public Speaking/Broadcast Journalism Teen Leadership Development Master Builders Author Study Graphic Novels HS English	Jenn is a native New Yorker with a BA in Communication from SUNY Geneseo and a Master of Arts in Teaching English from Ithaca College. She began her teaching career in Florida before relocating to North Carolina in 2010. Jenn taught middle school English for 10 years in Wake County, including 7 years at Mills Park Middle School. Over the course of her teaching career, she became a National Board Certified teacher, earned her Academically/Intellectually Gifted licensure at Western Carolina, and was a STEMworks Scholar at NC State. Most recently, Jenn was the AIG teacher at Mills Park Middle School. Jenn has a passion for connecting with students through literature and guiding students through the writing process. In her free time, she enjoys reading and traveling with her husband (a middle school math teacher) and their son.
Mary Chyatte	Pre-Algebra Fluency Games Fractions, Decimals and Percents	Mary Chyatte has over 10 years experience tutoring math and science to students from middle school to the collegiate level. She has also worked in the Philadelphia Public School System during her years of service with Americorps. Her passion for math started at a very young age where she had the most inspiring teachers that pushed her to excel and really consider and grasp a deeper understanding of how to approach problems. Her favorite teacher, Lola J. May, consistently told students that real mathematicians learn to find the simplest solutions. And that the simple solution is often the most elegant. She is thrilled to be joining the YMCA teaching team, and hopes to instill a similar enthusiasm for learning in all of her students. Mary is a homeschooling mother of 4 - three of which will be attending classes at the NW Cary YMCA.
Meg Stone	Game Based Learning Beginner Cooking	Meg Stone is a Florida native who has recently transplanted to the Triangle. She is a graduate of Flagler College (Saint Augustine, FL), with both a degree and teaching certificate in Elementary Education, as well as additional endorsements in ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages), Reading Instruction, and Gifted Education. Meg taught in elementary schools for 15 years, with the final 5 of those years as a gifted education specialist focusing on the social and emotional needs of intellectually gifted students. Meg enjoys teaching classes at the YMCA Homeschool Hub because of the freedom and creativity this format affords both to teachers and students. Meg is passionate about teaching through games because it is a research-backed method of allowing students to acquire skills exponentially faster than "traditional" educational methods (and it's just plain fun!) Meg is also passionate about the preparation and enjoyment of food and strives to share a bit of this passion with her students through cooking classes.

Megan Chunn	Film and Lit Studies Beginner and Advanced Minecraft Building Beginner Cross Stitch French	Megan Chunn is an English graduate from UNCW. She has taught in public school and has a concentration in professional writing. She also minored in French and was in the National French Honor Society. My methods of teaching include free thought, creativity, and structure.
Megan Runion	Homeschool Hub Lead Teacher	Megan is a National Board Certified teacher with 11 years of experience in upper elementary school. She is also licensed in Middle School Math and Gifted Education. Megan is passionate about finding and meeting the individual needs of students and making sure that all students get what they need in order to learn and grow. She believes students learn best when they are engaged in project-based tasks that relate to the real world, and she enjoys providing authentic opportunities for students to have ownership of their learning.
Renee Banko	Discovery Labs	I grew up in NC and attended Campbell University, where I majored in Chemistry and received a Bachelor of Science degree. I worked in labs in the pharmaceutical industry for about 10 years. After my first child was born, I decided to leave the lab and become a stay at home mom. I have been a stay at home mom since 2009, and started homeschooling my son at the start of his 3rd grade year (2018). We are currently in our 4th year of homeschooling. I have always been a math and science person and enjoy teaching math and science to my own children, and others. As the Discovery Lab teacher, I guide the students towards enrichment activities based on their individual likes and interests. I really enjoy interacting with them, joining in games, crafts, and assisting with any homework students may bring from home.
Tina Hammer	Biology Human Anatomy/Physiology Invertebrate Zoology	Tina has homeschooled two of her three children all the way to college and is still enjoying homeschooling the third. She holds a BS degree in biology and enjoyed a career as a molecular biologist in agricultural biotechnology prior to discovering the joys of homeschooling. She has worked with many diverse groups of children over the years, in many capacities, and embraces individuality, even in group learning situations. She spent several years coaching and judging speech, debate and moot court in the homeschool realm. Tina's love of learning and diverse interests have led her to an array of certifications and involvement with different types of agencies. She has also owned businesses creating, selling, and teaching how to create art, with her main focus being paper crafting.

Policies and Procedures

Registration Policies

Regular Semester Registration

All registration must take place through the YMCA of the Triangle Website. You will need to create an online account to register.

Please make sure you carefully read the descriptions for each of the classes you register for, paying special attention to course content, recommended age ranges, homework expectations, and supply requirements before choosing classes for your child. **All class transfers and withdrawals will result in the loss of the \$25 deposit/administrative fee paid at registration.** Please be mindful of this when registering.

Wait Lists

If a class you are interested in for your child is full, [please complete this form to add your child to the waitlist for that class](#). Wait-list class transfers will not be charged an additional administrative fee. We will notify families as spots become available during our Drop/Add window.

Mini-Session Classes

Mini-Session classes are only available to current families and will not be listed on the YMCA of the Triangle Website. Schedules will be sent to current families about 4 weeks before the start of each semester. Please follow all registration instructions shared at that time.

Using ESA + Funding

If your child is an NCSEAA grant recipient, the YMCA of the Triangle is now an official vendor and can be paid through ClassWallet for some of our classes. Please contact Megan if this applies to your family for details on how to utilize these funds to pay for Homeschool Hub classes!

Class Changes

We hope your children will love their classes, but in case something isn't a good fit, our program will have a two week Drop/Add window, beginning on the first day of class. During this time, class changes can be made as long as there is an open spot.

[To request a transfer or cancellation of a class please complete this request form.](#)

All class transfers and withdrawals will result in the loss of the \$25 deposit/administrative fee paid at registration, even if requested prior to the first day of program.

After the drop/add window ends we will not be able to accommodate class transfers or cancellations. Families will be responsible for the total cost of the classes their students are enrolled in, and we will be unable to issue refunds after this time.

What to Bring

All students should bring the following basic supplies. Please make sure items are labeled with your child's name. It is very important that students bring these materials every day so that they are able to participate fully in the activities their teachers have planned.

- Backpack
- Water Bottle
- Pencil Box with the following: Sharpened Pencils, Colored Pencils or Crayons, Markers, Glue Stick, Scissors
- Clipboard
- 2 Pocket Folder

Full Day Students should also bring a lunch each day. We are unable to provide lunches for students.

Some classes will have additional required supplies. Please see our Class Descriptions and Supplies sections for more details.

Students should have all materials, including textbooks/workbooks by the first day of class. If this will not be possible for your family, please let us know as soon as possible.

Family Involvement

Communication

Our program will use Class Dojo to connect families directly to our teachers. You will receive a Class Dojo code for each of your child's classes at Open House. Teachers will use Class Dojo to share pictures and updates about what is happening in the classroom. They may also use this to message you directly.

If questions or concerns about an individual class arise during the course of the semester, please reach out to the teacher. This is often the fastest way to get to a resolution.

Additionally, you will receive a monthly newsletter with program related updates. These will be delivered to your email.

Morning Meet-Ups

Would you like an opportunity to connect with other homeschooling parents to chat or share ideas? We would love for you to join us for our Morning Meet-Ups, every Wednesday from 9:00-10:00 am in the Large Group Treehouse Room (at the end of the Treehouse Hallway). Free childcare is available for Y members during this time. We will provide coffee and other beverages to sip while you get to know other parents from our community.

Parent Involvement Opportunities

If you are interested in being more involved in our Homeschool Hub Community, please let us know! Opportunities include subbing for classes (paid position), volunteering in classrooms or at lunch/recess, planning field trips/outings, or joining our Parent Advisory Committee!

Arrival/Dismissal

Arrival and Dismissal will primarily take place in our Rides In/Out loop, on the right side of the NWC building. Parents should drive through the loop and drop their child off with a staff member.

Please do not park and send children unaccompanied from the parking lot. Even our older students must be accompanied and checked in with a staff member before they join our program.

Rides In: 8:20-8:50

Rides Out: 2:00-2:15

Rides In will end promptly at 8:50 to ensure that all students are able to get to their classrooms before class begins at 9:00.

Parents who drop off or pick up children outside of these scheduled Rides In/Out times should park, enter the Crosspointe Building through the front doors, and come to our Homeschool Office to sign their child in or out.

If the gym doors are closed, that means there is not a staff member there to check your child in. Please do not drop children off at the gym door or front door without ensuring they have been checked in with a staff member.

Pickup Procedures

At pickup time, children will only be released to parents, legal guardians and those designated as emergency contacts with pickup on your child's account. Drivers must display YMCA pickup cards or photo identification. If you plan to have anyone else pick up your child, you must notify us in advance.

Severe weather may affect the pickup process. In cases of driving rain and/or lightning, staff will keep children sheltered until conditions improve. This may slow down the pickup process, requiring drivers to wait. The safety of YMCA children and staff is our first priority. The YMCA/our staff or volunteers do not buckle children of any age into their car seats or fasten seatbelts, even when requested by the parents. We make every effort to be efficient in the Rides Out line. We provide parking spaces or space for a parent to pull up so they can secure their own child.

Pickup Cards

To ensure the safety of all participants, parents will receive pickup cards on the first day of program. Please clearly print your child's first and last name on the card and display it on the car windshield at pickup time (you may use one card for multiple children). YMCA staff will request a picture ID from anyone who attempts to pick up a child without displaying a card. If you need additional cards for sitters, grandparents, etc., please ask at the program office. If a questionable situation arises, staff will hold the child until a parent has been contacted. A driver's license may be requested for identification.

Upper School Students

Upper School Students who plan to remain on the NWC Y Site after program ends must have completed the Middle School Orientation offered by the Y and be a Y member. Students who have signed themselves out can only be in common Y spaces, and cannot remain in our Homeschool Hub program space. In order for a student to sign themselves out, we must have a signed permission form from their parent/guardian. If this applies to your student, please complete this form and return to Megan Runion.

Pickup Late Fee

A late fee is charged for children picked up after the last pickup time (2:15 pm). The late fee is \$5 for the first 10 minutes past pickup time and \$1 for each additional minute thereafter. Two staff members will remain with the child until a parent arrives.

Health and Safety

Safety at the Homeschool Hub

We want to remind you of YMCA policies and practices that help keep our YMCA youth programs secure for your child.

Parents, family members and any other authorized adult must show their photo I.D. or pick-up card in order to pick up children in our care. Please make sure your emergency contacts are up to date in your online portal and that you've checked the box for "allowed to pick up." Please also confirm that we have the most up-to-date phone numbers for you and your family.

All YMCA staff must complete a variety of trainings that include child abuse prevention, bullying prevention and a variety of other topics on how to keep children safe in a variety of situations.

When to Stay Home

Please do not send your child to YMCA programs with any of the following symptoms:

- Sore throat
- Excessive coughing
- Diarrhea or vomiting
- Fever
- Head lice
- Undiagnosed rash, sore, or other skin condition
- Any other contagious disease or symptom

A child must be diarrhea, vomiting and fever-free for a full 24 hours before returning to the program.

Medication Procedures

Please do not pack medication with your child's belongings. Parents (not the child) must bring necessary medications to the program office. Medications must be in their original containers with written instructions for dispensing. A Medication Distribution Form must be provided for staff to dispense all prescription or over the counter medications.

Generally, children are prohibited from having medication with them, unless the medication is dispensed on their person (such as an insulin pump) or a doctor has specifically indicated in writing that the child may self-administer and safety precautions are met for the safe handling of the medication. If a doctor has given this written permission, a copy must be provided to the YMCA. A parent or guardian must give the medication to the program staff.

For safety reasons, all medications are stored and locked in the program office.

ADA Policy

We're committed to providing equal opportunity and access to all children.

YMCA of the Triangle does not discriminate against any individual on the basis of disability or on the basis of any individual's association or relationship with an individual with a disability in the full and equal enjoyment of the goods, services, facilities, privileges, advantages, or accommodations offered at any of its locations.

Everyone who attends YMCA programs has unique needs. We are better when we take time to find out what those needs are, build empathy and understanding, and respond to individuals appropriately. The YMCA offers inclusive, welcoming programs dedicated to serving those needs in the best way possible.

Because every person is unique, we address each request individually. Your child's success and safety in our programs are our top priorities; therefore, we respectfully ask parents and caregivers to inform the YMCA, prior to the start of the program, of any special needs which may require special accommodations, so we can work together to support your child in reaching their full potential.

If you have questions about ADA accommodations at the Homeschool Hub, please contact Megan Runion.

Custody

Please alert the YMCA program office of child custody arrangements. It is imperative that official, current court documents are maintained in your child's file if custody or visitation is a concern. Without court orders, we cannot withhold a child from his/her parent. Based on the information that you share with us, we will tell you if additional documentation is required. If additional information is required, you may send it to risk@ymcatriangle.org.

The parent(s) who registers the child for the program is responsible for payments. We cannot sub-divide fees.

If parents are separated or divorced with joint custody, both parents must provide written consent for all names on the Emergency Contacts & Authorized Pick-ups list.

Behavior Expectations

At the YMCA of the Triangle, our behavior expectations and discipline procedures are based on our core values of caring, honesty, respect, responsibility and faith. We believe in creating a safe, secure and fun environment where all youth have the opportunity to learn the importance of demonstrating good character. We believe that in order to do this, all youth need to know and understand the rules and expectations for appropriate behavior. We also believe that when youth do not follow the rules or when they demonstrate inappropriate behavior, we have an opportunity to help youth learn from their mistakes.

The YMCA promotes behavior guidance and discipline through creating a positive environment, developing structure and clear limits, promoting social and emotional learning, reinforcing our core values and addressing challenging behaviors.

All youth are expected to follow the rules established by the YMCA for the safety of all youth in the program. Your cooperation and support ensure that all youth have a safe and fun experience.

The YMCA does not allow the following behaviors:

- Any action that could threaten the physical or emotional safety of the youth, other youth or staff. Prohibited conduct may include, but is not limited to: abusive jokes, insults, slurs, threats, name-calling or intimidation
- Destructive behavior
- Behavior that is a violation of personal boundaries or is of a habitual nature and negatively impacts the program, and/or safety and enjoyment of others
- Behavior that is of a sexual nature

The YMCA uses positive discipline, which means staff members promote desired behaviors through teaching and reinforcement. Staff will redirect or problem-solve with youth when they are not displaying desired behaviors, rather than restrict behaviors by taking away opportunities or controlling youth with fear of punishment. We believe this approach focuses on the needs of the youth and contributes positively to the youth's overall development. Staff shall use positive discipline, which shall include the following:

- Communicate to youth using positive statements
- Encourage youth, with adult support, to use their own words and solutions in order to resolve interpersonal conflicts
- Communicate with youth by getting on their level and talking to them in a calm, quiet manner about the behavior that is expected
- There are times when restrictions may be necessary and will most likely be directly linked to the health, safety or well-being of the youth or others. The YMCA staff does not use corporal punishment under any circumstance. In the event of a youth harming themselves, another youth, or an adult, staff may physically restrain the youth to ensure safety.

YMCA Discipline Procedures

The YMCA staff desire to partner with families of the youth in our care. If at any time you have concerns about your child's behavior or success in our program, please do not hesitate to reach out to your Youth Director to set up a conference.

If a youth is unable to meet established behavior expectations, YMCA staff will follow these disciplinary procedures below given that the nature of the behaviors does not require immediate suspension or dismissal.

- Conversation between staff and youth to discuss behavior and reset expectations.
- Staff will first use positive reinforcement and redirection to redirect a youth's behavior. If this is ineffective, staff may use a timeout as an opportunity for the youth to take a break from the behavior before rejoining the group.
- Staff will communicate with parents/guardians if/when youth is not following established YMCA rules. This communication may be at Rides Out, over the phone or via a parent conference.
- If positive discipline and redirection are ineffective in changing the youth's behavior, the Youth Director may suspend the youth. The length of suspension will be determined based on each individual situation. Factors such as type/severity of behavior, behavior history, age of youth, etc. will be considered when determining the length of the suspension.
- If the youth continues to have challenges after a suspension, the Youth Director may set up a conference with the parent/guardian to develop a behavior plan for the youth.
- If suspensions nor a behavior plan are effective in changing the child's behavior, the child may be dismissed from the program. Dismissal from the program for disciplinary reasons could result in permanent removal from all YMCA programs.

Special Circumstances

The goal of the YMCA of the Triangle is to meaningfully include all youth and provide accommodations in our programs when needed. To help us achieve this goal, we respectfully ask parents or guardians to inform the YMCA, prior to the start of the program, of any special circumstances which may affect your child's ability to participate. By providing information regarding the strengths and needs of your child, the staff can prepare helpful accommodations that will better serve all children in our programs.

Upon being informed of such circumstances, the Program Director or other staff member may request a meeting to gather more information and discuss the accommodations that can be created to successfully include your child.

Bullying and Conflict Resolution

Bullying is any unwanted behavior that involves a power imbalance. Here at the Y, our goal is to stop bullying, and we encourage our participants, parents, and staff to be Upstanders. An Upstander is one who recognizes when something is wrong and acts to make it right. If there is disclosure, discovery, or suspicion of bullying we will handle each instance case by case and with care. At the Y we are building a caring, respectful, honest, and responsible community for all; the safety of our program participants is our main concern.

Conversely, we define conflict as a disagreement or argument in which both sides express their views and there is an equal power balance. We believe conflict with resolution is a natural and important part of Youth Development. Conflict can be constructive if managed in the right way. We will identify and resolve conflicts in a healthy and proactive fashion. The conflict resolution skills we learn and practice will make a positive impact on our Y programs and in every child's future.

Homeschool Administration

The Homeschool Hub is not a school, and therefore you will remain the administrator of your child's homeschool. Our teachers will provide students with feedback about their progress in class, but will not provide students with graded assignments. We also do not provide attendance records, credits, or transcripts. All state required homeschool documentation should be maintained by each child's homeschool administrator. If you have any questions about what your child is learning, please reach out to the individual teacher for more information.

Contact Information:

Address

Northwest Cary YMCA/Crosspointe Church
6903 Carpenter Fire Station Rd
Cary, NC 27519

Program Phone Number - 984-710-2726

Homeschool Lead Teacher - Megan Runion Megan.Runion@YMCATriangle.org

Financial Aid:

Thanks to funds from our **Annual We Build People Campaign**, the YMCA of the Triangle provides financial assistance for children, teens, adults and families who cannot afford the full cost of YMCA programs. All are welcome to **apply for financial assistance**.

Schedule Planning Template- Regular Semester

	Fall Semester	Spring Semester
Monday/Wednesday P1 - 9:00		
Monday/Wednesday P2 - 10:00		
Monday/Wednesday P3 - 12:00		
Monday/Wednesday P4 - 1:00		
Tuesday AM 9:00 High School Hybrid Only		
Tuesday PM 12:00 High School Hybrid Only		
Thursday AM 9:00		
Thursday PM 12:00		

Schedule Planning Template - Mini-Sessions

	Fall #1 September 5 - 28	Fall #2 October 23 - November 16	Spring #1 February 5 - 29	Spring #2 April 8 - May 2
Monday 8:00				
Monday 2:15				
Tuesday 9:00				
Tuesday 10:00				
Tuesday 11:00				
Wednesday 8:00				
Wednesday 2:15				
Thursday 8:00				
Thursday 2:15				