

Homeschool Hub

Northwest Cary YMCA



2025/2026 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 Explorers classes, which have a capacity of 10.

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. If you are registering for our program prior to enrollment with the NCDOA, please put "pending" for your Homeschool ID Number when registering.

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.

Our program operates from the Northwest Cary YMCA/Crosspointe Church building at 6903 Carpenter Fire Station Rd, Cary, NC 27519. Most of our classes are held in the Crosspointe Church building, but we are also fortunate to have access to many shared spaces of the YMCA when needed.

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 1 hour long on Monday/Wednesday and 2 hours long on Tuesday and Thursdays. Monday/Wednesday classes meet two days per week and cannot be separated. Tuesday and Thursday classes meet one day per week.

Students must be enrolled in half-day blocks, and therefore on Monday/Wednesday students must choose either two classes (AM half-day or PM half-day) or 4 classes (full-day). Any registrations that do not align with these schedule requirements may be dropped two weeks prior to the start of the semester. Navigators (ages 13+) are exempt from this rule if their parent/guardian allows them to sign themselves in and out of the program.

Lunch/Recess

Students who attend for a full day program have a supervised hour of Lunch/Recess included free of charge as part of their day. These students do not need to register for this product separately.

Half-Day students who would like to participate in Lunch/Recess can register for the waitlist. We will hold a lottery for these spots based on the number of spaces we have available at the beginning of the semester. There is a small fee for this add on registration.

High School Hybrid Classes

These academic classes provide rigorous high-school level content, and are designed to provide the equivalent of year-long high-school courses. Courses have both an in-person and an online component, and students will be expected to attend class regularly and complete work outside of class.

Age Cohorts

Our classes are multi-age, divided among 4 different age cohorts. We do have some flexibility for students at the border between groups (age 6, 9 and 13). 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 Hybrid 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.**

- Explorers - Ages 4-6
- Pathfinders - Ages 6-9
- Trailblazers - Ages 9-13
- Navigators - Ages 13-17

2025/2026 Calendar

Fall Semester	
August 25, 2025	Fall Family Open House
August 26, 2025	First Day of Fall Semester
September 1, 2025	Closed for Labor Day
September 5, 2025	End of Fall Drop/Add Window
October 13-24, 2025	Fall Break
November 24-27, 2025	Thanksgiving Break
December 17, 2025	Fall Student Showcase (All Classes)
December 18, 2025	Last Day of Fall Semester
Spring Semester	
January 19, 2026	Spring Family Orientation
January 20, 2026	First Day of Spring Semester
January 30, 2026	End of Spring Drop/Add Window
February 16, 2026	Closed for Presidents' Day
March 23-April 10, 2026	Spring Break
May 13, 2026	Spring Student Showcase (All Classes)
May 14, 2026	Last Day of Spring Semester

Daily Schedule

Monday/Wednesday Class Schedule

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

Tuesday/Thursday Class Schedule

	Enrichment Classes	High School Hybrid
8:15-8:50	Rides-In	
8:50-9:00	Transition to Classroom	Transition to Classes
9:00-10:55	AM Class	AM Class
10:55-11:00	Half Day AM Dismissal	Half Day AM Dismissal
11:00-11:55	Lunch/Recess	Lunch/Recess
11:55-12:00	Half Day PM Arrival	Half Day PM Arrival
12:00-1:55	PM Class	PM Class
1:55-2:15	Rides Out	Rides Out

Fall 2025 Schedule

Monday/Wednesday

	Explorers Ages 4-6	Pathfinders Ages 6-9				Trailblazers Ages 9-13				Navigators Ages 13+		Ages 6+
9:00-9:55	Morning Session Ms Anita Ms. Laura Ms. Tori	Scientific Expressions Jagriti Sachania	Illustrated Writing Kemai McClain	Color Quest Laura Peleschak	Physical Education Cameron Tripp	Energy and Electricity Laxmi Gokul Ram	Theater Improv and Games Chelsea Knapp	Exploring America's National Parks Tabitha Gowland	Vocab Quest: Exploring Roots and Affixes Meg Stone	Philosophy of Science Stephanie Curri	Personal Finance Janny Frazier	Discovery Labs Princess Bernard-Oti
10:00-10:55		"But Why" Science Laxmi Gokul Ram	Artistic Math Jagriti Sachania	Exploring America's National Parks Tabitha Gowland	Physical Education Dan Taylor	Coding with Ozobots Meg Stone	Spanish Chelsea Knapp	Hands on Equations Janny Frazier	The Painted Past Laura Peleschak	Persuasive Writing Kemai McClain	Music Workshop Stephanie Curri	Discovery Labs Princess Bernard-Oti
12:00-12:55	Afternoon Session Ms Anita Ms. Laura Ms. Stephanie	Visual Math Janny Frazier	Stories Around the World Part 2 Lauren Johnson	Illustrator Imagination Laura Peleschak	Stop Motion Animation Tabitha Gowland	Analog and Digital Electronics Laxmi Gokul Ram	Performance Theater Chelsea Knapp	Cupcake Decorating Meg Stone	Persuasive Writing Kemai McClain	Coding and Robotics Jagriti Sachania	Physical Education Dan Taylor	Discovery Labs Princess Bernard-Oti
1:00-1:55		Epic Engineering Laxmi Gokul Ram	Stories Around the World Part 1 Lauren Johnson	Early Kitchen Skills Meg Stone	Visual Math Janny Frazier	Physical Education Dan Taylor	Math Magician Jagriti Sachania	Graphic Novels 101 Laura Peleschak	Creative Crochet: A Beginner's Guide Tabitha Gowland		Theater Chelsea Knapp	Discovery Labs Princess Bernard-Oti

Bold classes are priced as Specialty Classes

Classes in *Italics* are year-long High School Hybrid classes

Tuesday

	Explorers Ages 4-6	Pathfinders Ages 6-9			Trailblazers Ages 9-13		Navigators Ages 13+			Ages 6+
9:00-10:55	Explorers Ms. Anita Ms. Stephanie	"But Why" Science Laxmi Gokul Ram	EASE Primary Andrea Diagonale	Graphic Novels 101 Laura Peleschak	Intermediate Cooking Meg Stone	Math Magician Jagriti Sachania	Personal Finance Kelly Hufnagel	<i>Pre-Algebra Laurina Sigmon</i>	<i>World History Nancy Walters</i>	Discovery Labs Holly Tewell
12:00-1:55	Explorers Ms. Anita Ms. Stephanie	Visual Math Kelly Hufnagel	Stories Around the World Part 1 Kasey Davidson	EASE 4-6 Andrea Diagonale	Creative Innovators: A STEAM Adventure Jagriti Sachania	Blast the Blank Page Laura Peleschak	Teen Art Aimee Walker	<i>Chemistry Laxmi Gokul Ram</i>		Discovery Labs Holly Tewell

Thursday

	Explorers Ages 4-6	Pathfinders Ages 6-9			Trailblazers Ages 9-13		Navigators Ages 13+			Ages 6+
9:00-10:55	Explorers Ms. Anita Ms. Stephanie	Epic Engineering Laxmi Gokul Ram	Yoga, Rhythm, and Movement Laura Waddey	Beginner Cooking Meg Stone *Ages 8-11	Sculpture Andrea Diagonale	Advanced Board Game Strategy Jason Foster	Technical Theater Chelsea Knapp	Experimental Design Laurina Sigmon	<i>World Literature: Reading & Writing Across Genres Nancy Walters</i>	Discovery Labs Holly Tewell
12:00-1:55	Explorers Ms. Anita Ms. Stephanie	Reptiles and Amphibians Exploration Laura Waddey	Kid Art Lit Andrea Diagonale	Songwriting Cameron Tripp	Energy and Electricity Laxmi Gokul Ram	Hands on Equations Annie Polashock	Cooking Around the World Meg Stone and Nancy Walters		<i>Spanish 1 Chelsea Knapp</i>	Discovery Labs Holly Tewell

Bold classes are priced as Specialty Classes

Classes in *Italics* are year-long High School Hybrid classes

Spring 2026 Schedule

Monday/Wednesday

	Explorers Ages 4-6	Pathfinders Ages 6-9				Trailblazers Ages 9-13				Navigators Ages 13+		Ages 6+
9:00-9:55	Morning Session Ms Anita Ms. Laura Ms. Tori	Scientific Expressions Jagriti Sachania	Illustrated Writing Kemai McClain	Color Quest Laura Peleschak	Physical Education Cameron Tripp	Energy and Electricity Laxmi Gokul Ram	Theater Improv and Games Chelsea Knapp	Vocab Quest: Exploring Roots and Affixes Renee Banko	Creative Crochet: A Beginner's Guide Tabitha Gowland	Philosophy of Science Stephanie Curri	Personal Finance Janny Frazier	Discovery Labs Princess Bernard-Oti
10:00-10:55		"But Why" Science Laxmi Gokul Ram	Artistic Math Jagriti Sachania	Exploring our Community Kemai McClain	Physical Education Dan Taylor	The Painted Past Laura Peleschak	Intro to Playwriting Chelsea Knapp	Real World Geometry Janny Frazier	Coding with Ozobots Renee Banko	Music Workshop Stephanie Curri		Discovery Labs Princess Bernard-Oti
12:00-12:55	Afternoon Session Ms Anita Ms. Laura Ms. Stephanie	Geometry FUNDamentals Janny Frazier	Stories Around the World Part 2 Lauren Johnson	Graphic Novels 101 Laura Peleschak	Stop Motion Animation Tabitha Gowland	Fundamentals of Electronics Laxmi Gokul Ram	Performance Theater Chelsea Knapp	Cupcake Decorating Marlene Mitaly	Persuasive Writing Kemai McClain	Coding and Robotics Jagriti Sachania	Physical Education Dan Taylor	Discovery Labs Princess Bernard-Oti
1:00-1:55		Epic Engineering Laxmi Gokul Ram	Stories Around the World Part 1 Lauren Johnson	Early Kitchen Skills Marlene Mitaly	Visual Math Janny Frazier	Physical Education Dan Taylor	Math Magician Jagriti Sachania	Graphic Novels 201 Laura Peleschak	Culture/World History Teacher TBD	Theater Chelsea Knapp		Discovery Labs Princess Bernard-Oti

Bold classes are priced as Specialty Classes

Classes in *Italics* are year-long High School Hybrid classes

Tuesday

	Explorers Ages 4-6	Pathfinders Ages 6-9			Trailblazers Ages 9-13				Navigators Ages 13+			Ages 6+
9:00-10:55	Explorers Ms. Anita Ms. Stephanie	"But Why" Science Laxmi Gokul Ram	EASE Primary Andrea Diagonale	Graphic Novels 201 Laura Peleschak	Intermediate Cooking Marlene Mitaly	Creative Innovators: A STEAM Adventure Jagriti Sachania	Advanced Board Game Strategy Jason Foster	Fundamentals of Music Cameron Tripp	Culture and World History Kemai McClain	<i>Pre-Algebra</i> Laurina Sigmon	<i>World History</i> Nancy Walters <i>*enrollment closed- year long class*</i>	Discovery Labs Holly Tewell
12:00-1:55	Explorers Ms. Anita Ms. Stephanie	Visual Math Renee Banko	Stories Around the World Part 2 Laura Peleschak		Math Magician Jagriti Sachania	Coding with Ozobots Annie Polashock	BUILT Andrea Diagonale	Songwriting Cameron Tripp	Botany/ Dendrology Laurina Sigmon	Fiber Arts Aimee Walker	<i>Chemistry</i> Laxmi Gokul Ram <i>*enrollment closed- year long class*</i>	Discovery Labs Holly Tewell

Thursday

	Explorers Ages 4-6	Pathfinders Ages 6-9			Trailblazers Ages 9-13		Navigators Ages 13+					Ages 6+
9:00-10:55	Explorers Ms. Anita Ms. Stephanie	Epic Engineering Laxmi Gokul Ram	Yoga, Rhythm, and Movement Laura Waddey	Beginner Cooking Marlene Mitaly <i>*Ages 8-11</i>	Masters 1.0 Andrea Diagonale	Big Ideas of US History Kemai McClain	Songwriting Cameron Tripp	Technical Theater Chelsea Knapp	Math Foundations Annie Polashock	Statistics and Data Analysis Laurina Sigmon	<i>World Literature:</i> Nancy Walters <i>*enrollment closed- year long class*</i>	Discovery Labs Holly Tewell
12:00-1:55	Explorers Ms. Anita Ms. Stephanie	Dinosaurs Laura Waddey	Exploring our Community Teacher TBD	Fundamentals of Music Cameron Tripp	Energy and Electricity Laxmi Gokul Ram	EASE 4-6 Andrea Diagonale	Real World Geometry Annie Polashock	Cooking Around the World Marlene Mitaly Navigators	Anatomy and Physiology Laurina Sigmon	Writer's Workshop Nancy Walters	<i>Spanish 1</i> Chelsea Knapp <i>*enrollment closed- year long class*</i>	Discovery Labs Holly Tewell

Bold classes are priced as Specialty Classes

Classes in *Italics* are year-long High School Hybrid classes

Explorers Program - Ages 4-6

Our Explorers program is designed for Pre-K through Kindergarten students, providing a dynamic learning environment tailored to their developmental needs. With a maximum student-to-teacher ratio of 1:10, each child receives individualized attention while engaging in a variety of hands-on activities. Every student is assigned a primary teacher and a homeroom class, fostering a supportive and structured learning experience.

Daily Schedule:

Each day begins and ends with Circle Time in the homeroom, where students gather to connect and engage with their peers and teacher. Following Circle Time, students will participate in a wide range of activities designed to encourage learning, exploration, and social connection. Students will do activities both with their primary teacher and with the other Explorers teachers.

Daily Schedule Example

8:15-8:50	Morning Arrival/Rides In
8:50-9:00	Transition to Classrooms
9:00-9:20	Morning Circle Time
9:20-9:50	AM Activity 1
9:50-10:20	Centers Play
10:20-10:50	AM Activity 2
10:50-11:00	Return to Primary Classroom - Transition to Lunch/Recess or Mid-Day Dismissal
11:00-12:00	Lunch/Recess - All Explorers
12:00-12:20	Afternoon Circle Time
12:20-12:50	PM Activity 1
12:50-1:20	Centers Play
1:20-1:50	PM Activity 2
1:50-2:00	Return to Primary Classroom - Transition to Afternoon Dismissal
2:00-2:15	Afternoon Dismissal

Activities:

Teachers plan a variety of engaging activities centered around the week's theme. Each day our activities will include:

- Hands-on Math Activities & Games: Exploring early math concepts through fun and interactive games.
- Science Projects & Experiments: Encouraging curiosity with age-appropriate science exploration.
- Discovery Center Cooperative Play: Opportunities for social development through imaginative play and group activities.
- Art Experience: Creative expression through various artistic mediums.
- Literacy Activities & Games: Building early literacy skills in an interactive and enjoyable way.

Primary Learning Objectives

- Early Literacy Skills: Focus on foundational reading and writing skills such as rhyming, identifying beginning consonants, concepts of print, letter/sound recognition, listening comprehension, and early writing development.
- Early Math Skills: Introducing core math concepts like one-to-one correspondence, counting, grouping by tens, and simple addition and subtraction within ten.
- Social Skills: Promoting collaboration, turn-taking, and effective communication with peers.
- Developmental Skills: Encouraging physical development through activities like cutting, running, jumping, singing, painting, and building.
- Curiosity & Exploration: Nurturing a love of learning and discovery through hands-on experiences and imaginative play that expand each child's knowledge of the world around them.
- Through our Explorers program, we aim to build a strong foundation for lifelong learning, empowering children to explore, discover, and grow in a supportive and stimulating environment.

Pathfinders (Ages 6-9) - Course Descriptions and Supply Lists

Class Name	Semester	Core Subject	Pricing	Description	Required Supplies
Artistic Math		Math	Regular	Artistic Math is a creative exploration where mathematics and art collide to reveal the beauty of both. In this engaging class, students will discover how numbers, shapes, and patterns can be used to create visually stunning works of art. From the symmetry of geometric shapes to the infinite complexity of fractals, students will learn to appreciate the artistic side of math, while also gaining a deeper understanding of the mathematical principles behind them. Throughout the course, students will explore key mathematical concepts such as symmetry, tessellations, the golden ratio, and geometric transformations. They'll use these concepts as the foundation for creating original art pieces, from intricate designs to vibrant geometric paintings. Whether designing spirals, creating 3D sculptures, or exploring the wonders of fractals, students will see how mathematics can inspire creativity and innovation in the world of art.	
Beginner Cooking *ages 8-11		Elective	Specialty	Students will be introduced to and become familiarized with basic kitchen equipment and tools, as well as basic cooking techniques for everyday cuisine. We will 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 foods. This class is very teacher-guided every step of the way. Students must be able to adhere to safety requirements involving the use of knives and heat sources!	
"But Why?" Science	Fall OR Spring	Science	Regular	This hands-on science class will allow students to explore a variety of science concepts as they discover the answers to commonly asked questions about the world around us. Prerequisite skills: Reading and writing beginner level required	
Color Quest	Fall OR Spring	Elective	Specialty	Come on a color adventure where students engage in activities and creative projects to learn how to mix colors, understand color relationships, and explore the emotional power of color.	
Dinosaurs	Spring	Science	Regular	In this hands-on class students will delve into the prehistoric world of dinosaurs. We will cover everything from how dinosaurs lived, their basic biology, and how modern-day paleontologists learn new information about dinosaurs.	
Discovery Labs	Fall, Spring, or Both	Math, Science, English Language Arts	Regular	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. Students will have the opportunity to engage in teacher-planned activities in each of our labs, in the content areas of Science, STEM, Math, Literacy, or in their own student-led projects. Each lab space is set up with activities and materials that students are free to use and explore. 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. 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.	

E.A.S.E. (Art Class Primary Grades)	Fall, Spring, or Both	Elective	Specialty	EASE stands for Exploring Art Supplies though Environments. Young artists will explore art making that emphasizes a single medium at a time that is meant to help them grow and improve art skills while also learning about the different parts of the planet around them.	
Early Kitchen Skills	Fall OR Spring	Elective	Specialty	This hands-on class is designed to introduce younger students to basic kitchen skills and equipment, which will lay the groundwork for future cooking success.	Apron (optional)
Epic Engineering	Fall OR Spring	Science, Math	Regular	<p>In this fun hands-on building class, students will be introduced to the mathematical and physics principles that are utilized in engineering. Students will complete challenges, either independently or with a partner, to learn and explore these concepts for themselves. Through this class, students will develop their understanding of the Engineering Process, building their perseverance as they think, plan, build, test, and then improve their designs.</p> <p>Prerequisite skills: Reading and writing beginner level required</p>	
Exploring America's National Parks: A Geography Adventure	Fall	Social Studies	Regular	<p>Embark on an exciting journey across the United States as we explore the breathtaking landscapes, diverse ecosystems, and rich history of America's national parks! In this interactive geography course, students will travel virtually to parks like Yellowstone, the Grand Canyon, the Great Smoky Mountains, and more.</p> <p>Through engaging activities, map studies, and hands-on projects, students will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Learn about the unique geography, climate, and wildlife of each park Discover the history and cultural significance of these protected lands Develop map-reading skills and explore how geography shapes ecosystems Participate in creative projects like park brochures, travel journals, and conservation challenges <p>By the end of the course, students will have a deeper appreciation for America's natural wonders and the importance of preserving them for future generations. Join us for this adventure into the wild!</p>	
Exploring our Community	Spring	Social Studies	Regular	<p>In this class, students will explore the community around them. Concepts covered will include geography, history, culture, natural resources, and change over time. This class will focus specifically on the Triangle area with a focus on how each of us fit into our wider community and what sorts of things and people live around us.</p> <p>Prerequisite skills: Students should be able to write 2 or 3 sentences when prompted and be comfortable sounding out words as a group.</p>	Students will be required to bring in household supplies like toilet paper rolls, cereal boxes and shoe boxes for several projects.
Fundamentals of Music	Spring	Elective	Regular	<p>This course introduces students to the basics of music through singing, rhythm games, movement, and creative play. Students will learn how to read basic notation, understand rhythm and pitch, and perform simple melodies using their voices and instruments.</p> <p>By the end of the course, students will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify notes on the treble staff Understand note values and basic rhythms Read and perform simple melodies Appreciate music through active listening and participation 	
Graphic Novels 101	Fall OR Spring	English Language Arts	Regular	<p>Using the TOON Books series, students will explore the entertaining, yet powerful, genre of graphic novels by analyzing literary elements and practicing comic drawing skills. Activities include author/illustrator studies, drawing, reading selected texts, and making our own graphic novels and comics panels.</p> <p>This class is a repeat of the Graphic Novels class taught in the 2024/2025 School Year</p>	

Graphic Novels 201	Spring	English Language Arts	Regular	<p>Students will build on course content in Graphic Novels 101, diving deeper into literary elements while reading, writing, drawing more complex stories.</p> <p>Prerequisite: Graphic Novels 101, or previous Graphic Novels class taught by Laura Peleschak in 2024-2025</p>	
Illustrated Writing	Fall, Spring, or Both	English Language Arts	Regular	Students will write stories inspired by their own art. Skill-building activities will include: art techniques and materials exploration, grammar and vocabulary, storytelling and narration, artist and author studies, and discussing art. Prerequisite: students must be able to read at least 1-2 sentences.	
Illustrator Imagination	Fall	English Language Arts	Specialty	Study picture book artists to learn their biography, art medium, and storytelling skills. Students will create artworks and/or stories inspired by these artists.	
Kid Art Lit	Fall	English Language Arts	Specialty	Students will learn and apply the techniques illustrators use to create illustrations from 12+ books off the shelf! 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.	
Physical Education	Fall, Spring, or Both	Elective	Regular	This class will teach body weight exercises, plyometrics, stretching and some high intensity training. Students will gain confidence and skill while learning new sports and games.	Water bottle and appropriate attire
Reptiles & Amphibians Exploration	Fall	Science	Regular	<p>Get ready to slither, hop, and explore the amazing world of reptiles and amphibians! In this exciting class we'll learn about native frogs and toads, turtles, snakes, salamanders, and more! We'll also find out about other fascinating species from around the world. We'll dive into their evolution, unique adaptations, and important roles in nature through hands-on activities and outdoor adventures. From classroom experiments to searching for creatures in their natural habitats, this class is perfect for young herpetologists ready to get their hands dirty and their minds curious!</p> <p>Prerequisite skills: Must be able to follow directions and stay with the group when walking outside.</p>	
Scientific Expressions	Fall, Spring, or Both	Science	Regular	<p>Scientific Expressions is an innovative, hands-on course that brings together the worlds of science and art, inviting students to explore the natural world through creative experimentation. In this unique class, students will use the principles of science as their inspiration and materials for creating visually stunning art. Whether through chemical reactions, physical forces, or biological processes, students will learn how to transform scientific phenomena into captivating works of art.</p> <p>In Scientific Expressions, students will dive into a variety of topics, including color theory, light and shadow, motion, chemical reactions, and the physics of materials. Using these scientific principles, students will engage in projects such as creating artwork with ink and liquid dynamics, building kinetic sculptures powered by physics, or using chemistry to produce colorful visual effects. This class fosters critical thinking, problem-solving, and artistic expression, encouraging students to think creatively while deepening their understanding of science. Throughout the course, students will develop skills in both artistic techniques and scientific methods, learning how to document experiments, analyze results, and present their findings in a visual format. By the end of the course, they will have a portfolio of unique creations that blend scientific concepts with artistic design.</p>	
Stop Motion Animation	Fall	English Language Arts	Regular	In this creative class, students will develop their storytelling skills using Stop Motion Animation. This class is perfect for beginning writers who are learning the steps of the writing process. Students will have so much fun developing their animated movies they won't even know they are "writing"!	Device with the free app "Stop Motion Studio".

Stories Around the World- Part 1	Fall OR Spring	English Language Arts, Social Studies	Regular	<p>Asia, Antarctica, Australia, and Africa</p> <p>Students will travel to different countries within the continents of Asia, Antarctica, Australia, and Africa! They will learn about a variety of places through the experiences of characters featured in children's literature. Students will create art and journal about their experiences as they learn more about the cultures and geography of the countries they visit. Students will also develop their understanding of literary analysis by discussing the books they read, including the characters' traits, as well as the plot and setting of each story.</p> <p>Prerequisite skills: Able to copy words into a journal</p> <p>This class is a repeat of the Stories Around the World class taught during the 2024/2025 School Year</p> <p>Part 1 and Part 2 can be taken in either order, but should only be taken once each</p>	
Stories Around the World - Part 2	Fall OR Spring	English Language Arts, Social Studies	Regular	<p>South America and Europe</p> <p>Students will travel to different countries within the continents of North America, South America, and Europe! They will learn about a variety of places through the experiences of characters featured in children's literature. Students will create art and journal about their experiences as they learn more about the cultures and geography of the countries they visit. Students will also develop their understanding of literary analysis by discussing the books they read, including the characters' traits, as well as the plot and setting of each story.</p> <p>Prerequisite skills: Able to copy words into a journal</p> <p>Part 1 and Part 2 can be taken in either order, but should only be taken once each</p>	
Yoga, Rhythm, and Movement	Fall	Elective	Regular	<p>In this class students will learn to recognize a variety of rhythms as they work to move their bodies in sync with the music. We will start each day with yoga poses to strengthen our bodies and calm our minds.</p>	Comfortable clothes that do not restrict movement and socks.
Visual Math	Fall OR Spring	Math	Regular	<p>In this fun hands-on math class, students will develop their understanding of our number system and other foundational math concepts by exploring the way math works.</p>	

Trailblazers (Ages 9-13) - Course Descriptions and Supply Lists

Class Name	Semester	Core Subject	Pricing	Description	Required Supplies
Advanced Board Game Strategy	Fall OR Spring	Math, English Language Arts	Regular	In Board Game Strategy we won't just be playing board games. We will be: learning how to play the games correctly, discussing board game strategy and also learning how to play these games with other people both appropriately and positively. Students will learn much more than they think as they are playing games. Some things they will learn could include: Math/Reading/Strategy/Pivoting/Character Education and Emotional Intelligence	
Analog and Digital Electronics	Fall OR Spring	Science	Regular	<p>This advanced course introduces the basics of how analog and digital electronics work. Students will learn about things like semiconductors, operational amplifiers, and how to connect circuits to create useful devices. They'll also explore how to change signals between analog and digital forms. By the end of the course, students will get hands-on experience building things like amplifiers, power supplies, and logic circuits.</p> <p>Prerequisite skills: Must take Fundamentals of Electronics first</p>	
Artistic Math	Fall OR Spring	Math	Regular	Artistic Math is a creative exploration where mathematics and art collide to reveal the beauty of both. In this engaging class, students will discover how numbers, shapes, and patterns can be used to create visually stunning works of art. From the symmetry of geometric shapes to the infinite complexity of fractals, students will learn to appreciate the artistic side of math, while also gaining a deeper understanding of the mathematical principles behind them. Throughout the course, students will explore key mathematical concepts such as symmetry, tessellations, the golden ratio, and geometric transformations. They'll use these concepts as the foundation for creating original art pieces, from intricate designs to vibrant geometric paintings. Whether designing spirals, creating 3D sculptures, or exploring the wonders of fractals, students will see how mathematics can inspire creativity and innovation in the world of art.	Compass, protractor
Beginner Cooking *ages 8-11	Fall OR Spring	Elective	Specialty	Students will be introduced to and become familiarized with basic kitchen equipment and tools, as well as basic cooking techniques for everyday cuisine. We will 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 foods. This class is very teacher-guided every step of the way. Students must be able to adhere to safety requirements involving the use of knives and heat sources!	Apron (optional)
Big Ideas of US History	Spring	Social Studies	Regular	<p>"We the people of the United States, in order to form a more perfect union..." Schoolhouse Rock may be able to teach our students the words to our Constitution's preamble, but it can't help them develop a deep understanding of what the words mean or how they are applied today. Join us for this discussion based class that will focus on reading and analyzing primary source documents and learning more about the context that surrounded the authors who crafted our founding documents. Students will examine our history from multiple perspectives and engage in "Socratic" type seminars, where respectful discourse will be both taught and required.</p> <p>Prerequisite skills: Students should be able to read chapter books with minimal assistance from parents. Parents should be comfortable with students discussing potentially upsetting or controversial topics.</p>	Students need a device to view course materials.

Blast the Blank Page	Fall OR Spring	English Language Arts	Regular	Students will learn about the writing process to overcome the fear of the blank page. Using mentor texts and writing exercises to participate in the writing process, students will accumulate a collection of drafts and skills to support their future writing endeavors.	3-ring binder with paper and 5 letter index dividers/tabs
BUILT	Spring	Elective	Specialty	Students will be thinking like architects as they learn to draw, paint, and construct /sculpt numerous architectural designs and buildings.	
Coding with Ozobots	Fall OR Spring	Science, Math	Specialty	Ozobots are small, programmable robots that help teach coding, math, and science. They are designed to be used in the classroom to engage students in hands-on learning. In this class, students will learn to give different commands to the Ozobots to complete various tasks. Most activities will be screen-free, as Ozobots are designed to follow manually-drawn color-coded paths on paper. Students will also hone their fine motor skills as they practice precision when drawing these lines of code.	
Creative Crochet: A Beginner's Guide	Fall, Spring, or Both	Elective	Regular	<p>This fun and engaging crochet class is designed especially for students who want to learn the art of crochet! No experience is needed—just a love for creativity and hands-on crafting. Students will start with the basics, learning how to hold a crochet hook, make simple stitches, and follow beginner-friendly patterns. Through exciting projects like friendship bracelets, small plushies, and colorful coasters, participants will develop fine motor skills, patience, and creativity.</p> <p>What You'll Learn: Introduction to crochet tools and yarn, Basic stitches: chain, single crochet, and slip stitch, Simple pattern reading and following instructions, Creating fun and easy projects to take home, Building confidence in crafting and problem-solving</p> <p>Come stitch, create, and have fun!</p>	
Creative Innovators: A STEAM Adventure	Fall OR Spring	Science, Math, English Language Arts	Specialty	<p>STEAM Adventures is a dynamic and hands-on class where students explore the exciting worlds of Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics through engaging and creative projects. This course encourages critical thinking, problem-solving, and teamwork, while fostering a love for learning through fun, interactive experiments and challenges. Students will dive into the world of engineering design, scientific discovery, artistic creation, and mathematical exploration without the need for coding or robotics. The course emphasizes making connections between subjects and understanding how they work together in real-world applications.</p> <p>Each week, students will tackle a new challenge that integrates different STEAM principles, such as building structures, investigating scientific phenomena, designing art projects, and exploring mathematical concepts. The course is designed to ignite curiosity, inspire creativity, and develop the skills students need to become innovative thinkers.</p>	
Cultural Exploration and World History	Fall OR Spring	Social Studies	Regular	<p>This class will take students on a trip to explore the communities and cultures that exist in our world. Starting in Asia and working our way back around the globe to the USA we will discuss how the people live in different countries including their religion, customs, language, art, and food. Then we will look at the history that led to the vibrant society around us. Students will be encouraged to explore the different similarities and differences between the cultures and to use their critical thinking to assess how culture is created and passed down.</p> <p>Prerequisite skills: Students should be able to write at least a paragraph. Students should also have some knowledge of general geography and historical terms. For example # of continents, definition of democracy.</p>	Dedicated class folder, 3 different colored highlighters.

Cupcake Decorating	Fall, Spring, or Both	Elective	Specialty	In this sweet class, students will bake and decorate cupcakes in fun themes that would be the perfect addition to any cookout or party. Students do NOT need any prior decorating skills, but students should feel comfortable completing basic cooking tasks with adult guidance.	
Discovery Labs	Fall, Spring, or Both	Math, Science, English Language Arts	Regular	<p>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. Students will have the opportunity to engage in teacher-planned activities in each of our labs, in the content areas of Science, STEM, Math, Literacy, or in their own student-led projects. Each lab space is set up with activities and materials that students are free to use and explore. 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.</p> <p>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.</p>	
EASE 4-6	Fall, Spring, or Both	Elective	Specialty	Older students will explore art making that emphasizes a single medium meant to help grow and improve art skills while also learning about the different parts of the planet around us.	Sketchbook
Energy and Electricity	Fall OR Spring	Science	Regular	<p>In this hands-on science class, students will examine the way energy changes forms and affects everything around us, especially when it comes to electricity!</p> <p>Prerequisite skills: Reading, writing, basic math skills required.</p>	
Exploring America's National Parks: A Geography Adventure	Fall	Social Studies	Regular	<p>Embark on an exciting journey across the United States as we explore the breathtaking landscapes, diverse ecosystems, and rich history of America's national parks! In this interactive geography course, students will travel virtually to parks like Yellowstone, the Grand Canyon, the Great Smoky Mountains, and more.</p> <p>Through engaging activities, map studies, and hands-on projects, students will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Learn about the unique geography, climate, and wildlife of each park Discover the history and cultural significance of these protected lands Develop map-reading skills and explore how geography shapes ecosystems Participate in creative projects like park brochures, travel journals, and conservation challenges <p>By the end of the course, students will have a deeper appreciation for America's natural wonders and the importance of preserving them for future generations. Join us for this adventure into the wild!</p>	

Fundamentals of Electronics	Fall OR Spring	Science	Regular	<p>Electronics can feel like a complicated subject, but learning it through simple experiments makes it engaging and accessible for children. This class will build a foundation that will help kids understand more complex circuits in the future. Each experiment introduces children to the fundamentals of electronics while encouraging problem-solving and critical thinking. By learning about components like resistors, capacitors, transistors, and diodes, kids will gain confidence with the basic building blocks of electronics and develop skills that are valuable in both everyday life and future STEM learning.</p> <p>Prerequisite skills: Reading, writing, basic math skills required.</p>	
Fundamentals of Music	Spring	Elective	Regular	<p>This course introduces students to the basics of music through singing, rhythm games, movement, and creative play. Students will learn how to read basic notation, understand rhythm and pitch, and perform simple melodies using their voices and instruments.</p> <p>By the end of the course, students will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify notes on the treble staff • Understand note values and basic rhythms • Read and perform simple melodies • Appreciate music through active listening and participation 	
Graphic Novels 101	Fall OR Spring	English Language Arts	Regular	<p>Using the TOON Books series, students will explore the entertaining, yet powerful, genre of graphic novels by analyzing literary elements and practicing comic drawing skills. Activities include author/illustrator studies, drawing, reading selected texts, and making our own graphic novels and comics panels.</p> <p>This class is a repeat of the Graphic Novels class taught in the 2024/2025 School Year</p>	
Graphic Novels 201	Spring	English Language Arts	Regular	<p>Students will build on course content in Graphic Novels 101, diving deeper into literary elements while reading, writing, drawing more complex stories.</p> <p>Prerequisite: Graphic Novels 101, or previous Graphic Novels class taught by Laura Peleschak in 2024-2025</p>	
Hands on Equations	Fall OR Spring	Math	Regular	<p>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).</p>	
Intermediate Cooking	Fall OR Spring	Elective	Specialty	<p>Students who have either completed the Beginner Cooking class or who have prior cooking experience and feel pretty comfortable in the kitchen will be a good fit for this class. While the beginner class is teacher-guided every step of the way, this intermediate class is designed to allow students to move a little more at their own pace, rather than having to wait on the whole group to move on to each step. Because of this, students must have the ability to read a recipe independently. We will utilize a variety of kitchen skills to prepare and enjoy many different snacks, treats, and meals. Students will also practice individual responsibility by keeping their cooking stations tidy during the cooking process and by helping to clean at the end of the cooking time.</p>	Apron (optional)

Intro to Playwriting	Spring	English Language Arts	Regular	<p>This course is for students who enjoy writing stories. Playwriting has a strong ELA focus with emphasis on Plot and Character Development. The students will work both independently and in collaborative groups to create plays that some of our student actors will perform in a staged reading.</p> <p>Prerequisite skills: Upper Elementary Reading/Writing Level</p>	
Masters 1.0	Spring	Elective	Specialty	<p>Considered a meaningful and enriching introduction to art history, students will make art inspired by famous artists. Students will learn about famous master artists from history and the creative ideas we can learn from them.</p>	Sketchbook
Math Magician	Fall OR Spring	Math	Regular	<p>Welcome to Math Magician, where numbers, patterns, and logic come to life in the most magical ways! In this fun and engaging course, students will discover the enchanting world of mathematics through hands-on activities, puzzles, and tricks that reveal the hidden magic behind numbers. Whether you're learning to perform math "magic" tricks, exploring mathematical concepts, or solving mind-bending puzzles, you'll uncover the wonder and excitement that mathematics has to offer.</p>	pencil, compass, protractor
Performance Theater	Fall, Spring, or Both	English Language Arts	Regular	<p>This is for students who LOVE theater! Students will be developing their understanding of character development and story elements while also learning how to audition, rehearse and perform a full play. Every student is guaranteed a role. There will be a performance on the last day of class.</p> <p>Prerequisite skills: Reading Fundamentals Recommended</p>	
Persuasive Writing	Fall or Spring	English Language Arts	Regular	<p>Students will develop their persuasive writing skills by exploring a variety of topics from multiple perspectives, and using the writing process to craft essays that are focused, organized, and well elaborated, citing evidence to support their ideas. Students will also learn about the ways persuasive writing is utilized in both business and government, and will have opportunities for real life experiences writing for an authentic audience.</p> <p>Prerequisite skills: Students should be able to write at least 4-5 sentences at one time.</p>	Students will need access to a device for writing and research purposes.
Physical Education	Fall, Spring, or Both	Elective	Regular	<p>This class will teach body weight exercises, plyometrics, stretching and some high intensity training. Students will gain confidence and skill while learning new sports and games.</p>	Water bottle and appropriate attire
Real World Geometry	Spring	Math	Specialty	<p>In this class, students will learn the basics of geometry through hands-on projects and activities. Students will explore the ways geometry can be found in the world all around them, and the way it is used in everything we do! Each student will have the opportunity to put what they have learned into practice using real materials and tools to build a model structure that they will bring home at the end of the semester.</p>	
Sculpture Art	Fall	Elective	Specialty	<p>For all sculpture art enthusiasts! This class focuses on form as an art element and is all about constructing, sculpting and making 3D art. Students will also build drawing skills as they pre-plan their projects and designs.</p>	Sketchbook
Songwriting	Fall, Spring, or Both	English Language Arts	Regular	<p>Songwriting is a course designed to teach students how to effectively write lyrics. This class covers all popular genres of music. Students will learn to implement concepts such as Melody, Hooks, Notation, Music Reading, Cadence, Pocket, Delivery, Storytelling, Form and more. While this is a writing class it also doubles as a music class. Students will not only be learning new literary devices, but applying them through musical performance.</p>	

Spanish	Fall	Foreign Language	Regular	Students will learn a large amount of vocabulary that can be used in everyday life. We will also explore basic grammar rules, and learn idioms that can be applied to standard conversation.	
The Painted Past	Fall, Spring, or Both	Social Studies	Specialty	<p>Explore art throughout the ages, and make art inspired by specific time periods. Students will learn about why humans make art, and engage in meaningful discussions about specific art works.</p> <p>This class will be taught chronologically. Fall Semester: Prehistory, Ancient, Medieval, Renaissance, Baroque, and Realism. Spring Semester: Impressionism, Fauvism, Cubism, Surrealism, Abstract Impressionism, and Pop Art.</p>	
Theater Improv and Games	Fall, Spring, or Both	English Language Arts	Regular	This theater class will focus on building skills through games and improv. We will work on articulation, blocking, characterization and motives all while having fun. This class will not have a performance at the end of the semester.	
Vocab Quest: Exploring Roots and Affixes	Part B - Fall Part C - Spring	English Language Arts	Regular	<p>This class will explore common Greek and Latin roots in our English vocabulary, as well as common prefixes and suffixes. Students will learn to unlock the meaning of words based on an understanding of these various components. Activities will include word games, as well as compiling an interactive notebook throughout the semester. Study materials will be made available, should families wish to extend the word study activities to their at-home learning. *This class will have different content each semester, so students are welcome to take the class multiple times.</p> <p>Prerequisite skills: Reading skills at or above 3rd grade level</p>	Composition notebook

Navigators (Ages 13+)- Course Descriptions and Supply Lists

Enrichment Classes Only - [Hybrid classes below](#)

Class Name	Semester	Core Subject	Pricing	Description	Required Supplies
Anatomy and Physiology	Fall OR Spring	Science	Regular	This course provides an overview of the body's systems, how they work together to maintain health, and how external factors can affect body function. This course is intended to be a fun exploration of how our body works, not a typical senior level high school Anatomy and Physiology course. There will be lots of exploration and discovery to give every student a better understanding of how the human body works.	
Botany/ Dendrology	Fall OR Spring	Science	Regular	Did you know that plants literally make their body mass out of the air? It's true! There is so much more to plants than just pretty things we look at. Come learn how to recognize different plant/tree species, understand their role in ecosystems, and gain insight into the processes that govern their growth, reproduction, and survival.	
Coding and Robotics	Fall OR Spring	Science, Math	Specialty	In this class, students will utilize LEGO® Education SPIKE™ Prime materials and curriculum to stretch their problem solving and critical thinking skills as they explore a variety of STEM concepts and experiences. Materials will be provided for students to use within the classroom. No prior experience with coding or robotics are required. This class is a repeat class of the one taught in Spring 2025.	
Cooking Around the World	Fall, Spring, or Both	Social Studies	Specialty	This hands-on class will help students develop their cooking skills while exploring recipes that represent various cultures from around the world. Specific skills and techniques will vary based on the recipes that are selected. Students who have either completed another Homeschool Hub cooking class or who have prior cooking experience and feel pretty comfortable in the kitchen will be a good fit for this class. While this class is intended for our 13+ age group, some exceptions may be made if space remains in the class. Prerequisite skills: Students should be comfortable with basic cooking skills.	Apron (optional)
Cultural Exploration and World History	Fall OR Spring	Social Studies	Regular	This class will take students on a trip to explore the communities and cultures that exist in our world. Starting in Asia and working our way back around the globe to the USA we will discuss how the people live in different countries including their religion, customs, language, art, and food. Then we will look at the history that led to the vibrant society around us. Students will be encouraged to explore the different similarities and differences between the cultures and to use their critical thinking to assess how culture is created and passed down. Prerequisite skills: Students should be able to write at least a paragraph. Students should also have some knowledge of general geography and historical terms. For example # of continents, definition of democracy.	Dedicated class folder, 3 different colored highlighters.

Discovery Labs	Fall, Spring, or Both	Math, Science, English Language Arts	Regular	<p>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. Students will have the opportunity to engage in teacher-planned activities in each of our labs, in the content areas of Science, STEM, Math, Literacy, or in their own student-led projects. Each lab space is set up with activities and materials that students are free to use and explore. 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.</p> <p>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.</p>	
Dystopian Literature	Spring	English Language Arts	Regular	<p>In this course, students will explore the chilling world of dystopian literature through the lens of short fiction. From government overreach to technological nightmares and environmental ruin, dystopian short stories offer a powerful glimpse into societies gone wrong. Students will examine how authors create meaningful narratives, craft compelling characters, and deliver thought-provoking social commentary.</p> <p>Through discussions, analytical writing, and creative projects, students will explore key themes such as conformity, oppression, technology's role in society, and ethical dilemmas.</p> <p>By the end of the course, students will develop skills in literary/film analysis, critical thinking, and creative storytelling while considering how dystopian fiction reflects and critiques real-world issues.</p>	
Experimental Design	Fall	Science, Math	Regular	<p>In this project based class, students will learn to design experiments, test their experimental design, revise experimental design, take scientific data, display the data, analyze the data, write a report, and present the data. Skills will be presented in a gentle, introductory manner, with options to scaffold up. As a class, we will design one experiment together, and students will have at least one opportunity to design and implement an experiment as a small group. The culmination of this class would be a "Science Fair" type of atmosphere where students have the opportunity to display their work for others.</p> <p>Prerequisite skills: Middle School Writing Skills</p>	
Fiber Arts Exploration	Fall	Elective	Specialty	<p>In this class we will explore all types of fiber based creative work, such as weaving, felting, dyeing, sewing. We will use many different types of fibers, such as yarn, roving, fabric, paper. We will explore beading our own designs and printing on fabric. Only prerequisite skills are the excitement to be creative and the ability to be safe with tools such as sharp scissors.</p> <p>Prerequisite skills: Ability to be safe with tools such as sharp scissors.</p>	Decent pair of good scissors
Math Foundations	Fall or Spring	Math	Regular	<p>In this hands-on math class, students will deepen their understanding of the fundamental math concepts required for success in Algebra 1.</p> <p>This class is intended to be a refresher/extension class only, and we recommend our Hybrid Pre-Algebra class for any students needing a full year curriculum prior to Algebra 1.</p>	

Music Workshop	Fall OR Spring	Elective	Regular	In this class students will be introduced to a variety of musical topics including: basics of guitar, ukulele, piano, singing, ear training, theory, and improvisation. The amount of time spent on each topic and genres of music discussed will be determined based on student interest. Students are welcome but not required to bring their own instruments. This class is open to all aspiring musicians of any level!	
Novel Writing	Fall	English Language Arts	Regular	<p>This course is an exciting opportunity to learn the tools and techniques needed to build your world and craft a captivating narrative from start to finish. You will learn about the building blocks of storytelling, character development, creating compelling plots and conflicts, and honing your revision and editing skills. Additionally, you will explore different ways to showcase your writing and connect with other young authors. We will begin by having each student brainstorm an original story idea and then work together to go through each step of the writing process.</p> <p>Prerequisite skills: Students should be able to write several paragraphs at a time. It is suggested that they have completed at least one other writing course. Should have a good working knowledge of grammar and punctuation.</p>	Students will need to bring a device they can use to type daily.
Personal Finance	Fall OR Spring	Math	Regular	This course will prepare students for decisions they will make in the real world as they navigate their own personal finances. Class content will be based on the National Standards for Personal Finance Education.	
Persuasive Writing	Fall	English Language Arts	Regular	<p>Students will develop their persuasive writing skills by exploring a variety of topics from multiple perspectives, and using the writing process to craft essays that are focused, organized, and well elaborated, citing evidence to support their ideas. Students will also learn about the ways persuasive writing is utilized in both business and government, and will have opportunities for real life experiences writing for an authentic audience.</p> <p>Prerequisite skills: Students should be able to write at least 4-5 sentences at one time.</p>	Students will need access to a device for writing and research purposes.
Philosophy of Science	Fall OR Spring	Science, English Language Arts	Regular	<p>What is truth? How do we know? And why don't we all agree? This discussion-based course will include interesting case studies of scientific successes and disasters as well as *opportunities* to debate using the ideas of famous philosophers. We will use what we learn to make predictions and draw our own conclusions about ongoing scientific debates.</p> <p>Prerequisite skills: No previous science courses necessary. Students must be able to respectfully disagree with their classmates.</p>	1 inch 3 ring binder
Rap Theory	Fall, Spring, or Both	English Language Arts	Regular	Rap Theory is a class originally created to give rappers access to what music majors have had for years at the college and university level. Music Theory for rap artists. In this class we study and apply stylistic techniques used in rap verses such as Flow, Pocket, Delivery, Cadence, and Breath Control. Students also study and apply literary devices such as Rhyming, Assonance, Alliteration, Similes, Metaphors, Homophones and more. While this is a writing class it also doubles as a music class. Students will not only be learning new literary devices, but applying them through musical performance.	

Songwriting	Fall, Spring, or Both	English Language Arts	Regular	Songwriting is a course designed to teach students how to effectively write lyrics. This class covers all popular genres of music. Students will learn to implement concepts such as Melody, Hooks, Notation, Music Reading, Cadence, Pocket, Delivery, Storytelling, Form and more. While this is a writing class it also doubles as a music class. Students will not only be learning new literary devices, but applying them through musical performance.	
Statistics and Data Analysis	Spring	Math, Science	Regular	Increase your confidence in interpreting data and drawing meaningful conclusions. In addition to taking time to learn how to analyze common types of data presented to the public, we will also explore data collection, and how to represent data ourselves. We'll engage in project based learning where students collect, analyze, and interpret data to solve practical problems and present their findings. In addition, technology will be used as students will be working in Microsoft Excel in this class. By the end of the course, students will be able to confidently analyze data, identify meaningful patterns, and present their findings in clear, visually compelling formats. This course is designed to enhance critical thinking and problem-solving skills.	Computer with Microsoft Excel
Technical Theater	Fall, Spring, or Both	Elective	Specialty	This course will strongly focus on set construction and prop building. Using artistry and engineering, students will collaborate to create a safe and functional set for upcoming shows.	
Teen Art	Spring	Elective	Specialty	A process oriented fun art class to explore materials, mediums, art concepts, and artists and art around the world.	
Theater	Fall, Spring or Both	English Language Arts	Regular	Students will be developing their understanding of character development and story elements while also learning how to audition, rehearse and perform a full play. Every student is guaranteed a role. There will be a performance on the last day of class.	
Physical Education	Fall, Spring, or Both	Elective	Regular	This class will teach body weight exercises, plyometrics, stretching and some high intensity training. Students will gain confidence and skill while learning new sports and games.	Water bottle and appropriate attire
Writer's Workshop	Fall, Spring, or Both	English Language Arts	Regular	Want to dedicate time to creating short stories and poetry? Need help with an essay, even a college essay? This class is the place for fun, rich writing prompts, along with opportunities for feedback and time to work. Research shows that creative writing sharpens writing skills across the curriculum, so this class is time well spent. Opportunities to work alone and in small groups. Let's have a good time and enjoy the magic of words together.	Notebook Folder for handouts

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 are year-long and will meet during both Fall and Spring semesters.

These classes are hybrid, meaning they will have both an in-person component and additional required work outside of class, approximately 5 hours per class meeting. Students will be expected to keep up with their assignments, submit them on time, and communicate with their teachers through Canvas, our online learning platform. **All students must have use of a computer or tablet with internet access that they can use to access Canvas and electronic course resources.**

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. There is also a supervised study hall available before and after program on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

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 Descriptions

Class Name	Core Subject	Teacher	Description	Pre-requisites	Required Text/Supplies
Chemistry	Science	Laxmi Gokul Ram	Often students in chemistry classes get so bogged down in memorizing details and making calculations that they lose sight of the big picture; this course will focus on gaining a deep understanding of the fundamental principles of chemistry: matter; forces and interactions; energy; waves and radiation. In class, we will use inquiry-based activities and hands-on labs to learn chemistry the same way that real chemists work—by asking questions, collecting evidence and thinking like scientists. Outside of class, students will read, watch videos and complete activities to extend their knowledge and comprehension. Assessments will focus on analysis, application and higher-order thinking rather than regurgitation of facts, and the emphasis of the course will be on gaining a deep understanding of concepts while developing generalizable skills (teamwork, problem-solving, critical thinking, writing, and study skills).	Students should be able to solve basic algebraic equations.	Text: Living by Chemistry by A. Stacy, 2nd Edition Supplies: Laptop or tablet Bound composition notebook, Binder/folder Graph paper Pencils Calculator
Pre-Algebra	Math	Laurina Sigmon	Pre-Algebra is a foundational mathematics course designed to prepare high school students for success in Algebra and beyond. This course focuses on developing a deep understanding of key mathematical concepts and building problem-solving skills that are essential for future math courses. Students will learn to work with numbers, variables, and basic operations, while developing the ability to solve real-world problems using algebraic thinking.	addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, basic understandings of fractions and decimals.	
Spanish 1	Foreign Language	Chelsea Knapp	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.		Text: Avancemos workbook

World History	Social Studies	Nancy Walters	<p>The world is our oyster – let’s explore it together! We’ll examine major events and turning points in world history from ancient times to the present. Our chief aim will be developing critical thinking skills by studying multiple viewpoints of global events, analyzing primary sources, and asking questions. We’ll also work on geography through mapping exercises. Expect reading and writing assignments, as well building class community through weekly work in pairs and teams. You can count on this class as a space to embrace curiosity and investigate all corners of the globe.</p>		<p>Laptop/tablet Notebook Folder for handouts</p> <p>Textbook is OpenStax World History. Completely free online. Paper copies available for \$40 (black & white) or \$50 (color).</p> <p>https://openstax.org/k12/world-history#books</p>
World Literature: Reading & Writing Across Genres	English Language Arts	Nancy Walters	<p>Let’s cross the globe together! Through discussions and writing exercises, we’ll explore and respond to literature across continents and cultures. Students will read books, short stories, and poetry. Engaging and entertaining writing exercises will be part of every class, along with essay-length assignments in response to literature. Emphasis will be placed on growing as readers and writers and thinkers together, considering viewpoints from around the world. Expect both solo and group work and an environment of delight in the written word. We’ll read six class books (books provided to students) and two individual-choice books.</p> <p>Book list to be finalized. Books will be provided for student use during the year. Titles may include: Brunelleschi's Dome by King / Purple Hibiscus by Ngozi Adichie / I Am Malala by Yousafzai / The Book Thief by Zusak / In the Time of the Butterflies by Alvarez / Persepolis by Satrapi / Shipwrecks by Yoshimura / For Freedom: The Story of a French Spy by Brubaker Bradley</p>	Expect high school reading content, which will include complex themes, nuanced characters, mature language, real-world issues, and coming-of-age narratives.	<p>Notebook Folder for handouts</p>

Teacher Bios

Teacher Name	Bio
Aimee Walker	Aimee Walker received her BFA in Fiber Arts, taught art to children, and taught preschool, before homeschooling her own children for the last 19 years. When Aimee isn't coaching her son's robotics team, she is busy creating and sewing art quilts and working on a mixed media collaboration with another artist. Aimee believes everyone is creative and should have the opportunity to make art that feels good to them.
Angela Mickler	I am a graduate of Clemson University and have taught middle and high school math at both public and private schools. I also tutored many levels of math and worked as a substitute teacher. I have two middle school aged boys that I homeschooled during Covid. It was a great experience and I am so excited to have the chance to participate in the homeschool co-op at the YMCA. I enjoy learning all sorts of things and hope to help my students cultivate a love of learning as well. Some of my interests and hobbies include spending time with friends and family, health and fitness, reading, cooking, and exploring new places.
Anita Hayes	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.
Annie Polashock	Annie Polashock has a Bachelor's Degree in Middle Grades Education from East Carolina University and a Bachelor's Degree in Data Analytics from Southern New Hampshire University. She has taught middle and high school Mathematics for 11 years. Some of her hobbies include: birding, soccer, dancing, and walking. Annie believes that everyone can learn Mathematics and make it fun too!
Cameron Tripp	Cameron Tripp is a professional musician, recording artist, songwriter and teacher with a performing career of over 13 years. He studied trumpet performance at North Carolina Central University and has taught applied trumpet lessons with children at all levels for over a decade. Cameron is also a personal trainer and basketball coach for Eastern Guilford Middle School Girls Basketball Team. In his spare time this teacher enjoys spending time with his family, cooking, writing, playing videos games, watching anime and going outside to break a sweat.
Chelsea Knapp	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	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.
Holly Tewell	<p>Holly Tewell is a veteran teacher with over 25 years of experience working with a wide range of learners in both homeschool and traditional school settings. She thrives in environments where curiosity and creativity steer the learning process, allow for maximum engagement, and promote student ownership. In addition to teaching, Holly developed curriculum in the areas of Social Health, Science, Writing, and Executive Functioning Skills for elementary up through college level to meet the needs of unique educational settings. Inspired by struggling learners and the desire to foster a growth mindset, she also earned a masters in Applied Developmental Psychology, enhancing her work with more neurodivergent learners and those with mental health challenges. She believes in valuing all students and providing opportunities to foster their confidence and character growth.</p> <p>Holly is the mother of four grown children and the wife of a retired military service member. After 27 years of moving all over the country and abroad, she is thrilled to settle in Cary, NC and share her love of learning with the YMCA homeschool community.</p>

Jagriti Sachania	Mrs. Sachania began her passion for education at a private elementary school as a math teacher in 1993. She continued on to volunteer and tutor students in the same public school that her two children were attending at the time. Most recently, Mrs. Sachania joined the Y learning program as a site coordinator. She loves to see the excitement on her students' faces when they have a breakthrough learning moment. Outside of teaching, she enjoys gardening, reading, traveling, and spending time with her family. Mrs. Sachania is eagerly looking forward to getting to know your students, collaborating with them, and crafting a year full of fun and memorable experiences that foster both growth and enjoyment!
Janny Frazier	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.
Jason Foster	My daughters currently go to the Home School Hub and love it! I have been teaching or coaching my whole life. I graduated from college with a B.S. in ELED and a minor in Coaching. I started my career as a Professional Club Swim Coach and did that for 7 years, the last 2 as the Head Age Group Coach for RSA (12&U). After that I spent 4 years teaching 3rd Grade at Thales Academy in Apex. Finally, I was a stay at home Dad and the primary parent for my kids for the last 9 years. During that time I also coached our summer swim team the Amberly Anacondas for 8 seasons. Excited to work with kids again!
Kasey Davidson	My name is Kasey Davidson. I completed my BA at St. Andrews University, in Laurinberg, NC in educational psychology. I love learning and learning how others learn! When I'm not teaching at the homeschool hub, you can find me serving my community as a medical assistant for a physician in Cary! The medical field is near and dear to me and I have been working in this field for 14 years. In my free time, you can find me at one of the local parks or museums with my 2 kids, walking one of my dogs or at the barn with my horse. I am looking forward to meeting new faces and an exciting semester!
Kemai McClain	Kemai McClain is a recent transplant to North Carolina, originally from Cleveland, Ohio. She studied psychology at Howard University and has worked in youth enrichment, literacy, and education for over 10 years. She also has extensive experience in behavioral intervention and crisis management for students. Her passion is inspiring youth to explore the world around them and empowering them to advocate for the world they would like to see. She is a self-described bookworm and museum hopper. When she isn't working with youth she spends her free time watching anime, trying new recipes, crafting, watching plays, and exploring North Carolina's many trails with her family.
Laura Waddey	Laura Waddey has been teaching and learning with children since 2005 as an early childhood educator and then as a homeschooling mom. Laura's love of nature and science inspired her to major in Biology at Mount Holyoke College. After college, her passion for working with young children led her to work in the field of early childhood education as a teacher and then as a certified director. Laura enjoys gardening, hiking and camping, painting, cooking, and spending time with family. She believes that all children are natural born scientists, artists, and inventors and that we only need to provide them with the right environment and care to thrive.
Laura Peleschak	Laura Peleschak has a BFA in Visual Communications and an MS in Early Child Development. She worked in family programming for the Chicago Children's Museum and the Art Institute of Chicago. She also consulted and conducted research in Chicago Public Schools, Head Start Programs, and private early childcare settings. She paused her professional work to raise her two children, who have always been homeschooled. She enjoys reading, writing, art, North Carolina outdoors, visiting libraries, and spending time with her husband and children.
Lauren Johnson	Lauren Johnson has a Master's in Special Education and a BS in Family and Child Development. She worked as a special education teacher until she became a mom and started homeschooling. Lauren has studied/competed in all forms of dance. A few of her experiences include Governor's School for the Performing Arts, Virginia Tech dance team and dance company, and choreographer for numerous theaters in the Nashville area.

Laurina Sigmon	Laurina Sigmon specializes in teaching science and math courses for late elementary to high school students. She has taught in various settings across NC, including the public schools, environmental education centers, and homeschool environments. She has a BS in Biology and an MS in Zoology with primary studies focusing on environmental education. Laurina's favorite ways to teach include experiential learning and gameschooling. She also spends her free time reading up on educating those with learning differences - particularly autism and dyslexia. Laurina has homeschooled for ten years and just graduated her eldest. She gets most passionate when discussing with others strategies for homeschooling your neurodiverse middle and high schoolers.
Laxmi Priya	I am an experienced educator with a Bachelor's degree in Electrical and Electronics Engineering and a Master's degree in Power System Engineering. I have worked as a lecturer in engineering colleges, where I taught undergraduate students, fostering a deep understanding of technical concepts and a passion for learning. Additionally, I have experience working in a preschool setting, where I developed my skills in early childhood education and created a nurturing environment for young learners.
Marlene Mitaly	Coming Soon!
Meg Stone	Meg Stone is a Florida native who transplanted to the Triangle in 2021. 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 joined the Homeschool Hub in the spring of 2022 and enjoys teaching classes here 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 Runion	Megan is a National Board Certified teacher with 11 years of experience teaching upper elementary school in public schools. 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.
Nancy Walters	Nancy Walters emphasizes fun and delight in her teaching. She previously worked in public relations at the NC Museum of Natural Sciences and currently works as an editor and writer for a small marketing company. She taught literature and writing to a small group of homeschool students for more than five years, growing as a guide as the kids grew as readers and writers. Nancy homeschooled her two children through high school and believes deeply in the freedom and wonder of homeschooling. She has a BA in English from the University of New Hampshire and an MA in museum studies from NCSU. If you're in a hurry, do not ask Nancy about her dog Hazel – she will go on and on and only embarrass herself.
Princess Bernard-Oti	Hi, my name is Princess. I grew up in Cary, NC, and attended Cary Academy before earning my Bachelor of Arts in Sport Business Management and Sports Medicine/Exercise Physiology from Rice University in Houston, TX. While at Rice, I worked with the women's basketball team throughout my college career and supported the swim team as part of the sports medicine staff. Beyond my passion for sports, I have a strong love for teaching and inspiring curiosity in others. I have taught and mentored students in programs ranging from English as a Second Language to math and reading enrichment, working with learners of all ages and backgrounds. I enjoy creating engaging lessons, encouraging exploration, and helping students discover new ways to expand their knowledge.
Stephanie Curri	I am a proud toddler mom and a life-long lover of all things music! I began taking piano lessons at the age of five and started teaching the little kids in my neighborhood at age fourteen. In high school I had the opportunity to play with a classical guitar ensemble and perform in many music festivals in our home state and New York. After taking many courses in music technology, music composition (classical and pop), music theory, and classical guitar, I began teaching more advanced students and broadened my course offerings to include AP Music Theory prep, audition prep, and classical guitar. I also have experience performing and

	composing choral music. In my free time I am finishing my bachelor's degree in STS with a concentration in Biochemistry at NC State University while trying to convince my two-year-old that the piano is the most fun toy ever!
Tabitha Gowland	Tabitha Gowland has a BA in English and a Master's Degree in Teaching Secondary English. She has worked as a high school and middle school English teacher for 12 years before leaving public education to homeschool her own children (all students at the Homeschool Hub). What she loved most about the classroom was sharing her love of literature and inspiring students to find their own voice in writing. She enjoys reading, hiking with her two dogs, baking, crocheting, and playing board games with her family.

Policies and Procedures

Registration Policies

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 changes and withdrawals will result in the loss of the \$25 deposit/administrative fee paid at registration.** Please be mindful of this when registering. Transfers that take place due to a waitlist spot opening or a canceled class will not be charged an additional administrative fee.

Using ESA + Funding

If your child is an NCSEAA grant recipient, the YMCA of the Triangle is 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 cancellation of a class please contact customer service at 919-719-9622 or Customer.Service@ymcatriangle.org

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 ages 6+ 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. Explorers will have a separate list to keep things easier for your youngest students.

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

Students who will be participating in Lunch/Recess 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.

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

Students who are 13 years old or older and who plan to remain on the NWC Y Site after program ends must 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.

Volunteers/Visitors

Y Programs do not allow for parent observation or participation, except in rare circumstances when there is a documented student medical need.

Occasionally volunteer opportunities are available. In these cases, all volunteers must register as a volunteer with the Y. Volunteers must receive a background check and complete student safety training prior to volunteering.

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.

While we aim to be as inclusive as possible within our classes and we are able to provide some accommodations, students must be able to adhere to our behavior expectations and participate in each class as they are explained in the class descriptions. We provide a variety of teacher-led and student-led environments so that we are able to match students to the appropriate environment for their current needs. Not all classes will be appropriate for all students.

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

Homeschool Lead Teachers - Megan Runion Megan.Runion@YMCATriangle.org
Jennifer Walski Jennifer.Walski@YMCATriangle.org

Financial Assistance:

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

	Fall Semester	Spring Semester
Monday/Wednesday P1 - 9:00-9:55		
Monday/Wednesday P2 - 10:00-10:55		
Monday/Wednesday P3 - 12:00-12:55		
Monday/Wednesday P4 - 1:00-1:55		
Tuesday AM 9:00-10:55		
Tuesday PM 12:00-1:55		
Thursday AM 9:00-10:55		
Thursday PM 12:00-1:55		