SPRINGS LEARNING CENTERS

Cherry Valley, Corona, Del Rio, Enterprise, Hemet, Otay Ranch, Rancho Cucamonga, Riverside, Santa Ana & Vista

BACK TO THE CLASS ROOM

GETTING BACK IS JUST THE BEGINNING

LEARNING CENTERS

SPRINGS CHARTER SCHOOLS

2021-22

TK & Kindergarten - 8th Grade LC Classes

Class	Class Description
Acting & Improv	Talent is reflected in a variety of art forms. Some dream of acting on the “big screen” and others want to build their self-confidence and engage an audience by public speaking. In Acting and Improv you learn how to act for close-ups, deliver a speech or play a character, and address your audience as you learn how to become believable actors. As an actor, we will video your plays and critique your performances. Improv is where you learn to develop both comedic and dramatic characters in detail, gain skills on how to be spontaneous while staying focused and in character. And all the while, having fun! By the end of the year, your student will have improved in their overall confidence, learned how to engage an audience, and be exposed to the performing arts - a valuable tool for high school, college, and beyond!
Animal Kingdom	Students will learn to categorize, organize and classify animals as they move from habitat to habitat in the Animal Kingdom. From the Arctic to the Rainforest, students will explore what makes some species unique and extraordinary. Through engaging interdisciplinary stategies, including reading, writing, science, math, movement and crafts, this class will encourage questions, discovery, and imagination. Students will learn through virtual field trips, experiments, observation and collective inquisitiveness.
Art with a Twist	Are you ready to try something new? In this class, students will engage in traditional art as well as explore textile and fabric art forms including stitch work, weaving, and many other mediums! Discover art through the world of nature. We will take a walk outside to collect rocks, flower pedals, leaves, and other natural fibers. Students will have the chance to bring home tiny tapestries of their own design, wonderful works of weaving, and even some fantastic felt fabrications. Though every class will be a little different based on students interests and grade levels, projects and activities will broaden their dexterity skills and may include crochet, knitting, string art, felting, even fabric dye and design. Each project will be personalized by your student to fit their style and personality. This is a great opportunity to strengthen skills in traditional art as well as develop new life skills that could even become lifelong hobbies! Many classes may also draw & paint throughout the year as time allows. Come enjoy making art... with a twist!
Computer Science Robot	Computer Science Robot is a class full of learning and fun! Students will learn coding with a twist of creativity. They will be immersed in design-based learning that emphasizes design, personalization, collaboration, and reflection. The activities in this class are designed to explore computational thinking concepts such as sequence and loops, practices such as testing and debugging, and perspectives through questioning. Students will create and program interactive games, art, activities, and even an EV3 robot with block-based coding in development environments such as Scratch and/or an EV3 Mindstorm app. Block-based coding utilizes a drag-and-drop learning environment, where programmers use coding instruction “blocks” to construct programs. It's a kid-friendly activity, where students can gain a foundation in computational thinking through visuals as opposed to coding that is based in text. Students will enjoy showcasing their skills and sharing their creations with their friends and family. Who knew that technology could be so fun?! **Students in grades 3-8 taking this class will be required to bring his or her school issued Chromebook to class every week.**
Games of Strategy	Games of Strategy can build valuable thinking skills. One of the most effective ways to learn these skills is through an immediate and authentic experience that leaves the student wanting more. Game-playing is the perfect example of such an experience because it is entertaining and engaging and it promotes student involvement. Games provide an opportunity for reflective and logical thinking, planning, problem-solving and decision making. Students will also develop the life skills of cooperation, coping and dealing with mistakes, and being resilient, while engaging in friendly competition. In this class we will be introducing Chess and various other games such as The Settlers of Catan, Mancala, Mastermind, Pandemic and Ticket to Ride. Students may also do a project where they create their own game.
Garden Science	This class is just not about gardening but includes opportunities to learn and grow by engaging kids' natural curiosity and wonder. Students will learn the roles of pollinators and decomposers, the plant - soil relationship and many more aspects of botany, horticulture and agriculture. Using kidsgardening.org we will think creatively and use activities to get students interacting with their environment and how, through gardening, they can connect with nature. An added bonus for students will be taking pride in beautifying the campus they attend.
Getting Back to ART!	Art is a way for individuals to express their creativity, use their imagination, communicate with others, and have a blast! In Getting Back to Art we will be returning to the basic art techniques, styles, color theories, and various mediums, which are the building blocks that will provide a solid foundation for future artists. Students will discover art styles and artists from the past as well as learn about the modern art and artists of today. An emphasis on drawing and painting techniques and creating art will be incoporated while students strengthen their basic art skills.

I CAN Math	Master the I CANs in a fun group setting! This class is an approved Math Path option that includes **ALL** textbooks (Ready Classroom) and supplemental materials for your math curriculum for the school year. The structure and requirements of the program are in place to help each student succeed! A highly qualified, credentialed teacher will plan the lessons and teach this course using a variety of strategies that will be personalized for every learner. There will be several components to the class, including textbook lessons, interactive small group instruction, supported independent practice, hands-on centers, and an online math component called iReady (included). ***Students will be expected to complete 90 minutes of structured math assignments on the additional three home days each week guided by parents, which includes personalized practice with iReady. Students are expected to attend class two days per week on a regular basis. Teacher, ES, parent, and student, will be required to sign the I CAN Math Roles & Responsibilities form.*** Assignments and assessments will be done by the I Can Math Teacher instead of the ES. Parents are expected to be facilitating the lessons on home study days, making sure students complete their assignments and understand the concepts. The I CAN Math teacher is available by phone or email to help support both the parent and student at home. It's a wonderful partnership! ***Students taking this class will be required to bring his or her school issued Chromebook and Math textbook to class each day they attend. Also, students in this class will be required to take their (3) Milestone math assessments and iReady diagnostics onsite in this class. Both Part 1 and Part 2 must be purchased and attended to be enrolled in this class.***
Imagineering ~ Discovering Disney	Explore the creative, musical and scientific side of Disney Magic! In this class we will hear from Disney's Imagineers around the world who share how they use a wide range of skills – from story development and conceptual design, to math, physics and engineering – that all come together with art and music to create immersive experiences. This class will also include the Imagineering in a Box curriculum that was designed by Pixar, and allows students to explore different aspects of theme park design, from characters to ride development, as they design a theme park of their very own. Students will have the opportunity to use their creativity and have fun as we see what it takes to create the Happiest Place on Earth!
Leadership & Yearbook	Leadership is a quality that can be developed, and we're proud that this class will provide students with skills and confidence as they seek to become leaders in their school. Students may do community outreach and share in class, plan and carryout fundraising events, plan spirit days for their Learning Center, and work on specialized programs like the school yearbook. Students will embark on challenging activities and team building games that will bond and motivate this leadership group. Some classes are divided into two sections: leadership and yearbook. In yearbook, students gather photos to represent learning center memories that are collected and artistically applied to the yearbook pages through the yearbook program. Some yearbooks will be a hard copy book and some will be digital. ***Students taking this class will be required to bring his or her school issued Chromebook to class every week.**
Leap into Literature	Leap right in as we explore various types of literature that inspire, as well as get students thinking, by engaging in a combination of chapter books, shorter story/picture books and poetry to read aloud. Throughout the year students will participate in cross-curricular activities with grammar, writing, crafts, history, math, geography or science. Students will internalize ideas, practice reading skills, discuss literary elements, analyze story structure, and learn from characters. They will engage in hands-on activities and may expand their understanding through literature circles, novel studies and readers theater, which will allow them to dive deeper into books and poetry. Come read with us! **Students in grades 3-8 taking this class will be required to bring his or her school issued Chromebook to class every week.**
Let's Get Moving!	Let's Get Moving is a class to jump up and down about! Did you know you have more than 600 muscles in your body? They do everything from pumping blood throughout your body to helping you lift your heavy backpack. You control some of your muscles, while others — like your heart — do their jobs without you thinking about them at all. What do athletes do to strengthen and also protect the muscles that make them excel at their sport? In this class we will look at your muscles, their function and how they keep your body moving. Join in the fun as we flex, stretch, contract and move our muscles throughout the day. Some, but not all, of our learning center days will include activities that use our muscles such as as basketball and yoga. On your mark, get set, let's get moving together!
Magic School Bus Science	Seatbelts, Everyone! Are you ready to hop on the bus and explore our wonderful world through the eyes of Mrs. Frizzle and her amazing students? In this course we will use the Magic School Bus books and episodes to go on amazing scientific adventures within our classrooms. Engaging in hands-on experiments, while students learn how to record their own results and conclusions just like a real scientist! Each class day we will explore something new with activities, science projects, or crafts based on the book or episode of the day. However, whether we are planting seeds, exploring the solar system, or learning about the cells of the human body, we will always take an adventure in the exciting world of science!
Math Power	This class provides teacher support of foundational math skills as a supplement to their current math curriculum, in order to support mastery of the Math I CANs! Teachers will provide interactive small group instruction, supported independent practice, and fun hands-on centers. Teachers will also support students in gaining confidence in the math foundational algorithms, vocabulary, and fluency facts needed for math success. Math Power meets learners at their level, helps them problem solve, and keeps them motivated to continue their progress. **This class does not provide a curriculum.** **This class meets one time per week and is not intended to be a full math course.**
Math Fun & Games	Join us as we navigate the exciting world of math! The goal of this class is to make learning math FUN! Each week we will learn new math skills that will increase the students level of understanding in a fun, hands-on way, as they develop a fluency in recognizing and communicating numbers. In class we will use the world around us to find patterns and teach shapes, as well as problem solve, create symmetry, and make connections. Students will use games, crafts, hands-on activities and teamwork to foster mastery of the I CANs and grade level concepts as they dive into the fun and challenging math world!
Musical Moments	Can you feel the music? Musical moments will give students the opportunity to explore music in a variety of ways! Students will hear and appreciate music in different eras and genres and train their ears to hear music in new ways. They will learn songs, practice rhythms and possibly even add choreography! If possible, students may prepare live or recorded performances. Students may be able to interact with basic instruments, depending on the class and availability. Come make music with us!
Musical Theater	We cordially invite you to the Musical Theater workshop! Here we will choose big and fun musical numbers in which your students will enjoy performing time and time again after successfully memorizing lines, songs & choreography. In this class students will fall in love with music and movement, recreating the classic and well loved musicals we all know. Parent participation is key in this workshop as students benefit greatly from practicing with parents at home, as well as parent volunteers who are needed during the year-end show season! Our gifted teachers bring out the best in our students ~ many of whom who have had never performed before and now have a new talent and appreciation for the stage. Come and join us as we begin a whole new season of creativity! **PLEASE NOTE this is a performance class in which all students will be expected to participate. Attendance and arriving on time to class play an important part in supporting the production and your fellow actors. Students should expect to spend at least one hour per day at home memorizing lines, music and blocking. Up to 4 after school rehearsals are required and students will be expected to be in the evening performance.**

Reader's Theater	What is Reader's Theater? Reader's theater is a style of theater in which the actors present dramatic readings of narrative material without costumes, props, scenery, or special lighting. Actors use only vocal expression to help the audience understand the story. Reader's Theater is a dramatic presentation of a written work in a script form. It's goal is to enhance students' reading skills and confidence by having them practice reading with a purpose. Reader's Theater gives students a real reason to read aloud. Reader's Theater is a great way to improve fluency in a fun way and help build the skills of public speaking and learning to work with others, as students "perform" by reading scripts created from grade-level books or stories.
Reading with Friends	Let's read together! Come celebrate the captivating world of children's literature! We will read books written by a variety of authors. Students will journey together with lovable characters as they engage in the reading, writing, listening, and speaking elements of language arts. As students listen to stories unfolding, they will embrace friendship, kindness, adventure and creativity while learning important social skills and character traits. Fun group activities and art often accompany the wonderful books read in this class.
Skills for Life	With technology taking over, some basic life skills can fall through the cracks. We will introduce students to different life skills that they should know or learn, but that are not always taught in a traditional classroom. Students in younger classes will enjoy hands-on learning such as addressing an envelope, following a simple recipe, and making change. Students in older classes may learn about personal finance, etiquette, health and wellness, survival skills, handicrafts, taxes, interest and mortgages - depending on age and student interests. Students will practice problem-solving and character building exercises and will collaborate and work in teams, become critical thinkers, problem solvers, and be flexible and adaptable while being creative and imaginative. **Students in grades 3-8 taking this class will be required to bring his or her school issued Chromebook to class every week.**
Space Exploration	Space. The final frontier… or is it? The study of space is a field of study that is nearly limitless. Scientists continually discover new and amazing things in the “great beyond." In this class students will have the opportunity to explore Space, Earth, Planets, and the Universe around us. We will journey into the topics of astronomy, space technology, space travel and the history of space exploration. This includes learning about space flight, space vehicles and how space exploration affects our daily lives. Students will engage in hands-on activities making various pictures and models that will assist in bringing their space exploration learning to life.
Storybook Art	Let’s read and make art! Join us as we explore the world of art making through the illustrations of books. Each exciting art piece will be inspired by an element of a storybook that we read together in class each week. Students will receive quality art instruction while working with a wide variety of art materials (paint, oil pastel, watercolor, etc.) and methods. Be prepared for hands-on fun each week as we discover how wonderful creating art can be when it tells a story!
Travel the Globe	Pack your bags and get ready as we Travel the Globe! In this class, we'll not only learn about other places, countries and cultures, but the process of traveling. How would we prepare for travel and how has the pandemic changed travel around the world? Older students will learn about how passports are issued and how countries cooperate with each other to allow Global Entry. And even our younger students will love activities that revolve around the many ways we can travel and the planning involved. When we get to our destinations we will learn about these unique places by looking at how they celebrate holidays, the language they speak, the unique landmarks to see and we will also learn about their games, music, sports, crafts, and more. Join us as we travel around the globe and open our minds and hearts to the splendor of other lands and cultures. Come enjoy the journey, the simple act of traveling!
Write (and print) a Book!	Is your child a budding Author? Writing a book can be easier than you think! Everyone has a story to tell and in this class we will go through the steps of the writing process from brainstorming, drafting, revising, editing, and publishing. Students will have fun activities that focus on narrative writing and how to make their words create visuals that dance in the mind of the reader. We will also explore the various children's online publishers who have made it easy to create a book. Students will feel the excitement of publishing their own books and becoming young authors!
Write into the Future	Write into the Future will inspire your children to create informational articles, powerful persuasive pieces, engaging narratives and more using traditional paper and pencil along with 21st Century digital tools. They will learn the skills needed to organize their thoughts and ideas into powerful, dynamic written works. With a variety of strategies and fun small-group and hands-on techniques, teachers will meet students at their current writing level and give individual feedback to help them improve. Students of all ages can benefit from gaining writing skills to make them stronger, more confident communicators as we prepare them for the future!
Zany Zoologist	Are you crazy about Zoo animals? Let's go to the zoo! Join this Zany Zoologist class where we will take virtual zoo field trips and have the opportunity to watch real zoo animals via their animal cameras. By using books, videos and hands-on activities we will look at the main branches of the animal kingdom including mammals, reptiles, amphibians, birds, as well as others and will study animal characteristics, habitats, behaviors, diets.
Zoophonics	All Children Love the Zoo! Zoo-phonics® is a method developed to make children strong readers and spellers using a “phono” (hearing), “oral” (speaking), “visual” (seeing), “kinesthetic” (moving), and tactile (touching)—whole brain approach. Students actually learn the sounds of the alphabet and advanced phonemic concepts through an easily understood, concrete method of presentation. Zoo-phonics® uses animals drawn in the shapes of the letters for ease in memory. A related body movement is given for each letter. This concrete approach cements the sounds to the shapes of the letters. Zoo-phonics is an effective and developmentally appropriate way to teach phonemic awareness and it's FUN!

High School LC Classes

Class	OPT	Class Description
Algebra 1		This is a first year algebra course in which students will learn to reason symbolically. Content involves writing, solving, and graphing linear and quadratic equations, including systems of two linear equations in two unknowns. Quadratic equations are solved by factoring, completing the square, graphically, or by application of the quadratic formula. Study of monomial and polynomial expressions, inequalities, exponents, functions, rational expressions, ratio, and proportion are included. Algebraic skills are applied in a wide variety of problem-solving situations. Students will be involved in writing, solving, and graphing linear and quadratic equations, including systems of two linear equations in two unknowns. Quadratic equations will be solved by factoring, completing the square, graphically, or by application of the quadratic formula. Students will study monomial and polynomial expressions, inequalities, exponents, functions, rational expressions, ratio, and proportion. They will apply algebraic skills in a wide variety of problem-solving situations.

Algebra 1	**Springboard to Algebra 1**	This Opt will allow students time for reveiw of concepts from the previous year and to prepare to move forward in the course.
	Excuse Me, Do I Have to Repeat Myself?	This opt will explore searching for patterns. The following topics will be covered: Quantities and Relationships: Students will recognize that different function families have different key characteristics. Sequences: Students move from an intuitive understanding of patterns to a more formal approach of representing sequences as functions. Linear Regressions: Students will focus on patterns that are evident in certain data sets and use linear functions to model those patterns.
	Change It Up	This opt will explore constant change. The following topics will be covered: Linear Functions: Students connect arithmetic sequences to linear functions. Students examine the structure of equations representing functions and compare the graphs to determine what their differences indicate about the functions and the scenarios they model. Solving Linear Equations and Inequalities: Students use the Properties of Equality to justify the steps to solve one-variable equations. They examine and compare the structure of equations that have one, zero, and infinitely many solutions. Systems of Equations and Inequalities: Students build on their current tools for solving systems of equations. Students analyze the structure of equations to select an efficient method to solve. Functions Derived from Linear Relationships: Students connect the absolute value of a number to the absolute value of a function. Students extend their understanding of transforming linear functions to transform absolute value functions.
	Data Jam and Decay	This opt will explore investigating growth and decay. The following topics will be covered: Introduction to Exponential Functions: Students recall geometric sequences and explore their graphs. They learn that some geometric sequences belong to the exponential function family. Students expand their experiences with function transformations. Using Exponential Equations: Students use exponential equations to solve problems. Students then solve real-world problems that can be modeled by exponential functions. One-Variable Statistics: Students identify key characteristics of exponential functions from a sequence, function, table, graph, or scenario. Two-Variable Categorical Data: Students compare linear and exponential functions. They use exponential functions in different forms to recognize exponential growth or decay, calculate and interpret average rate of change, and make comparisons.
	How are your Quads?	This opt will explore maximizing and minimizing. The following topics will be covered: Introduction to Quadratic Functions: Students explore the structure of quadratic functions through four real-world situations. They learn key characteristics of quadratic functions through explorations with their graphs and equations. Solving Quadratic Equations: Students begin by solving simple quadratic equations with the tools they used in middle school. They use these tools to solve increasingly complex quadratic equations. Students are provided multiple opportunities to solve quadratic equations using efficient methods.
Algebra 2		Algebra 2 This is the final course in the high school three course Math series. This mastery-based class will blend at home online education with hands-on face to face to interaction. Students will build on their Algebra 1 and Geometry experience. They will explore analyzing patterns, composing and decomposing functions, polynomial functions, factors and zeros, polynomial models, rational functions, radical functions, exponential and logarithmic functions and equations, growth modeling, trigonometric relationships and equations, interpreting data in normal distributions, making inferences and justifying conclusions.
Chemistry		Chemistry counts toward the Physical Science requirement for graduation. This course engages students in the study of the composition, properties, changes, and interactions of matter. The course covers the basic concepts of chemistry and includes laboratory experiments that encourage higher-order thinking applications. The components of this course include the composition and properties of matter, organic chemistry, changes and interactions of matter, and nuclear chemistry. Throughout the course, students solve problems, reason abstractly, and learn to think critically. The course uses the processes of looking at research and investigation to make claims, provide evidence, and reason to come to conclusions about scientific phenomena. While taking this class, students will be able to connect chemical concepts to climate change, weather phenomena, and forensics in a practical manner.
Chemistry	**Who's the Guilty Party?**	How are modern crimes solved? How do we use Chemistry to investigate crimes, even those that may have been committed decades ago? Things you have seen on television and movies, will now be the "real" science behind forensics
	Life In the Balance: Why are the Oysters Disappearing	A study in climate change and ocean acidification How are man's actions disrupting the carbon cycle and how does this have far reaching effects even on ocean organisms? What can be done to reduce carbon emissions and slow climate change? How do chemical principles of acids and bases help give explanations and solutions to the problems?
	How Does a Small Spark Trigger a Huge Explosion?	Looking at the phenomena of how a small model of electrostatic interactions incorporate the relationship between electric potential energy and electric forces. In particular, the unit focuses on the electrostatic attractions and energy conversions involved in the formation of molecules (chemical reactions).
	Why Do Some Things Get Colder or Hotter When They React?	Students investigate why some substances absorb heat when they react, while others release it. Students first solve the mystery of where energy goes in endothermic reactions by examining salt dissolution and using magnets as models for bonds. They then expand their investigations to look into where the energy comes from in exothermic reactions. The model they continue to develop with magnets helps students account for why breaking bonds absorbs energy from the surroundings while forming bonds releases energy into the surroundings. The end of the unit naturally motivates a new question to pursue in future units, "Why are some types of particles more attracted to one another than others?"
	Hurricanes and Superstorms: Weather Out of Control!	Using proof to show how atmospheric chemistry in one part of the world can affect the world climate everywhere. How does the heating up of the atmosphere cause superstorms to be produced. This may be the world of the future because of a buildup of carbon dioxide.
	Why do Some Clothes Stick Together	Why do some clothes stick together when they come out of the dryer? Students develop a model of electric interactions to explain electrostatic phenomena. To develop and revise their models, students collect evidence related to how charged objects interact with other objects. They develop a particulate model of materials and a model of atomic structure to start building an understanding of the mechanism of charging objects.

English 1 & 2		English 1 and 2 are rigorous courses designed to master Common Core State Standards. The courses include a scaffolded approach to writing, including frequent informal and formal writing opportunities, utilizing the writing process from prewriting to final product. Students will write essays in a variety of rhetorical modes including narrative, explanatory, and argumentative writing and develop research writing skills. Students will be exposed to classic and modern literature such as short stories, full length fiction and non-fiction novels, expository essays, memoirs, poetry, drama, and speeches. Students will be provided opportunities to read texts from different cultural perspectives and points of view and to make inferences, ask questions and discuss what they read. Students will develop and practice their speaking and active listening skills through giving presentations and orally communicating ideas to an audience during collaborative discussions to gain appreciation for differing perspectives.
English 1 & 2	**Surviving the Unimaginable**	For this OPT, you will read one of three memoirs from the point of view of a teenager just like you, but these teens faced unimaginable circumstances no young person should have to ever experience. This OPT will challenge you to read about these teens' sad and disturbing experiences. You will question how people can be so cruel to one another. Ultimately, you will be inspired by these stories of these young people's will to survive even in the most dire circumstances.
	Genre Study: Graphic Novels	It has been said that graphic novels are like potato chips - you can't enjoy just one! If you have not yet had the chance to explore graphic novels, you are missing out on some amazing storytelling and beautiful artwork. Recently, a growing body of research, focused on how the brain processes the combination of images and text, indicates that graphic novels are an excellent resource for advanced learners. If you enjoy the challenge of analyzing both words and images to make sense of the characters and plot in literature, this OPT might be for you.
	Poetry for the People	The purpose of this OPT is to analyze the rhetorical use of poetry with an emphasis on poets' purposes for writing and the variety of audiences that can access, enjoy, and learn from poetry. In particular, the OPT starts by asking: "Why do poets write poetry? What is poetry for?" Then, the students will be given the option to choose different kinds of poems within contemporary American poetry that make poetry accessible for an adolescent audience. Students will read a wide variety of poems closely and examine how the writer made rhetorical choices. As a book review is a common genre used by poets to write and to learn about and evaluate poetry, students will write a review of the poems they have read, using criteria from poets, as well as their own ideas, as a means for reviewing the poems they chose. Students will be given the opportunity to craft and share their own poems.
	Teenage Brain	If you have ever wondered why you sometimes see life through a very different lens than your parents or other adults in your life, you might be interested in the information in this OPT. Research indicates that significant and fascinating changes are happening to the brain during the teenage years. In this OPT, you will learn about those changes, how to make the most of them, and also how to present an argument for society to recognize them as well. You will have the opportunity to read about the real-life experiences of teenagers and delve into some fascinating research that will leave you with a better understanding of your own brain.
	Shark Tank	Shark Tank on ABC is a famous television show encouraging aspiring entrepreneurs to pitch their ideas to investors in hopes of launching their brand, product, or business. This course will appeal to your own entrepreneurial spirit allowing you to understand exactly what an entrepreneur is, gain inspiration from famous entrepreneurs, and explore the important ethical implications of running a business. At the end of the unit, you will dive into the Shark Tank and present your own business idea!
	Smells Like Teen Spirit	Teens get a bad rap because of how they are portrayed in popular culture. Teen characters often come across as hormonal, moody, impulsive, narcissistic, idealistic and rebellious. What every teen knows is that teens are grossly misunderstood by the adults in their lives and are struggling to just find their place in the world. Featuring literature with teenage protagonists, this OPT will look at themes reflective of the teen experience: growing up, acceptance, young love, dealing with loss, fighting for individualism, friendship, generation gap, and self-discovery. This OPT will give you the opportunity to reflect on your own experience as a teen as well as the experiences of the characters in the book you choose to read.
ERWC 11 & 12		ERWC 11 and 12 courses integrate close reading, analysis, interpretation, writing, research, speaking, and listening with a focus on mastering the Common Core State Standards. This course builds on student literacy and language arts skills from English 1 and 2 to promote critical thinking and analysis of fiction and nonfiction grade level texts. Students will learn text-centered vocabulary and to critically read, annotate, and respond to text. Students will read literature and expository texts focusing on relevant contemporary issues. Students will analyze expository texts to examine the use of rhetoric in the texts and use the texts as models to craft their own arguments. Student writing will continue using the writing process in the following domains of writing: argumentative, informative/explanatory, and narrative. Students will have ample opportunity to conduct research and learn to choose and use credible sources of information to support their writing. Students will demonstrate more advanced writing conventions and stylistic choices. Students will learn to give, receive, and apply critical feedback during the writing process. Speaking and listening skills are enhanced through a variety of informal and formal activities including small group collaborative activities, class discussion, and presentations. This course helps to provide the foundational skills necessary for students to prepare for post-graduation plans.
Games of Strategy		Games of Strategy can build valuable thinking skills. One of the most effective ways to learn these skills is through an immediate and authentic experience that leaves the student wanting more. Game-playing is the perfect example of such an experience because it is entertaining and engaging and it promotes student involvement. Games provide an opportunity for reflective and logical thinking, planning, problem-solving and decision making. Students will also develop the life skills of cooperation, coping and dealing with mistakes, and being resilient, while engaging in friendly competition. In this class we will be introducing Chess and various other games such as The Settlers of Catan, Mancala, Mastermind, Pandemic and Ticket to Ride. Students may also do a project where they create their own game. **This is an extra curricular opportunity and not graded or unit based.**
Geometry		Students will examine two and three dimensional geometric figures and their properties. They will develop geometric constructions, differentiate and solve by deduction and induction, make conjectures, and draw conclusions. Students will develop formal, logical proofs.
	Springboard to Geometry	This opt will allow students time for reveiw of concepts from the previous year and to prepare to move forward in the course.

Geometry	**Shape it Up**	This opt will explore reasoning with shapes. The following topics will be covered: Using a Rectangular Coordinate System, students investigate the properties of squares and use them to construct a coordinate plane. Composing and Decomposing Shapes, students investigate relationships about shapes and begin exploring deductive reasoning. Rigid Motions on a Plane: Students begin to investigate congruence through rigid motions.
	Twinning - Did You Plan This?	This opt will explore establishing congruence. The following topics will be covered: Congruence Through Transformations: Students will begin formally proving geometric theorems on congruence. Justifying Line and Angle Relationships: Students build on the investigations they did in OPT 1: Composing and Decomposing Shapes. They will be formorizing and proving the conjunctions they made in the previous unit. Using Congruence Theorems: Students will continue to explore, conjecture and formalize congruence theorems.
	Mini-Me	This opt will explore investigating proportionality. The following topics will be covered: Similarity: Students investigate dilations in shapes, with a focus on triangles. Students will use scale factors to develop their proportional reasoning. Trigonometry: Students will further their understanding of similarity through right triangles and the trigonometric functions.
	Making Informed Decisions	This opt will explore connecting geometric and algebraic descriptions and making informed decisions. The following topics will be covered: Circles and Volume: Students will further their understanding of proportions through the investigations of circles. Conic Sections: Students will further their understanding of circles by investigating them within the coordinate planes. Independence and Conditional Probability: Students will be introduced to compound probabilities and explore how to analyze situations using mathematical evidence.
Getting Back to ART!		Art is a way for individuals to express their creativity, use their imagination, communicate with others, and have a blast! In Getting Back to Art we will be returning to the basic art techniques, styles, color theories, and various mediums, which are the building blocks that will provide a solid foundation for future artists. Students will discover art styles and artists from the past as well as learn about the modern art and artists of today. An emphasis on drawing and painting techniques and creating art will be incoporated while students strengthen their basic art skills. **This is an extra curricular opportunity and not graded or unit based.**
Imagineering ~ Discovering Disney		Explore the creative, musical and scientific side of Disney Magic! In this class we will hear from Disney's Imagineers around the world who share how they use a wide range of skills – from story development and conceptual design, to math, physics and engineering – that all come together with art and music to create immersive experiences. This class will also include the Imagineering in a Box curriculum that was designed by Pixar, and allows students to explore different aspects of theme park design, from characters to ride development, as they design a theme park of their very own. Students will have the opportunity to use their creativity and have fun as we see what it takes to create the Happiest Place on Earth! **This is an extra curricular opportunity and not graded or unit based.**
Leadership & Yearbook		Leadership is a quality that can be developed, and we're proud that this class will provide students with skills and confidence as they seek to become leaders in their school. Students may do community outreach and share in class, plan and carryout fundraising events, plan spirit days for their Learning Center, and work on specialized programs like the school yearbook. Students will embark on challenging activities and team building games that will bond and motivate this leadership group. Some classes are divided into two sections: leadership and yearbook. In yearbook, students gather photos to represent learning center memories that are collected and artistically applied to the yearbook pages through the yearbook program. Some yearbooks will be a hard copy book and some will be digital. **This is an extra curricular opportunity and not graded or unit based.** **Students taking this class will be required to bring his or her school issued Chromebook to class every week.**
Living Earth		Living Earth counts towards the Life Science graduation requirement. This course is a survey of organism interactions, functions and relation to Earth. Students will use models to explain how multicellular organisms work through protein synthesis, building biomass, reproduction, homeostasis and interacting body systems. Students will link processes such as photosynthesis and respiration in organisms to the cycles of energy and matter in the Earth system. Students will collect and analyze evidence about the relation between Earth's biosphere and atmosphere. Students will develop evidence of evolution and connect it to the principles of natural selection. Students will develop explanations about mechanisms that enable genetic inheritance, calculate the probability that offspring will inherit traits, and make claims about which processes lead to genetic variation. Students will use models to determine the factors that lead to the dynamics of ecosystems. Students will investigate how the Earth's spheres respond to change, make forecasts about effects, and design solutions to mitigate the human impact on Earth - working toward a sustainable future.
Living Earth	**The Art of Life's Design**	Organisms are incredibly complex and amazingly beautiful. The processes that allow living things to function, stay balanced, and interact with the world around them is a wonder to behold. This OPT dives into the intricacies of how bodies function and allows the student to create art depicting the blueprints and processes that make organisms so phenomenal. Students will have the opportunity to draw, sing, write comics - their choice - to give their interpretation of "The Art of Life's Design".
	Being Small is a Big Deal	Island dwarfism is a phenomenon that has been proven to be true again and again. So how DO organisms on islands become smaller versions of their original selves? Does this exist around the world? Let's explore the mechanisms and pressures that lead to this evolution and allow us to answer the question: "What leads to the making of the minis?"
	Sea Urchin Dynasty or Disaster	Sea Urchins may seem harmless, and in fact an unworthy opponent. Through this journey students will learn how a sea urchin population was tipped out of balance and began their dynasty. But is this dynasty ruling a successful ocean kingdom? Or are they headed for certain disaster and demise? Explore the balance of ecosystems through this interesting case study involving adorable otters, unassuming urchins and a recipe for instability.
	Internal Secrets of Genetic Disorders	We have all had experience, be it personal or indirectly, with the physical symptoms of genetic disorders. But what causes these symptoms to occur? What underlying issue leads to individuals with these disorders to experience diversions from the expected? In this OPT students will dive deep into the molecular cause, the functional change, and the resulting effect of genetic disorders. Students will have the opportunity to choose a disorder to use as a lens to understanding the intricacies of how our bodies function and maintain balance. What causes us to become different? Let's find out.

	The Invisible Fight	Explore the battle between humans and the superbugs that are killing us, antibiotic resistant bacteria and fungi. What are we doing to cause our loss of power in this struggle? How are these superbugs beating us at every turn. Learn about the journey of bacteria and fungi becoming “Superbugs” and what we can do to win the fight.
	Mysterious Buffalo	The population of buffalo in the Serengeti has experienced massive fluctuations - their fall and rise back to stability - over time. What would cause these African populations to have a history of such drastic changes? Can we chalk it up to predation? Climate change? Food Resources? Students will explore life on the African Safari to answer these questions and solve the mystery of the Serengeti Buffalo.
Musical Theater		We cordially invite you to the Musical Theater workshop! Here we will choose big and fun musical numbers in which your students will enjoy performing time and time again after successfully memorizing lines, songs & choreography. In this class students will fall in love with music and movement, recreating the classic and well loved musicals we all know. Parent participation is key in this workshop as students benefit greatly from practicing with parents at home, as well as parent volunteers who are needed during the year-end show season! Our gifted teachers bring out the best in our students ~ many of whom who have had never performed before and now have a new talent and appreciation for the stage. Come and join us as we begin a whole new season of creativity! **PLEASE NOTE this is a performance class in which all students will be expected to participate. Attendance and arriving on time to class play an imprtant part in supporting the production and your fellow actors. Students should expect to spend at least one hour per day at home memorizing lines, music and blocking. Up to 4 after school rehearsals are required and students will be expected to be in the evening performance.** **This is an extra curricular opportunity and not graded or unit based.**
Physics		Physics counts toward the Physical Science requirement for graduation. The course includes an overview of scientific principles and procedures, and leads students toward a clearer understanding of motion, energy, electricity, magnetism, and the laws that govern the physical universe. Physics is the basic understanding of the world that surrounds us. As students refine and expand their understanding of physics, they will apply their knowledge in experiments that require them to ask questions and create hypotheses. While studying the concepts of physics, students will view it through the lens of space exploration, roller coasters, racing of cars, the climate, and human metabolism.
Physics	**Need for Speed**	Learn about how objects move. How race cars and your car is able to accelerate and go fast and speed off to the future. This opt will deal with all of the things that Newton figured out all of his laws and how going forward how it affects the development of new technologies.
	Rocket to the Moon	Learn how we ended up travelling to the moon and how this has led to the chance to go to Mars and beyond. How did we use Newton’s laws including the Universal Law of Gravitation. What technology and exploration techniques have to go into studying the universe.
	Energy and its Implications on Climate Change	There are solutions to Climate Change and many of them involve the wiser use and production of Energy right here in your backyard. Explore the types of energy that will create a green California and how we can help change the negative effects of climate change.
	Space: The Final Frontier	Star Trek! Star Wars! And beyond! How do we find out about our universe? How do we develop rockets and other space exploration tools? How can we look at the stars, planets, and moons and figure out how to get there? How can we explore those celestial objects?
	Body Physics: Motion to Metabolism	Using the laws of thermodynamics, discover how the body uses food to produce all the things you do in life. How you run, play tennis, do yoga, etc. Your body is an interaction of physics and physiology. Discover how our body moves and stays in motion.
Write (and print) a Book!		Is your child a budding Author? Writing a book can be easier than you think! Everyone has a story to tell and in this class we will go through the steps of the writing process from brainstorming, drafting, revising, editing, and publishing. Students will have fun activites that focus on narrative writing and how to make their words create visuals that dance in the mind of the reader. We will also explore the various children's online publishers who have made it easy to create a book. Students will feel the excitement of publishing their own books and becoming young authors! **This is an extra curricular opportunity and not graded or unit based.**