



Learning Lab Winter 2023

Learning Lab classes are hands-on, high interest enrichment classes for students. Classes challenge students academically and creatively. Students will make new friends while exploring topics in-depth and developing new skills. Class sizes are limited to ensure optimal student/teacher interaction. Excellent teachers are chosen for expertise in their area and their skill working with bright students. **Classes are open to all.**

In-Person Requirements:

Currently, masks are recommended, not required. Protocols are subject to change, based on local conditions/guidelines.

Learning Lab Dates:

Saturdays - Feb. 4, 11, 18, 25 & March 4, 11

Learning Lab Location:

Wydown Middle School, 6500 Wydown 63105

Learning Lab Tuition & Payment:

Classes are \$100/six-week class, payable online or by check.

For More Information: Contact the GRC office at (314) 962-5920 or info@giftedresourcecouncil.org.



Class Schedule

SESSION 1: 9:30 - 11:00

Ages 4 - 5	Set Up Shop
1 st - 2 nd	Ocean Odyssey
1 st - 2 nd	Architecture Meets Mythology: Africa
1 st - 2 nd	Science of Flight
3 rd - 4 th	CSI: Wydown
3 rd - 4 th	It's Electric!
3 rd - 8 th	Chess: Intermediate/Advanced
3 rd - 8 th	LEGO Mindstorms Robotics - Beginner
4 th - 8 th	Comics for Change
5 th - 8 th	Minecraft Meets Conservation
5 th - 8 th	Revolutionary Science

SESSION 2: 11:15 - 12:45

Ages 5 - 6	Set Up Shop
K - 1 st	Ocean Odyssey
K - 3 rd	Chess: Beginner/Novice
1 st - 4 th	Readers' Theater
3 rd - 4 th	Science of Flight
3 rd - 4 th	Architecture Meets Mythology: Africa
3 rd - 6 th	Native Peoples
4 th - 5 th	CSI: Wydown
3 rd - 6 th	Reptiles & Amphibians
k3 rd - 8 th	LEGO Mindstorms Robotics: Advanced
3 rd - 8 th	Enviro-preneurs



Class Descriptions – Winter 2023

NEW!! Architecture Meets Mythology, Africa

Grades 1st & 2nd 9:30 - 11:00

Grades 3rd & 4th 11:15 - 12:45

Let's travel to the home of the world's longest river, and some of the largest animals on the planet! Create *ndbele* homes and cardboard pyramids. Investigate the legendary *grootslang* (giant snake) and *abata* (like a unicorn, but with two horns)! Create web art (based on Anansi) and take the windmill challenge. Immerse yourself in African art, architecture & mythology with take-home projects each week!
Instructor: Lisa Bader

Checkmate! - Beginning/Novice Chess

Grades K - 3rd 11:15 - 12:45

If your child is just learning chess (or wants to learn!), this class is the perfect place to start. Learn the basics of chess, how to begin the game, strategies such as pins and forks, how to queen a pawn and how to checkmate with Queen and King or Rook and King at the end of the game, all while playing and having fun. Benefits of the game for all levels: Problem-solving skills, coping with the consequences of your decisions, and good sports behavior.
Instructor: Stephen Randall

Checkmate! - Intermediate/Advanced Chess

Grades 3rd - 8th 9:30 - 11:00

Learn advanced concepts in chess, including openings to produce swift checkmating attacks or the win of material, learn how to plan ahead in chess and create positions where tactical themes can be used, all while playing and having fun. Benefits of the game: Problem-solving skills, coping with the consequences of your decisions, and good sports behavior.
Instructor: Stephen Randall

NEW!! Comics for Change

Grades 4th - 8th 9:30 - 11:00

Like to draw AND want to help change the world? Let's see how comics and graphic novels are used to tell stories about pollution, civil rights, education, religious freedoms, and more! Using the UNICEF Global Goals, create a comic that teaches kids (and adults) about what YOU want to change for a better future!
Instructor: Chuck Baker

NEW!! CSI: Wydown

Grades 3rd & 4th 9:30 - 11:00

Grades 4th & 5th 11:15 - 12:45

Are you ready to solve a crime in which each player is suspect AND detective? Join us as we explore intriguing secret codes, mini-mysteries and real crime scene procedures! Each student will choose a character to play during the mystery, complete with props, evidence, and character profiles. Explore crime scene techniques like fingerprinting, handwriting analysis, shoe prints and more! Will you be the

Master Detective, the Suspect, or the Perpetrator? Come and find out!

Instructor: Rochelle Spencer

NEW!! Enviro-preneurs

Grades 3rd - 8th 11:15 - 12:45

Are you a budding entrepreneur? Build your first business plan! You'll develop a environmentally-themed business plan that includes your target market, cost analysis, marketing strategy, and more! Finally, you will pitch your plan to the class, and the winner could see their product made during this summer's ECO Academy camp!
Instructor: Chuck Baker

NEW!! It's Electric!

Grades 3rd - 4th 9:30 - 11:00

Do you like experimenting with science and seeing what will happen? Do you like designing projects? In this class we will uncover the basics of electricity and explore how to create circuits. We'll even discover surprising objects that will complete and power a circuit. Don't miss this electrifying opportunity!
Instructor: Rebecca Lee

LEGO Mindstorms Robotics - Beginning

Grades 3rd - 8th 9:30 - 11:00

This is your chance to learn the basics of LEGO Mindstorms EV3 robots! Consider a real-world problem, create your hypothesis, program your solution and test your results! Build a rover-type robot to handle some basic tasks and experiment with other features of the kits. Apply the engineering process to your project. Problem-solving skills and creativity using robotics technology prove that the possibilities are endless.
Instructor: Lisa Hummel

LEGO Mindstorms Robotics - Advanced

Grades 3rd - 8th 11:15 - 12:45

If you've taken at least a beginning Mindstorms class, now you can go further! Learn more and work on harder challenges, based on your skill level. Build and program working robots which respond to your commands as well as information from their environments. Working with a partner, you can even design your own robot from scratch! You'll learn to control your creation using multiple sensors, various moving parts, and complex programs that allow the robot to assess its environment and make decisions. You will be given a specific challenge to accomplish with your programming at the beginning of each class.
Instructor: Lisa Hummel

NEW!! Minecraft Meets Conservation

Grades 5th - 8th 9:30 - 11:00

Ender dragons, creepers, farmers, foresters, and gardeners. How can we change the Minecraft world to help conservation? We'll work on creating our own characters, quests, and tasks to transform the world of Minecraft to better our own. Journey through our world learning about all

the wonderful creatures we have, challenges they face, and then transport them into a video game reality to help address the plights they face.

Instructor: Michael Mahon

NEW!! Native Peoples Around the World

Grades 3rd - 6th 11:15 - 12:45

Let's embark into a look at some distinct social and cultural groups around the world – how are they similar? Different? You'll investigate the Algonquin culture from Canada and the Northern U.S., the Incas from South America, Mayans from Central America, Scythians from Central Asia, and Germanic tribes from Central Europe and Scandinavia. What was each group's way of life? Nomadic or settled? Warfaring or peaceful? What were their distinct social, economic and political systems?

Instructor: Art Koenig

Ocean Odyssey

Grades 1st - 2nd 9:30 - 11:00

Grades K - 1st 11:15 - 12:45

Go into the deep as you explore the layers of the ocean, from the trenches to the surface, and discover the animals that live there. How are ocean currents generated? How do gravity, density, and anatomy allow animals to float? Simulate an oil spill and test clean-up methods. What is the impact of an oil spill on marine animals and their habitats? Develop your hypothesis and test what might happen if an octopus had a skeleton made of bone or cartilage like their predators. Enjoy experiments, activities, and the scientific method.

Instructor: Kara Viviano

Readers' Theatre

Grades 1st - 4th 11:15 - 12:45

"All the world's a stage. . . And one [kid] in his time plays many parts." Do you love being dramatic? Do you love reading? This is the class for you! Collaborate with your fellow actors to practice and perform a new play in class each week. Vocal expression, gestures and student creativity provide all the drama you need. You haven't "scene" anything yet!

Instructor: Rebecca Lee

NEW!! Reptiles and Amphibians, Why Do We Need Them Anyway?

Grades 3rd - 6th 11:15 - 12:45

Reptiles and amphibians give us a glimpse into the past and our future. From the Sarcosuchus to the Komodo dragon, how do these animals impact their environments? How does Herpetoculture impact keeping these majestic animals as pets? In this lab we'll delve into reptiles' and amphibians' roles in the wild and in our own lives. We'll take a look at the role they play within their ecosystems, and how we can create natural environments to keep them within the home.

Instructor: Michael Mahon

Revolutionary Science!

Grades 5th - 8th 9:30 - 11:00

It all started with the big bang, but what sparked the big revelations of Hypatia, Claudius Ptolemy, Copernicus and Galileo? Join us to explore how the big thinkers of the past offered new advances. Start with the beginnings of scientific

thought in the Middle East and Greece; continue with the medical work of Galen and the natural philosophers. Aristotle espoused beliefs, some of which held sway until the Renaissance and into the 19th century! How did Newton, Einstein and others correct some of his long-held scholarship? Black matter, astronomy, astrology, medicine, gravity – how did the great scientific minds give us these insights?

Instructor: Art Koenig

NEW!! The Science of Flight

Grades 1st - 2nd 9:30 - 11:00

Grades 3rd - 4th 11:15 - 12:45

Passengers, please buckle your seatbelts and put your tray tables up, as we explore the science of flight. What keeps aircraft in the air? We will research the animals that fly such as bees, butterflies, birds, and bats. Then we'll investigate both man's successful *and* unsuccessful attempts to fly. While learning the science behind man-made flying machines, teams will build, test, modify, and evaluate their own planes and rockets.

Instructor: Hannah Noack-Ruebling

NEW!! Set Up Shop

Ages 4 - 5 9:30 - 11:00

Ages 5 - 6 11:15 - 12:45

Let's set up shop! Our mini-entrepreneurs will explore different types of shops—grocery stores, pet adoption agencies—maybe an accessories store or an international store? Set up a different store each week and "sell" goods and services to your classmates. Think about your customers' needs - how can you meet them? Learn about marketing and pricing; practice with money and change, plus you'll think about your store "policies" including kindness and fairness to customers! Hands-on learning fun!

Instructor: Joanna Gubin



Learning Lab Details

Eligibility: All children are eligible to participate in Learning Lab classes. They do not need to be enrolled in gifted programming at their schools.

Safety: All in-person classes will be held in accordance with St. Louis County guidelines regarding Covid-19 or other illnesses. Masks are not currently required. Students should NOT attend class if they have any symptoms or a known exposure to anyone who has tested positive for Covid-19.

Dismissal: Children must be picked up promptly at the end of class. If your child has signed up for two classes in a row, he or she will be supervised during the short break between classes, and you will pick up at the end of the second class.

Notification: If the class your child signed up for is full or cancelled, you will be notified and given the opportunity to sign up for an alternate class.

Photos: Pictures will be taken of Learning Lab classes, and may be used for promotional purposes. If you do not want your child's photo used, please contact the office in writing before the start of classes.



Instructors

Lisa Bader, B.S., elementary teacher

Chuck Baker, M.S., Math teacher, Ferguson-Florissant School District

Joanna Gubin, M.S., Early childhood educator/play therapist

Lisa Hummel, M.A., middle school science teacher, Ferguson-Florissant School District

Art Koenig, A.M., GRC's "Renaissance Man"

Rebecca Lee, M.A., elementary teacher, Ferguson-Florissant School District

Michael Mahon, M.A., Middle school teacher, Rockwood School District

Hannah Noack-Ruebling, M.A., Gifted teacher, Hazelwood School District

Stephen Randoll, Ph.D., history professor St. Charles Community College, Rated USCF National Expert

Rochelle Spencer, M.Ed., Gifted specialist, Webster Groves School District

Kara Viviano, B.A., elementary teacher, St. Louis Public Schools

Parenting Classes – Winter 2023

Come explore the various joys and challenges of raising bright, gifted children with us. Local experts in gifted education and child development will lead presentations/discussions on a wide range of topics. Classes are \$15 each or **FREE** with a GRC membership (starting at \$60/year). Classes will begin at 11:15 am and will run about 90 minutes total, with time for Q&A. These are interactive sessions, where we welcome questions and discussion.

February 4 - **Avoiding Power Struggles with Your Gifted Kid(s)** - Agnes Meyo, Psy.D., Clinical psychologist, private practice

February 18 - **LGBTQIA+ and Gifted: What You Need to Know** - Catherine Hasler Ph.D., Director of Counseling and Assessment for Behavioral Health

Two additional classes to be announced soon! We'll send out another email with registration information once we finish the line-up.



GRC Membership

Your membership will help us improve existing programs, extend offerings and reach more children. You also receive benefits like priority registration, program discounts, and free parenting classes. It's quick, easy and tax-deductible (as allowed by law). Sign up by adding the appropriate amount to the total on the Learning Lab form or joining online. Memberships are valid for one year.

Wise Philanthropist (\$1,000+)

- Priority registration for all programs
- FREE parenting classes (\$160 value)
- FREE Learning Lab course
- \$50 discount off a Summer Academy
- Learning Lab scholarship in your name at your request
- Use of GRC library
- GRC logo lapel pin

Brilliant Benefactor (\$500 - \$999)

- Priority registration for all programs
- FREE parenting classes (\$160 value)
- FREE Learning Lab course
- \$50 discount off a Summer Academy
- Learning Lab scholarship in your name at your request
- Use of GRC library

Talented Patron (\$250 - \$499)

- Priority registration for all programs
- FREE parenting classes (\$160 value)
- \$10 off two Learning Lab courses
- \$50 discount off a Summer Academy
- Use of GRC library

Sharp Sponsor (\$150 - \$249)

- Priority registration for all programs
- FREE parenting classes (\$160 value)
- \$10 off two Learning Lab courses
- \$25 discount off a Summer Academy
- Use of GRC library

Intelligent Friend (\$100 - \$149)

- Priority registration for all programs
- FREE parenting classes (\$160 value)
- \$10 off two Learning Lab courses
- Use of GRC library

Gifted Member (\$60 - \$99)

- Priority registration for all programs
- FREE parenting classes (\$160 value)
- Use of GRC library

Imaginative Institution (\$100)

- For schools and other institutions
- Recognition in newsletters and on website

Registration Form – Winter 2023

(Registration is available by sending in the form below with a check or credit card information or by registering online at www.giftedresourcecouncil.org – credit card payments will be charged a service fee.)

Child's name: _____ Age: _____ Grade/School: _____

Gender: _____ Address (Street/City/State/Zip): _____

Parent name: _____ Preferred phone: _____

Parent name: _____ Preferred phone: _____

Parent email(s): _____

Parent(s) occupations/employer: _____

EMERGENCY CONTACT (if parents can't be reached):

Name/relationship: _____ Phone: _____

Physician & phone: _____

Allergies or medical limitations: _____

How did you learn about GRC? _____

Race/ethnicity (optional, but useful for GRC when applying for grants!) - please choose any/all that apply:

- American Indian or Alaskan Native Asian Black or African American White Hispanic/Latino/a
 Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander Other or additional info: _____

Please select your child's class choice(s) from the list(s) below.

SESSION 1: 9:30 - 11:00 - Saturdays

SESSION 2: 11:15 - 12:45 - Saturdays

IN PERSON at Wydown Middle School

- Set Up Shop (Ages 4 - 5)
- Ocean Odyssey (1st - 2nd)
- Architecture Meets Mythology: Africa (1st - 2nd)
- Science of Flight (1st - 2nd)
- CSI: Wydown (3rd - 4th)
- It's Electric! (3rd - 4th)
- Checkmate - Intermediate/Advanced Chess (3rd - 8th)
- LEGO Mindstorms Beginning Robotics (3rd - 8th)
- Comics for Change (4th - 8th)
- Minecraft Meets Conservation (5th - 8th)
- Revolutionary Science (5th - 8th)

- Set Up Shop (Ages 5 - 6)
- Ocean Odyssey (K - 1st)
- Chess: Beginner/Novice (K - 3rd)
- Readers' Theater (1st - 4th)
- Science of Flight (3rd - 4th)
- Architecture Meets Mythology: Latin America (3rd - 4th)
- Native Peoples (3rd - 6th)
- CSI: Wydown (4th - 5th)
- Reptiles & Amphibians (3rd - 6th)
- LEGO Mindstorms Advanced Robotics (3rd - 8th)
- Enviro-preneurs (3rd - 8th)

No refunds after January 27, 2023. Members' priority registration good until December 23, 2022. All others taken on a first-come, first-served basis.

Are you a current member of GRC? Yes No

Would you like to become a member? Yes No

At which level? _____

Return form & payment to: Gifted Resource Council
357 Marshall Ave., Ste. 6
St. Louis, MO 63119

Total Fees Enclosed:

Class(es): _____

Membership: _____
(optional)

TOTAL: _____

Payable by check to: Gifted Resource Council
or credit card (transaction fee charged):

Credit card #: _____

Exp. Date: _____

Security code: _____

Name on card: _____