



Summer
Academies
2023



Things to Know

Camps offer new themes and activities each year. For example, students who attended Space Academy last year can come back this summer for all new material! Some students take the "same camp" 3 or 4 years in a row, with fresh curriculum each summer.

Does my child have to be in the gifted program to attend GRC's Summer Academies?

Definitely not! All bright and talented students enjoy our programs.

Is the program all work and no play?

No! We do challenge kids academically, but GRC is known for engaging children in hands-on activities and encouraging friendships among like-minded peers. Physical activity and recess are part of every day's schedule.

Do you offer Extended Day Care?

Yes! Before Care is 7:30 - 9:00 a.m. and costs \$95/session. After Care is 3:30 - 5:30 and costs \$125/session.

What should my child bring?

A non-refrigerated lunch (with drink) and a willingness to learn and have fun! We strongly discourage electronic devices.

Do you offer financial aid?

Limited tuition aid is available, based on need. Contact the GRC office for more details.

What else should I know?

Every child gets a GRC camp t-shirt (and can buy an extra for \$10 if desired).

Pictures will be taken during Summer Academies, 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 camp.

Lead Summer Instructors

Chuck Baker, M.S., Math teacher, Ferguson-Florissant School District, 7th year Space Academy; 5th year ECO Academy

Sara Beg, M.Ed., Librarian, Ferguson-Florissant School District, 1st year Space Academy; 1st year Stop-Motion Animation

Nancy Brennan, B.S., Gifted specialist, 24th year Math, Marvels & More

Jane DeLong, M.S., Middle school teacher, Rockwood School District, 2nd year Space Academy

Christina Elkins, M.S., Gifted specialist, Pattonville School District, 3rd year Math, Marvels & More

Rick Hasler, M.A., Gifted specialist, MOSAICS Academy, Parkway School District, 8th year Ancient Academy

Lisa Hummel, M.A., Middle school science teacher, Ferguson-Florissant District, 19th year Space Academy

Rebecca Lee, M.A., elementary teacher, Ferguson-Florissant School District, 1st year Novel Engineering

Abby Leeper, M.A., Middle school gifted teacher, St. Charles School District, 10th year, Jr. Science Searchers

How to Apply

1. **Fill out application and pay online** via PayPal (processing fees apply). Or mail paper application and check payable to Gifted Resource Council to the GRC office. Payment is refundable only if student is not accepted. No refunds after June 1, 2023.
2. **Give Teacher Evaluation form** (or online link) to teacher who knows student best.
3. **Submit a copy** of most recent standardized test score (ERB, Iowa, MAT, Terra-Nova, WISC, etc.). *Students who have not taken standardized tests may submit a recent report card.*
4. **Email all correspondence** to info@giftedresourcecouncil.org

or mail to

Gifted Resource Council
357 Marshall Ave., Ste. 6
St. Louis, MO 63119



Albert Leeper, A.S., St. Charles School District, 5th year PT

Michael Mahon, M.A., teacher, Selvidge Middle School, 1st year Ancient Academy; 1st year Animal Academy

Kathleen Murphy, M.Ed., Science teacher, 15th year Math, Marvels & More; 25th year Space Academy

Hannah Noack-Ruebling, M.A., Gifted teacher, Hazelwood School District, 3rd year ECO Academy; 3rd year Space Academy

Nickie Pelch, M.Ed., Science teacher, Belleville West High School, 1st year Space Academy

Susan Schneider, M.A., Gifted teacher, Hazelwood School District, 19th year Academy Americana

Jen Sciuto, M.A., Elementary teacher, 11th year Jr. Science Searchers

Barb Wnek, M.Ed., P.E. teacher, 36th year PT

Carrie Ziolkowski, M.A., Gifted teacher, Hazelwood School District, 18th year Academy Americana

Nick Zuccarello, M.S., P.E. teacher, St. Charles School District, 2nd year PT

Session 1: June 12 - June 23

(No camp on June 19)

ECO Academy

ECO-nomics + ECO-ology

Completing Grades 3 - 8

Handle all the real-world aspects of this camp's pop-up business: finance, sales, marketing & production. What's the product? Our Winter Learning Lab students will be pitching their ideas for this summer's creation! Whatever it is, we'll look at how your product is made. Learn about the effects on the environment. How can we lessen those? What are low-impact ways to create a high-impact product? Examine cash flow and stock distributions (and play the Stock Market Game!). Consider environmentally friendly ways to market, package and distribute your products. What will your sustainable business model look like? Scientific inquiry, advertising art, decision-making skills, financial and mathematical interests—bring any and all of these talents to ECO Academy!

Math, Marvels & More

Equations, Energy & Expression!

Completing Grades K - 2

Experience three camps-in-one each day as you explore Math, Science and Creative Expression! Explore the physics of force, motion and electrical circuits. Launch airplanes, rockets, cars and wind-powered sailboats to experiment with Newton's laws. Use magnetoscopes to identify attraction of opposite charges, and crash Hot Wheels™ cars to unravel clues about force in motion.

Be a problem solver! Discover how to decode algebraic equations with variables. Race for answers in an Integer Bee. Practice flexible mathematical thinking with the game of Hando. Use your critical thinking skills to locate treasures on a giant Cartesian graph.

Create zany, interactive designs and transmit your energy into art! Experiment with sound waves and movement, craft and motion. Apply kinetic and potential energy to your pendulum art. Capture the unique designs produced by the movement of gears.

An electrifying two weeks of high-wattage fun! (Students will be divided into age-appropriate groups, with curriculum adjusted accordingly).

Stop Motion Animation –NEW!

Lights! Camera! Action!

Completing Grades 1 - 2

Directing, storytelling, building, editing, designing! In this high-energy, hands-on camp, you'll use all these skills to create your own mini movies using stop motion animation and iPads. Start by using LEGOS and then step it up to using Play Dough or actual people. You'll create characters, props, scenes and storyboards. Add in your own music or voice. We'll also watch clips of different styles of stop motion animation for inspiration. See how the pros do it. Explore your creativity while learning technical skills! The grand finale will be a mini film festival to premiere everyone's creations.

Animal Academy –NEW!

Completing Grades 3 - 8

Petkeeping to Zookeeping: What's the Difference & What is the Role of Conservation?

Join the adventure of a lifetime and become a champion of conservation! From petkeeping the smallest animals to some of the largest, what makes a good pet? From "man's best friend" to creating a habitat in a box within our homes, we are driven to connect with nature. Make your own pollinator house and then we'll build a composting bin to observe throughout camp. Discuss how modern day video games could be used in conservation. Then we'll investigate animals such as: tigers, elephants, poison dart frogs, bushmasters, and dragons! We'll weigh out the pros and cons of keeping animals in captivity versus in the wild. What's the impact on biodiversity? Does having captive species assist in sustaining species in the wild through breeding and education? And what can we do to ensure their survival for generations to come? These are just a few of the questions we will dive into during this fast-paced exploration!

Physical Training An integral part of each Summer Academy experience is activity and movement. Our PT (Physical Training) is no ordinary gym time, as activities are linked to the curriculum in each Summer Academy. Each camper gets 45 minutes of PT daily, in addition to a 20-minute recess after lunch.

Session 2: June 26 - July 7

(No camp on July 4)

Ancient Academy

Vikings! The Men (and Women)! The Myths! The Reality!

Completing Grades 3 - 8

Farmers, weekend warriors, lovers, poets. Vikings were not the two-dimensional double-headed-axe-swinging, club-wielding marauders portrayed in comics, Okay, maybe on weekends. But they had full lives, industry, community, music, and art. Explore the rich Norse mythology as we read the *Poetic Edda*. Create banners and shields with Nordic runes. Discover who worked with and against the “invaders.” Become a Norseman and live the Viking way through an interactive role-playing game. Challenge Rick Riordan’s and the Marvel visions of Viking mythology, religion, and social structure. Let’s Go Viking!

Jr. Science Searchers

From Dinosaurs to Tropical Rainforests

Completing Kindergarten

Don your paleontologist hat for dinosaur explorations! Hatch a dinosaur egg, while considering carnivores, herbivores and omnivores. Explore continental drift. Construct fossils and explore body types and teeth structures of dinosaurs. How did they evolve in the different geologic periods? How did their bodies change from fish-like creatures to a tyrannosaurus rex? What made them all extinct? Then join the ‘safari’ as we locate tropical rainforests on a map. Why is the rainforest important? How do plants, as well as animals like monkeys, bats and frogs, survive? Make your own tropical spice blend. What other rainforest resources do we use every day? Lots of hands-on activities and projects.

Novel Engineering –NEW!

Read, Design, Build!

Completing Grades 1 - 2

Books & Bridges! Tales & Tools! Paragraphs & Problems! Like to read? Like to build? In this high-touch, hands-on camp you’ll read a broad range of books and identify problems that characters face. Then brainstorm solutions based on the character’s needs and constraints of the text. Then work with your team to build realistic solutions for the characters to use. Test your solution, then refine it to make it even better! Problem solve with your favorite characters in “Novel” summer camp! (Novel Engineering is an approach originally developed by Tufts University to teach students the engineering process and link it to problems to fix, all through engaging literature.)

GRC’s Space Academy

Apollo to Artemis: Now What?

Completing Grades 1 - 5

We last set foot on the moon 50 years ago. And we’re doing it again. So now what? Let’s look at what moon travel is good for. We’ll examine it as a jumping-off point for Mars travel. What would it take to put a base on the moon? What resources are there already? What did we leave there the first time and why? Who should get to go to the moon? To Mars? We’ll do some electrolysis experiments with water, and a mirror/laser activity. And of course, it wouldn’t be Space Academy without creating/coding some LEGO robots, and building/launching model rockets! (Students will be divided into smaller groups by grade, and curriculum adjusted accordingly.)

GRC’s Advanced Space Academy

Apollo to Artemis: Now What?

Completing Grades 6 - 8

Moon missions, Mars missions, and more! Design your own permanent moon base - look at issues from practicality to ethics. How would you set up a new society there? Examine the logistics of building a lunar gateway - what are the advantages and disadvantages of launching missions from the moon? Lots of hands-on activities, including building/coding LEGO Mindstorms EV3 robots, and building/launching model rockets!

Linda McCall Scholarship If you’re a top student in grades 6 - 8 and have a strong interest in science, you might be a great candidate for the Linda McCall Merit Scholarship – full tuition to Advanced Space Academy offered by the GRC Board of Directors. Call the GRC Office to request an application or download one from the GRC website. Applications MUST be received by April 30, 2023.

Academy Americana

Life, Liberty & the Pursuit of Happiness

Travel back to early America—but be prepared! It's a tough life, no matter who you are. Chores, walking to school—day-to-day life was a LOT of work. Make your own haversack, practice writing lessons with a quill, and enjoy colonial games with your friends. Become an apprentice to a local tinsmith, blacksmith or printer. Join the Culper Spy Ring and learn to decode messages. Explore the identities of people who are often overlooked during this time period—what were their lives like? Then use democratic principles from the Declaration of Independence and Constitution to create your own system of laws. How would you change these to make them more equitable and inclusive? History has its eyes on you!

Completing Grades 1 - 3

Ancient Academy

Raiding! Exploring! Settling! Time to Go A-VIKING!

From the depths of your imagination arise a Viking. Raid your way through Europe. Explore your way to the Americas. Build settlements along the way. Embrace your inner Norse as you participate in interactive games and battle your way across Europe and beyond! Learn the ways of the seafarer, and how to get to your destination through technology. Build a longboat and navigate your way by the stars. Learn the technology needed to exist within this dynamic culture. From navigation to hunting there's more to the Norse than meets the eye!

Completing Grades 3 - 8

Jr. Science Searchers

From Ocean Depths to Outer Space

Plunge into the mysteries of the ocean. Meet sea animals, large and small, friendly and dangerous. How do their babies live? Make edible aquariums. How is a coral reef like a giant apartment building? Clean up a mini oil spill and find out how we can protect the ocean. Then explore the sun, moon, planets and stars! Create a replica of the surface of the moon. Look at its sea, volcanoes and Apollo landings, and build your own miniature 'moon rover.' How far can you jump on the moon? Calculate your weight on other planets. Harness the energy of the sun in your solar oven to roast toasty marshmallows.

Completing Kindergarten

GRC's Space Academy

Special Effects: Humans → Space | Space → Humans

What impacts have humans had on space? What impacts has space had on humans? We'll explore all sorts of ideas: the problem of space debris; the ability to move asteroids; inventions like Zip-Lock bags and lithium ion batteries. We'll check out sunspots, observe yeast under a microscope and grow our own crystals like astronauts do in microgravity. And of course, it wouldn't be Space Academy without creating/coding some LEGO robots, and building/launching model rockets! (Students will be divided into smaller groups by grade, and curriculum adjusted accordingly.)

Completing Grades 1 - 5

GRC's Advanced Space Academy

Special Effects: Humans → Space | Space → Humans

A more advanced exploration of the impacts of space on humans and vice versa. What about solar effects on our power grid? Using satellite imagery to study ancient Mayan and Egyptian cultures? What kind of experiments are we doing on space stations? What will be the practical applications of those back on Earth? And of course, it wouldn't be Space Academy without creating/coding some LEGO Mindstorm EV3 robots, and building/launching model rockets!

Completing Grades 6 - 8





Teacher Evaluation Form

(Form may also be completed online: tinyurl.com/GRCSTL)

Child's Name _____ Grade _____

School _____ District _____

Your name _____ Phone # _____

Capacity in which you know the child _____

We are asking for a few moments of your time to help us evaluate the above-named student as a candidate for our summer program for bright and talented students. As an education professional who works closely with this student, you are in the best position to provide the kind of information that we need to ensure a positive experience for our students. Please fill out the rating scale and return it to us as quickly as possible. Applicants cannot be considered for admission until your evaluation is received. If you have any questions regarding any Gifted Resource Council program or the completion of this form, please call us at 314-962-5920.

Please rate from 1 (disagree) to 5 (agree)	1	2	3	4	5
Has unusually advanced vocabulary for age or grade level					
Has quick mastery and recall of factual information					
Has a rapid insight into cause-effect relationship; tries to discover the <i>how</i> and <i>why</i> of things					
Is a keen and alert observer; usually sees more and gets more out of a story, video, etc., than others					
Becomes absorbed and truly involved in certain topics or problems; is persistent in seeking task completion (is sometimes difficult to get moving on to another topic)					
Is comfortable working with minimal direction from teachers					
Is quite concerned with right and wrong, good and bad; often evaluates and passes judgment on events, people and things					
Displays a great deal of curiosity about many things; is constantly asking questions about anything and everything					
Generates a large number of ideas or solutions to problems and questions; often offers unusual, unique, or clever responses					
Displays a keen sense of humor and sees humor in situations that may not appear to be humorous to others					

How would you describe this child academically in your class? _____

How would you describe this child behaviorally in your class? _____

Is there anything else you would like us to know about this child? _____

Please return this form to Gifted Resource Council, 357 Marshall Ave., Ste. 6, St. Louis, MO 63119.

You can also email to lfalk@giftedresourcecouncil.org. Thank you!

Summer Academies 2023 Application

Child's name: _____ Age: _____ Birthdate: _____ Gender: _____

Completing grade? _____ School _____ District _____

First time applicant? ☐ Yes ☐ No If returning, years attended? _____

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

Parent Name: _____ Preferred phone: _____

Parent Email: _____ Employer & occupation: _____

Parent Name: _____ Preferred phone: _____

Parent Email: _____ Employer & occupation: _____

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

Name/relationship: _____ Phone: _____

Physician & phone: _____

Allergies or medical limitations: _____

Other issues of which we should be aware? _____

Please select your child's camp choice(s) from the list(s) below:

June 12 - 23 (no camp June 19)

☐ Math, Marvels & More

☐ ~~Stop Motion Animation~~

☐ ECO Academy

☐ ~~Animal Academy~~

June 26 - July 7 (no camp July 4)

☐ Jr. Science Searchers

☐ ~~Novel Engineering~~

☐ Ancient Academy

☐ Space Academy

☐ Advanced Space Academy

July 10 - July 21

☐ Academy Americana

☐ Ancient Academy

☐ Jr. Science Searchers

☐ Space Academy

☐ Advanced Space Academy

Tuition for each 2-week session is \$540 for most camps and \$550 for Space. Early bird registration (before Jan. 28) is \$515 or \$525 for Space.

\$150 deposit per session due with application.

**Before care: \$95/session
After care: \$125/session**

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: _____

GRC Membership

Becoming a member of Gifted Resource Council 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. Sign up by returning the form to the GRC Office or register 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

Total Fees Enclosed

Tuition (minimum \$150 deposit/session required) _____

Extended Day

☐ Before Care (\$95/session) _____

☐ After Care (\$125/session) _____

Membership (optional) _____

Extra t-shirt (\$10 - optional) _____

Scholarship donation (optional) _____

TOTAL: _____

Please make check payable to:
Gifted Resource Council

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



357 Marshall Ave., Ste. 6
St. Louis, MO 63119
giftedresourcecouncil.org

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
St. Louis, MO
Permit #4757

2023 Summer
Academies
Registration
now open!

Summer Schedule

June 12 - June 23	Math, Marvels & More (K - 2 nd) Stop Motion Animation (1 st - 2 nd) ECO Academy (3 rd - 8 th) Animal Academy (3 rd - 8 th)
June 26 - July 7	Jr. Science Searchers (K) Novel Engineering (1 st & 2 nd) Ancient Academy (3 rd - 8 th) GRC's Space Academy (1 st - 5 th) GRC's Advanced Space Academy (6 th - 8 th)
July 10 - July 21	Jr. Science Searchers (K) Academy Americana (1 st - 3 rd) Ancient Academy (3 rd - 8 th) GRC's Space Academy (1 st - 5 th) GRC's Advanced Space Academy (6 th - 8 th)

Time 9:00 - 3:30 Camp
7:30 - 9:00 Before Care \$95/session
3:30 - 5:30 After Care \$125/session

Place Wydown Middle School
6500 Wydown Blvd.
Clayton, MO 63105

Cost \$540 per 2-week session (\$550 for
Space Academy)
\$515 early bird before Jan. 28 (\$525
for Space Academy)

Lunch Please bring a non-refrigerated brown
bag lunch and drink each day.

