

Middle School (5th – 6th)

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Middle School

Course Title: Brain Training

Course length: Fall and Spring Semesters

Grade level: K-12

Curriculum: various sources (no curriculum to purchase)

Course Description: Using physical movement to make the brain connections -- this is the focus of brain training. The class itself will seem like a physical education class of sorts, but in reality the focus is cross hemispheric exercises coupled with kinesthetic and oral activities that stimulate brain connections to form and keep neuropathways open for learning information. This proven therapy has helped students improve their academic skills as well as physical coordination for sports. All this in a fun atmosphere that encourages students to embrace an academic challenge and rise to achievement while minimizing frustration. The basis for this course is Dianne Craft's Brain Integration Therapy, which can be found at this link: <http://www.diannecraft.org>

Intro to Theatre Arts: 3rd-8th (fall semester)

Students will learn to become aware of their senses, observe people more closely, and move expressively. Students will also learn to use their talents, reinforce their self-confidence, and improve their ability to work with others. To prepare for the stage, students will be introduced to basic acting skills such as improvisation, characterization, role preparation and stage movement. Students will learn the specialized vocabulary of the theatre, audience etiquette and performance evaluation criteria. Students will also explore special skills such as story-telling and puppetry.

Theatre Arts Production: 3rd-8th (spring semester)

*intro to theatre prerequisite (fall semester)

Students will be guided through the production process, from selecting a play and it's cast to working creatively and safely behind the scenes. Students will explore special interests in technical theatre from light and sound design to special effects and make-up and costume design.

Course Title: Hands On History

Course Length: Fall and Spring Semesters

Grade Level: 4th - 6th

Curriculum: Story of the World/Volume 3

Description: Don't just read about history - experience it through textbook study, hands on activities, and map and geography work. We will be focusing on giving the child an enthusiasm for history, an understanding of major cultures, and knowledge of the chronological order of historical events.

Course Title: Middle School Language Arts

Course Length: Fall and Spring Semesters

Grade Levels: 4th-6th Grades

Curriculum: Institute for Excellence in Writing

Description: Using the writing process, students will consistently improve writing skills beginning with basic one paragraph writing, developing through the year to three, then five (& possibly more) paragraph essays. They will complete the year with the ability to write critiques with varied, interesting topics. In addition, based on student interest and population, this class will be assigned appropriate outside reading with book projects. Students will use [IEW's Following Narnia Volume One](#) for an exciting writing adventure in the 2017-18 school year.

Course Title: Middle School Math

Course Length: Fall & Spring Semesters

Curriculum: Saxon Math

Description: For over 30 years, Saxon Math™ has been delivering proven results for students in Grades K–12. The Saxon Math curriculum has an incremental structure that distributes content throughout the year. This integrated and connected approach provides deep, long-term mastery of the content and skills.

What does Saxon Math provide?

Incremental: Students have time to understand and practice the lesson.

Distributed: Students have time to practice and master previous concepts.

Cumulative: Students are ready for high stakes assessments.