

## 2024-25 Session 4

March 24- June 13, 2024



Inspiring curiosity through a personalized, project-based learning experience

2024/25 Session 4 – Monday, March 24 to Friday, June 13, 2024

310.707.8538 | 500 CENTER STREET, EL SEGUNDO, CA 90245

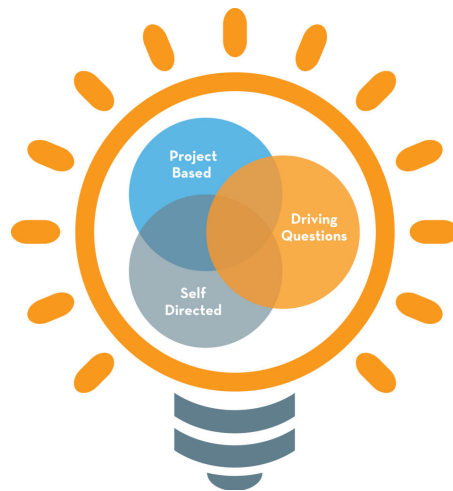
Nonprofit 501(c)(3) 81-4353194

# Welcome to the LOFT!

Our mission is to inspire curiosity in students through a personalized, hands-on, project-based learning experience. We also strongly believe in the power of Socratic discussion and all classes are geared towards student engagement with the material through this method.

At The LOFT, our goals are to support, enhance, and develop a joy for learning. We're excited to inspire your children this year and beyond!

Our labs and one-to-one instruction are aligned with California Standards. We provide Da Vinci Connection and homeschool families with work journal documentation including quality work samples.



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### 2024-2025 Session 4 Schedule

The Loft is available for parent meet-ups and other pre-approved rental needs from our community. Please reach out to the Center Director if interested.

The Cohort program is best-experienced in-person and the expectation is the group will participate on campus unless illness, or such, prevents attendance.

**First Day:** Monday, March, 24, 2025

**Last Day:** Friday, June 13, 2025

**Potluck in the Park:** Wednesday, June 11- 11:30-2:30 (Recreation Park, El Segundo)

**Duration:**

- 11 Weeks of instruction for Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday Labs
- 10 weeks of instruction for Monday Labs due to holiday(s):
  - No Monday Labs on: Memorial Day, Monday, May 26, 2025
  - No Classes the week of April 14-18 in Observance of Spring Break

### Price and Billing

Type	Number of Meetings Per week/ Session	Hours Per Week	Hours Per Session	Session Price
Labs	1 per week 8 per session	2	22	\$462
Teen Cohort – “Origins Cohort” Teacher: Mr. David	<b>Tue./Wed.</b> 8 per session	5	55	\$1,155
Teen Cohort – “Climate Cohort” Teacher: Mr. Trevor	<b>Wed./Thur.</b> 8 per session	5	40	\$1,155
Labs on Monday – less days due to Holiday	1 per week 7 per session	2	20	\$420
Science Labs *supplies	1 per week 8 per session	2	16	\$480
Culture Club *food supplies	1 per week 8 per session	2	22	\$485
Math Cohort	<b>Mon./Tues.</b> 7 per session	4	44	\$880
Tutoring – private 1 learner for one hour				\$90

- Invoices will be sent out through QuickBooks and are due by the first day of the session. We are approved vendors for: Blueridge, ILead, and Suncoast (LOFT US).
- You may now pay online via the payment portal (\*signup required), or bring a check to the Loft for payment.
- All students will be given a LOFT email address upon enrollment/payment.
- Commitment and billing are for the full session.

- There are no refunds or make-up classes if you miss a lab.
- As a non-profit, the LOFT appreciates donations and timely payments.
- A price adjustment is provided for holidays or labs canceled by the LOFT.
- The LOFT may cancel a lab if the minimum number of students is not achieved or charge small group rates.

### Payment

- You may now pay online via the payment portal (\*free but signup required), or bring a check to the Loft for payment.
- Make checks payable to LOFT Academy US.
- CC Payments accepted with a 4% Square fee.

### General

- ❖ Signed acknowledgment of policies and release of liability must be submitted prior to attending The LOFT.
- ❖ 1-1 Tutoring must be cancelled with 24 notice to be made up.
- ❖ For in-person classes, social and food breaks are built into the day. Each hour is approximately 50 minutes of instruction.
- ❖ For in person classes, please bring a lunch/snacks and labelled water bottle.
- ❖ The LOFT is an electronic game free zone unless approval is given. Cell phone usage for parent/child communication only, please.

### Hardship

The LOFT is a non-profit organization and committed to offering a personalized learning experience to all. To date, we are proud to say we have helped many families with reduced tuition assistance. Unfortunately, money only goes so far, and the LOFT's scholarship fund and discounting ability has been exhausted. However, if financial hardship is preventing you from participating, please provide evidence of hardship to see if an extended payment arrangement can be made. We hope to have new donations made in the near future by generous supporters to help additional family's financial needs.

### Donations

It is through the generous donation of our community we are able to keep the cost for this premium learning experience so low. **Please consider The LOFT in your charitable contributions.** Donations help fund programs and extend our reach into the community to offer scholarships.

**501(c)(3) 81-435519**

# Schedule At-A-Glance

## Monday

Time	Subject	Grades	Title	Facilitator(s)	Cost
	<b>9:00 to 11:00</b>				
9:00 to 11:00	ELA	6 <sup>th</sup> -7 <sup>th</sup>	Raise the Bar, Level 4	David	\$420
9:00 to 11:00	HIS	4 <sup>th</sup> -6 <sup>th</sup>	History Alive! Ancient Civilizations	Trevor	\$420
9:00 to 11:00	Math	1 <sup>st</sup> -2 <sup>nd</sup>	Demystifying Math	Veronica	\$420
	<b>11:30 to 1:20</b>				
11:30 to 1:20	HS	6 <sup>th</sup> -7 <sup>th</sup>	History Alive! The Young Republic	Trevor	\$420
11:30 to 1:20	ELA	5 <sup>th</sup> -6 <sup>th</sup>	Raise the Bar, Level 2	David	\$420
11:30 to 1:20	ELA	5 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup>	Creative Writing	Brad	\$420
11:30 to 1:20	SC/SEL	k-2 <sup>nd</sup>	Science of Reading	Veronica	\$420
	<b>1:30 to 3:20</b>				
1:30 to 3:20	Math	5 <sup>th</sup> -6 <sup>th</sup>	Math Cohort (Day 1)	Trevor	\$1,155
1:30 to 3:20	ELA	6 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup>	Beauty of the Short Story	David	\$420
1:30 to 3:20	ELA/Math	6 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup>	H.S. Test Prep Class (New Class!)	Brad	\$420
1:30 to 3:20	SC/SEL	3 <sup>rd</sup> -5 <sup>th</sup>	Inside (Outside) Brain	Veronica	\$420
	<b>3:30 to 5:20</b>				
3:30 to 4:30	ELA	1 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup>	Tutor	David	Tutor
3:30 to 4:30	Math	1 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup>	Tutor	Trevor	Tutor
3:30 to 4:30	Test Prep	1 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup>	Tutor	Brad	Tutor
<b>Subject Key:</b>					
ELA	English Language Arts	SEL	Social & Emotional Learning		
Math	Math	HS	History and Social Science		
CT	Critical Thinking	PF	Arts/Performance		
SC	Science	LAN	Foreign Language		
PS	Problem Solving	CS	Computer Science		

## Tuesday

Time	Subject	Grades	Title	Facilitator(s)	Cost
<b>9:00 to 11:00</b>					
9:00 to 11:00	ELA	5 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup>	Loft Angeles Times	David	\$462
9:00 to 11:00	CS	4 <sup>th</sup> -6 <sup>th</sup>	Coding from Scratch (New Class!)	Trevor	\$462
9:00 to 11:00	Math	2 <sup>nd</sup> -3 <sup>rd</sup>	Math U See (New Class!)	Veronica	\$462
<b>11:30 to 1:20</b>					
11:30 to 1:20	Math	5 <sup>th</sup> -6 <sup>th</sup>	Math Cohort (Day 2)	Trevor	\$0
11:30 to 1:20	Math/CT	3 <sup>rd</sup> -5 <sup>th</sup>	Art Architecture & Design	Brad	\$462
<b>11:00 to 1:30</b>	CT/PB/ELA/HS	6 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup>	*Cohort: Origins to the Present (Day 1)	David	\$1155
11:30 to 1:20	SC	4 <sup>th</sup> -6 <sup>th</sup>	Science: How Stuff Works (New Class!)	Veronica	\$487
<b>1:30 to 3:20</b>					
1:30 to 3:20	SCI	6 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup>	Science: Physiology	Trevor	\$487
1:30 to 3:20	ELA/PF	6 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup>	Scriptwriting 101	David	\$462
1:30 to 3:20	Math	6 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup>	Algebra I	Brad	\$462
1:30 to 3:20	Math	5 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup>	Exploring the World (New Class!)	Veronica	\$462
<b>3:30 to 5:20</b>					
3:30 to 4:30	ELA	1 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup>	Tutor	David	Tutor
3:30 to 4:30	Math	1 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup>	Tutor	Trevor	Tutor
3:30 to 4:30	Test Prep	H.S.	Tutor	Brad	Tutor

Subject Key:			
ELA	English Language Arts	SEL	Social & Emotional Learning
Math	Math	HS	History and Social Science
CT	Critical Thinking	PF	Arts/Performance
SC	Science	LAN	Foreign Language
PS	Problem Solving	CS	Computer Science



### Wednesday

Time	Subject	Grades	Title	Facilitator(s)	Cost
<b>9:00 to 11:00</b>					
9:00 to 11:00	ELA/Cooking	4 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup>	Culture Club	David	\$490
9:00 to 11:00	Math	6 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup>	Math Support Lab	Trevor	\$462
9:00 to 11:00	Math	3 <sup>rd</sup> -5 <sup>th</sup>	Math U See	Veronica	\$462
<b>11:30 to 1:20</b>					
<b>11:00 to 1:30</b>	CT/PB/ELA/HS	6 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup>	*Cohort: The Climate Project (Day 1)	Trevor	\$1155
11:30 to 1:20	ELA	4 <sup>th</sup> -6 <sup>th</sup>	Creative Writing	Brad	\$336
<b>11:00 to 1:30</b>	CT/PB/ELA/HS	6 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup>	*Cohort: Origins to the Present (Day 2)	David	\$0
11:30 to 1:20	SC		Science: How Stuff Works (*continuation)	TBD	\$487
<b>1:30 to 3:20</b>					
1:30 to 3:20	SC	6 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup>	Science- Physiology (*continuation)	Trevor	\$487
1:30 to 3:20	ELA	4 <sup>th</sup> -6 <sup>th</sup>	Raise the Bar, Level 3	David	\$462
1:30 to 3:20	Math/CT	3 <sup>rd</sup> -5 <sup>th</sup>	Art Architecture & Design	Brad	\$462
1:30 to 3:30	ELA	3 <sup>rd</sup> -5 <sup>th</sup>	Blossoming Book Club	Veronica	\$462
<b>3:30 to 5:20</b>					
3:30 to 5:20	ELA	4 <sup>th</sup> -9 <sup>th</sup>	After-School Immersion Spanish	Carlos	\$336
3:30 to 4:30	Math	1 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup>	Tutor	David	Tutor
3:30 to 4:30	Test Prep	H.S.	Tutor	Brad	Tutor

Subject Key:			
ELA	English Language Arts	SEL	Social & Emotional Learning
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CT	Critical Thinking	PF	Arts/Performance
SC	Science	LAN	Foreign Language
PS	Problem Solving	CS	Computer Science

## Thursday

Time	Subject	Grades	Title	Facilitator(s)	Cost
<b>9:00 to 11:00</b>					
9:00 to 11:00	ELA	6 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup>	Raise the Bar, Level 5	David	\$462
9:00 to 11:00	CS	3 <sup>rd</sup> -5 <sup>th</sup>	Coding from Scratch	Trevor	\$462
9:00 to 11:00	Math	1 <sup>st</sup> -2 <sup>nd</sup>	Demystifying Math	Veronica	\$462
<b>11:30 to 1:20</b>					
11:00 to 1:30	CT/PB/ELA/HS	6 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup>	*Cohort: The Climate Project (Day 2)	Trevor	\$0
11:30 to 1:20	Math	6 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup>	Fundamentals of Math	Brad	\$462
11:30 to 1:20	ELA/PF	3 <sup>rd</sup> -5 <sup>th</sup>	Stories From The Shadowlands	David	\$462
11:30 to 1:20	ELA	k-2 <sup>nd</sup>	The Science of Reading	Veronica	\$462
<b>1:30 to 3:20</b>					
1:30 to 3:20	HS	6 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup>	Real World Math	Trevor	\$462
1:30 to 3:20	ELA/CT/HS	6 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup>	Captivating Middle School Literature	David	\$462
1:30 to 3:20	Math	6 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup>	Math Fundamentals	Brad	\$462
1:30-3:20	SC/SEL	3 <sup>rd</sup> -4 <sup>th</sup>	Inside (Out) my Brain	Veronica	\$462
<b>3:30 to 5:20</b>					
3:30 to 5:20	MUS	4 <sup>th</sup> -9 <sup>th</sup>	Here Comes the Song (New Class!)	Danny	\$336
3:30 to 4:30	Math	1 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup>	Tutor	Trevor	Tutor
3:30 to 4:30	Test Prep	H.S.	Tutor/Test Prep	Brad	Tutor

Subject Key:			
ELA	English Language Arts	SEL	Social & Emotional Learning
Math	Math	HS	History and Social Science
CT	Critical Thinking	PF	Arts/Performance
SC	Science	LAN	Foreign Language
PS	Problem Solving	CS	Computer Science

## Friday

Time	Subject	Grades	Title	Facilitator(s)	Cost
<b>9:00 to 11:00</b>					
9:00 to 11:00	ELA	6 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup>	Raise the Bar - Level 4	David	\$462
9:00 to 11:00	SC	3 <sup>rd</sup> -5 <sup>th</sup>	The Wide World of Science (New Class!)	Trevor	\$487
9:00 to 11:00	Math	6 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup>	Algebra I	Brad	\$462
<b>11:30 to 1:20</b>					
11:30 to 1:20	SC	6 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup>	Science- Physiology	Trevor	\$487
11:30 to 1:20	ELA	3 <sup>rd</sup> -5 <sup>th</sup>	Raise the Bar – Level 1 (New Class!)	David	\$462
11:30 to 1:20	Math	4 <sup>th</sup> -5 <sup>th</sup>	Geography 101	Brad	\$462
<b>1:30 to 3:20</b>					
1:30 to 3:20	HS	4 <sup>th</sup> -5 <sup>th</sup>	Civics	Trevor	\$462
1:30 to 3:20	ELA/CT/SEL	6 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup>	The Beauty of the Short Story	David	\$462
1:30 to 3:20	ELA/Math	6 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup>	H.S. Test Prep Class (New Class!)	Brad	\$462
<b>3:30 to 5:20</b>					
3:30 to 4:30	ELA	1 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup>	Tutor	David	Tutor
3:30 to 4:30	Math	1 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup>	Tutor	Trevor	Tutor
3:30 to 4:30	Test Prep	H.S.	Tutor/Test Prep	Brad	Tutor

Subject Key:			
ELA	English Language Arts	SEL	Social & Emotional Learning
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# The COHORT – A Renewed Hope!

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The Cohort has grown and is feeling optimistic about our world and our neighbors- so we've decided to tie the year together thematically and call it: *A Renewed Hope!* We are now offering two separate collaborative groups for the new school year! The Cohort is an **engaging, project-based, academic program designed to develop critical thinkers while expanding social skills**. Each program is designed for a small group of early teens to move through the yearlong curriculum together. The small group setting promotes trust within the peer-group to facilitate deep and lively conversations that stimulate critical thinking, cooperation, and social skills.

The Cohort meets twice a week and is designed to build a community of inquiry over the course of the year. 21st century skills will be developed through collaboration, research, questioning, and analyzing with peers in academic areas such as sourcing, causation, close reading skills, clear writing expectations with regular feedback, and contextualization.

As members of the Cohort pursue their studies, they will receive guidance and support from teachers, David Chrzanowski and Trevor Graham-Wilcox. Together, David and Trevor bring over 25 years of experience leading constructivist style learning, social-emotional development, and problem-solving skills.

The consistency of the cohort members and the length of time they spend together builds trust and promotes deep learning and lively discussions. The topics are designed to exercise academic muscle and promote critical thinking as well as social and emotional learning.

The Cohort meets 16 times over 8 weeks, for a total of 40 hours of group instruction.

## The Cohort (Tuesday/Wednesday)

**\*This class meets on Tuesday and Wednesday from 11:00am to 1:30pm.**

### Session 1-4: Origins to the Present

<b>Grade Target:</b>	early teens
<b>Meeting frequency:</b>	TWO times per week on Tuesday AND Wednesday
<b>Time:</b>	11:00am - 1:30pm
<b>Number of meetings</b>	18 meetings spanning 9 weeks on Tuesdays and Wednesdays
<b>Facilitator:</b>	David Chrzanowski
<b>Subjects covered:</b>	Claim testing, reading, writing, historical evidence, critical thinking, and problem solving.
<b>Commitment:</b>	Year-long commitment strongly recommended

### Description:

This turbo charged class will explore human history before humans existed and will culminate in our present moment. We'll attempt to make sense of the present through historical evidence and diverse narratives connecting students to people, places, and events in history to better understand the problems of today, all the while readying themselves for a better future. Reading and writing will be rigorous and challenging. To guide students lexiled reading and clear expectations in our writing projects will be tailored to the incoming class.

Our goal is to model and build a *Culture of Thinking* from which we will investigate emergent interests, issues, and problems in a trusting environment of engaged learners that leads us forward into a sustained *Community of Inquiry* over the coming sessions of the year.

### The Cohort (Wednesday/Thursday)

**\*This class meets on Wednesday and Thursday from 11:00am to 1:30pm.**

#### Session 1-4: The Climate Project

<b>Grade Target:</b>	early teens
<b>Meeting frequency:</b>	TWO times per week on Tuesday AND Wednesday
<b>Time:</b>	11:00am - 1:30pm
<b>Number of meetings</b>	18 meetings spanning 9 weeks on Wednesday and Thursdays
<b>Facilitator:</b>	Trevor Graham-Wilcox
<b>Subjects covered:</b>	Writing, claim testing, reading, critical thinking
<b>Commitment:</b>	Year-long commitment strongly recommended

#### Description:

How can optimism affect our actions? Why does climate change feel so daunting? As one person, how can I do anything that will actually help? Leave your doom and gloom at the door! Our cohort will look at our planet, our society, and ourselves to examine how progress is driven by mindset and collaboration. At its core, our focus will be climate change – the causes, impact, and jigsaw puzzle of possible solutions. Guided by OER’s new comprehensive Climate Project, students will engage with the central idea of “impatience climate optimism” with an array of critical thinking skills. Students will learn to test claims, read data, and evaluate solutions. However, by pairing hope with scientific reality, we will come away from this year informed about our planet’s multi-dimensional dilemma. Our discussions, activities, and projects will help students confront the social science, political science, psychology, and earth science concepts that are tied to climate change. Jump aboard this cohort ship and let’s navigate the greatest challenge of our time!

Our goal is to model and build a *Culture of Thinking* from which we will investigate emergent interests, issues, and problems in a trusting environment of engaged learners that leads us forward into a sustained *Community of Inquiry* over the coming sessions of the year.

<b>Home Practice:</b>	Yes, approximately 1.5 – 3 hours per week
<b>Materials:</b>	Students are asked to bring their own laptop to class.
<b>Chromebook:</b>	The Cohort will make use of online work in class and at home on their project work. If you do not have a Chromebook or access to a computer with a Chrome browser, we have a limited number that can be used while at The Loft.
<b>Work journal support:</b>	Work samples and description of class progress will be provided via Google Docs for you to fulfill DVC work journals or charter school proof of learning requirements.
<b>Grade Target:</b>	7th – 8th Cohort (*6th and 9th with approval)
<b>In-person attendance</b>	Due to the nature of hands-on projects and the lively discussion, the Cohort is best delivered in-person.
<b>Commitment:</b>	The Cohort is designed to build a community of inquiry over the course of the academic year. As such, students are highly encouraged to attend all sessions.

### Application for The Cohort

Inclusion in The Cohort is based on an application and a family interview to ensure a good fit. True to our mission statement, class size will be limited to a 12:1 teacher to student ratio.

If interested in joining The Cohort, please contact Center Director to apply and we will schedule a family interview.

#### Student Questionnaire

Please have your student print and complete the “Student Questionnaire” document to bring with them during their interview.

<https://www.loftacademy.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/STUDENT-QUESTIONNAIRE-MSc.pdf>

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# SCIENCE LAB DESCRIPTIONS

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## Physiology

**Grade Target:** 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>

**Facilitator:** Trevor

**Materials:** Included

**Description:** In this course, students will answer the question: “What makes us tick?” Literally. From neurons to kneecaps, our bodies demand our appreciation and understanding. Join us for an engaging and hands-on introduction to the fascinating world of physiology – the study of body parts and how they work together. Uncover the inner workings of the human body through labs, role-play, reading, diagraming, microscopy and more. Students will delve into the structures and functions of our body like cells, tissues, and organs. Then we will investigate various systems of the human body and discover how these systems function individually and collaboratively to sustain life. By the end of the course, students will have developed an understanding of how the human body functions and adapts to different environments.

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## Inside (Outside) Brain

**Grade Target:** Upper 3<sup>rd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup>

**Facilitator:** Veronica

**Materials:** Included

**Description:** Ever wonder why you feel happy, frustrated, or excited? In this fun, Inside Out-themed class, students will take a journey through the limbic system, the part of the brain that controls emotions and behavior! Through games, stories, and hands-on activities, students will learn how scientists collect and use data to understand feelings, decision-making, and social interactions. They'll also explore social-emotional learning (SEL) strategies to manage emotions, build empathy, and strengthen friendships. This engaging class helps students understand both the science and the data behind why we feel and act the way we do!

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## Magic Science

**Grade Target:** 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup>

**Facilitator:** Carlos

**Materials:** Included

**Description:** This lab will offer exciting experiments focusing mainly on physics and chemistry through magic! We will focus on using real world applications from the day's lesson - the instructor plans on having students make toys with recycled material. The instructor will also interject Spanish vocabulary and phrases throughout the lab.

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## The Wide World of Science

**Grade Target:** 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup>

**Facilitator:** Trevor

**Materials:** Included

**Description:** Get ready to uncover the beauty and complexity of the world around us! In his class, we will be learning about many different types of science and doing fun, hands-on experiments and observations as we go. After learning and practicing the scientific method, we take an interactive tour of the branches of physical and life sciences including chemistry, botany, weather, paleontology, and more. Students will be able to get messy, creative, and curious as they find out how to be a scientist.

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## How Stuff Works

**Grade Target:** 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup>

**Facilitator(s):** Elizabeth G., Rick S., TBD

**Materials:** Included

**Description:** Ever wonder why some things taste sour while others taste sweet? Why does one side of a magnet push away while the other side pulls tight? How do people see color, and why can a shrimp see more colors than you do? Why are the days shorter in winter and longer in summer?

What makes gooey cake batter turn into a yummy cake? All these questions and more can be answered by science!

Taste? That's biology and chemistry working together! Magnets? That's physics! Color? That's biology! Daylight changes? That's astronomy! And can you believe that baking is chemistry!? In "How Stuff Works," we will explore the world around us through science and discover just how much we interact with it in everyday life.

# MATH LABS DESCRIPTIONS

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## Demystifying Math

**Grade Target:** Upper 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>

**Facilitator:** Veronica

**Materials:** Included

**Description:** Finally, a class for young mathematicians! Number sense is essential for building a strong math foundation, and this engaging class helps children develop it with confidence. Through fun activities and hands-on learning, students will strengthen their understanding of numbers, enhance flexible thinking, and build problem-solving skills in a supportive environment.



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### Math in Motion

**Grade Target:** 3<sup>rd</sup> 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>

**Facilitator:** Veronica

**Materials:** Tablet/chromebook & computation notebook (\*some chromebooks avail)

**Description:** Math isn't just about numbers—it's an adventure full of creativity, problem-solving, and real-world connections. Designed for students to reimagine math concepts through hands-on activities, games, and collaborative projects that make abstract ideas come to life. Students will see math as a powerful tool for understanding the world around them. This class will help to shift the perception of math from a daunting subject to one filled with possibilities and excitement.

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### Exploring the World of Math

**Grade Target:** 5<sup>th</sup>/ 6<sup>th</sup>

**Facilitator:** Veronica

**Materials:** Tablet/chromebook (\*some chromebooks avail)

**Description:** All math simply begins with counting. Whether by counting up, down, in groups, or out, Brad will work to improve your kiddo's numeracy, and hone their dexterity with the basic algorithms. As confidence grows, fractions, decimals, percentages, and algebra will be either introduced, or worked over so that students really can stretch and grow!

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### Foundational Math

**Grade Target:** 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>

**Facilitator:** Brad

**Materials:** Included

**Description:** All math simply begins with counting. Whether by counting up, down, in groups, or out, Brad will work to improve your kiddo's numeracy, and hone their dexterity with the basic algorithms. As confidence grows, fractions, decimals, percentages, and algebra will be either introduced, or worked over so that students really can stretch and grow!

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### Art, Architecture and Design

**Grade Target:** 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>

**Facilitator:** Brad

**Materials:** Included

**Description:** Taking inspiration from the intersection of math and nature this class will be an immersive, hands-on lab where students design and build solid structures including: cathedrals, large indoor spaces, and other famous design monuments.

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## Math Support Lab

**Grade Target:** 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>

**Facilitator:** Trevor

**Materials:** Will be discussed on first day

**Description:** We all know it can be difficult to keep the momentum going throughout the week and find support when you are stuck in the math mud. This class is designed for middle school students who would benefit from help in achieving their weekly work goals for CPM or homeschool curriculum. We will share strategies, work through examples, explore areas of struggle, correct past work or tests, and find paths forward. On days in which students do not have assignments to complete, we will provide relevant extensions (practice, projects, games) for their learning.

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## Geography 101

**Grade Target:** 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>

**Facilitator:** Brad

**Materials:** Included

**Description:** Learn the basics of cartography, the world map controversy, the nations of the world and their capitals, the states of our nation and their capitals, as well as some of how geography and weather come together.

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## Algebra I

**Grade Target:** 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>

**Facilitator:** Brad

**Materials:** Included

**Description:** A smaller and more purposeful class aimed at aiding students who want to move ahead in math in middle school and high school. The course will cover the material from Algebra I in a fun and different way as we work on understanding and facility with the concepts and topics from basic algebra equations to proofs and an intro to advanced topics.

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## Real World Math

**Grade Target:** 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>

**Facilitator:** Trevor

**Materials:** Students will be asked to bring their current CPM lessons, either printed or on their laptop.

**Description:** This class is for the middle school student who is ready to explore the “why?” for all the mathematics they are required to learn. With finance, sports, food, travel, weather, and elections, there is no end to the aspects of life that math touches. We will get hands-on and minds-on with games, cooking, data presentation, budgeting, spreadsheet formulas, and geometric art. Contrary to popular belief, math was not invented to torture us. Math is a tool that enriches our lives and shapes our

understanding of the universe. At this crucial time in a student's life when the math gets more challenging and starts to feel more abstract, let this class bring you back down to earth!

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### CPM Math Upper-Levels, 2/3

**Grade Target:** 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>

**Facilitator:** Brad

**Materials:** Students will be asked to bring their current CPM lessons, either printed or on their laptop.

**Description:** This lab is intended for 7th-8th grade students that are using the CPM 2 or 3 curriculum. Students will work on completing and making corrections on their current assignments while receiving tutoring on the content as needed. We will follow the timeline for assignments provided to DV Connect students.

Brad has tutored groups of junior high and high school students in a similar fashion and is looking forward to helping students at the LOFT with this same model.

Some of the benefits of this model include; having an intentional space and adequate block of time for students to study and complete their work, the presence of a tutor to help with challenging content, learning through working collaboratively and helping fellow students and the opportunity to practice organizational and study skills.

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### Math U See

**Grade Target:** 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup>

**Facilitator(s):** Veronica

**Materials:** Book purchase required- assessment given on first day to determine level

**Description:** Using the Math-U-See curriculum, your student can truly master the principles of math, starting at their most comfortable level. Math-U-See is a mastery-based curriculum that teaches math in a straightforward, no-frills method. Your student will gain confidence in math as they progress through this course, truly mastering the concepts being taught.

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### Tutoring, Math – Levels 1, 2, and 3

**Grade Target:** All

**Schedule:** Monday to Friday

**Facilitator:** Varies

**Materials:** Included

**Description:** We offer comprehensive, one-to-one tutoring in math from 1<sup>st</sup>- 12<sup>th</sup> grades. Whether your young one needs a little foundational support, full intervention, or just a boost, we will provide support in a caring environment and encourage their growth.

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### High School Test Prep, ISEE/SSAT/SAT/ACT/AP Exams

**Grade Target:** High School students preparing for college

**Facilitator:** Brad

**Materials:** Included

**Description:** Standardized tests can be daunting! Let us help your student get a leg up and learn some strategies to boost those scores! So much of the testing experience is about reading the codes and using the information to select the best answer. Brad is more than prepared to help you reach your true potential!

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# ENGLISH & LANGUAGE ARTS & HISTORY DESCRIPTIONS

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## **Blossoming Book Club**

**Grade Target:** 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup>

**Facilitator:** Veronica

**Materials:** Included

**Description:** Join our Book Club and ignite the joy of reading in a fun, interactive way—designed to prevent readicide! This class helps elementary schoolers escape the pressure and over-analysis that can drain the fun out of books. Each session, students will take on a special role to guide the group’s discussion and analysis of the book. Roles include: Word Detective: Tracks down interesting or tricky words, explaining their meanings and how they’re used in the story. • Artist: Illustrates scenes or characters from the book to bring the story to life visually. • Summarizer: Provides a brief recap of the chapters we’re reading, • Connector: Finds connections between the book and real life, other books, or current events. • Passage Picker: Chooses powerful or interesting passages and explains why they stand out. • Favorite Character Analyst: Explores the motivations, growth, and qualities of their favorite character. • Question Master: Comes up with thought-provoking questions that spark conversation and deeper thinking. • Record Keeper: Summarizes the group discussion and shares insights or key points with the teacher. • Director of Discussion: Leads the conversation, making sure everyone participates and keeping the group on track. This class is all about making reading enjoyable again and building a love for books without the stress of over-analyzing. Perfect for middle schoolers who want to connect with stories and develop strong reading and discussion skills in a fun, engaging way!

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## **The Science of Reading**

**Grade Target:** k-2<sup>nd</sup>

**Facilitator:** Veronica

**Materials:** Curriculum purchase required

**Description:** The perfect class for young readers to learn how to decode words. Each class focuses each part of literacy, reading, writing, listening, and speaking. An engaging, multi-sensory class designed to strengthen decoding, blending, and fluency skills through interactive centers. Students will map sounds, roll and read, blend words, and match them to pictures using task cards, manipulatives, and games. Activities like Spin & Read, Fluency Drills, True or False, and Word Pyramids make phonics practice exciting while reinforcing vocabulary and letter-sound relationships. With a mix of movement-based learning and self-checking exercises, this class builds confidence and phonemic awareness in a fun, hands-on environment, perfect for early readers!

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## Here Comes the Song: Exploring the Art of Songwriting

**Grade Target:** 4<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>

**Facilitator:** Danny

**Materials:** Optional: bring any instrument of interest, even if a beginner.

**Description:** Under the mentorship of award-winning singer-songwriter, Danny Hamilton, students will embark on a multifaceted journey into songwriting, blending musical arts with literature, history, and technology. Through literary analysis, they'll dissect classic and modern tracks to understand their thematic underpinnings and narrative techniques, differentiating between verses, choruses, bridges, and pre-choruses. As they explore historical contexts of genres and artists, a project-based learning model will allow participants to draft and refine lyrics, melodies, and rhythms, culminating in their own original class-composition. Beyond music, the class dives into technological education, offering insights into the recording process, from the physics of sound to digital production tools. Embracing flexibility, the curriculum evolves based on student interests. Beginners to advanced alike are welcome!

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## History Alive! (Not So) Ancient Civilizations

**Grade Target:** 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>

**Facilitator:** Trevor

**Materials:** Included

**Description:** Is it possible that our 'ancient' past is really our present tense? What makes a civilization "civil"? What made certain ancient societies especially unique and prosperous? Students will build an understanding of how advanced civilizations like Mesopotamia, Egypt, and Maya functioned. Amidst comparing and contrasting the key elements of these societies (government, economics, art, geography, religion, etc.), students will have the opportunity to develop their own thriving civilization. What will be your staple crop? Who (if anyone) do the citizens worship and why? How do they communicate? What's the meaning of that purple tower over there and perhaps most importantly, what could these civilizations teach us about our world today?

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## We the People: Introduction to Civics

**Grade Target:** 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>

**Facilitator:** Trevor

**Materials:** Included

**Description:** As they say in all the superhero movies: "With great power comes great responsibility." Being a U.S. citizen can be our superpower when we understand what it means! "Civics" is all about the rights and responsibilities of being a citizen, and that's what we will try to unlock. Why do we have two houses of Congress? How is a community garden a form of activism? Why should I sit and listen to someone that I disagree with? We will dive into the core concepts and principles underlying our democracy, examine the structure and limits of the national government as set forth in

the U.S. Constitution, evaluate how well we have met our democratic ideals, and the role of the citizen in a democratic society.

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### **Raise the Bar: building writing skills (IEW) \*Check calendar for levels**

**Grade Target:** 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> 7<sup>th</sup>

**Facilitator:** David

**Materials:** Included

**Description:** Reading is language function, while writing is a motor function. This class will merge the two using key-word outlines. We will build the skills to succeed: helping students understand that research, organizing, clarifying ideas, and improving grammar and presentation are all essential to strong writing. I'm following along with Ken Pudewa's Student Writing Intensive process. It is important to note that this is a technical approach to mastery through developing and practicing a new skill in graduated steps.

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### **Stories from the Shadowlands**

**Grade Target:** 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>

**Facilitator:** David

**Materials:** None

**Description:** What is the nature of true bravery? Is bravery always the best choice? Is being cunning an example of bravery or cowardice? Which is more important, honor or survival? How can we know the reasons for someone's behavior? This class will revolve around the history and building of shadow puppets through the ancient world of folktales. We'll practice sequencing skills, engage in lively discussion around the stories as we collaboratively design and build our own puppets.

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### **Creative Writing Intensive**

**Grade Target:** 4<sup>th</sup>- 8<sup>th</sup>

**Facilitator:** Brad

**Materials:** Included

**Description:** Students may feel reluctant and threatened by a blank piece of paper and a request to write a story about a given topic. However, with some inspiration and fun activities, reluctant writers gain confidence and eager writers gain the skills to create higher quality writing. We'll start with the six traits of writing: ideas, organization, voice, word choice, sentence fluency, and conventions and see where go from there!

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### **The LOFT Angeles Times, Research Topics**

**Grade Target:** 5<sup>th</sup> -8<sup>th</sup>

**Facilitators:** David C.

**Materials:** Please have an active library card from the El Segundo branch

**Description:** This class is going to switch up the traditional newspaper research and shift our emphasis to hand-writing a research paper. We'll demystify the ancient art of researching without a computer as we practice creating bibliography cards, outlines and other resources at the library to write a paper we can be truly proud of. Classes will occasionally meet at the El Segundo Library.

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### **Captivating Middle School Literature**

**Grade Target:** 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>

**Facilitator:** David C.

**Materials:** Please purchase: WHEN YOU REACH ME by Rebecca Stead, THE HOUSE OF THE SCORPION by Nancy Farmer, and TUESDAYS WITH MORRIE by Mitch Albom

**Description:** Elevate your reading game with some instant classics including: Rebecca Stead's, WHEN YOU REACH ME (Miranda is an ordinary sixth grader, until she starts receiving mysterious messages from somebody who knows all about her, including things that have not even happened yet. Each message brings her closer to believing that only she can prevent a tragic death. Until the final note makes her think she's too late.), Nancy Farmer's THE HOUSE OF SCORPION (With undertones of vampires, Frankenstein, dragons' hoards, and killing fields, Matt's story turns out to be an inspiring tale of friendship, survival, hope, and transcendence. A must-read for teenage fantasy fans.), and the nonfiction masterpiece, TUESDAYS WITH MORRIE, by Mitch Albom (Maybe it was a grandparent, or a teacher or a colleague. Someone older, patient and wise, who understood you when you were young and searching, and gave you sound advice to help you make your way through it. For Mitch Albom, that person was Morrie Schwartz, his college professor from nearly twenty years ago.) Students will enjoy these novels together and at home, with activities and reading responses sprinkled throughout the year!

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### **History Alive! The Medieval World**

**Grade Target:** 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> (4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> with approval)

**Facilitator:** Trevor/David

**Materials:** Included

**Description:** When we think about the Middle Ages (500-1500 C.E.), we might think of catapults, crusades, and rotten meat. While we can easily gasp and giggle at life in "Dark Ages" Europe, there is so much more to these 1,000 years of human history. In this class, we will zoom in on the bizarre and beautiful of 13th century England while also introducing students to the vibrant cultures that emerged around the world, in places like West Africa, Japan, and the Islamic world. To put their learning into practice, students will have the opportunity to develop a board game as the class rolls along. So, roll the dice and find out what awaits when we travel back to the time of Samauri warriors and leech collectors!

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## History Alive! The Young Republic

**Grade Target:** 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> (4<sup>th</sup> with approval)

**Facilitator:** Trevor/ David

**Materials:** Included

**Description:** It wasn't easy being the newest nation on the block! Like a teenager coming of age, the early days of the U.S.A. were many things – exciting, clumsy, stressful, hopeful, and fragile. As the first country to be founded upon principles, the pressure was on – how would we live into the promise of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness? (Don't blow it!). Pivotal events like Shays' Rebellion, the ratifying of the Constitution, the Barbary Wars, the start of Underground Railroad, the Monroe Doctrine, and the Nullification Crisis all asked vital questions and tested the resolve of our republic during its first half century. Like today, the country was evolving, arguing, and searching for a "more perfect union". By studying texts and primary sources, organizing ideas and information, and participating in role-plays, students will feel the urgency, opportunity, and risk of an experimental nation taking flight.

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## Culture Club

**Grade target:** 4<sup>th</sup> -8<sup>th</sup> (3<sup>rd</sup> with approval)

**Facilitator:** David C.

**Materials:** Additional fee included in tuition for shopping materials. Please advise Center Director if any allergies are present with student.

**Description:** Students will still explore and experience world cultures in this 'foodie' immersive lab and also make their own lunches! Together we will build a definition of the word 'community' by looking at geological, historical changes, through the kitchen. We will read stories from different countries, explore those cultures on a map, and cook and eat foods when we can that represent various cultural traditions. In addition, students will celebrate and write stories around various cultural traditions.

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## Tutoring, Reading and Writing – Levels 1, 2, and 3

**Grade Target:** All

**Schedule:** Monday to Friday

**Facilitator:** Varies

**Materials:** Included

**Description:** We offer comprehensive, one-to-one tutoring in language arts from 1<sup>st</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grades. Whether your young one needs a little foundational support, full intervention, or just a boost, we will provide support in a caring environment and encourage their growth.

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# SPANISH DESCRIPTIONS

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## Spanish Immersion for Beginners + - Level 1, 2, and 3

**Grade Target:** Appropriate for anyone interested in learning Spanish

**Facilitator:** Carlos

**Materials:** Included

**Description:** The most effective way to learn something new is to do it! Through projects such as cooking, science, board games, and other fun-filled activities, Spanish vocabulary and phrases will be heard/spoken/read/written and brought to life through the relevance of the activity.

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# COMPUTER SCIENCE DESCRIPTIONS

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## Coding from Scratch

**Grade Target:** 3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>

**Facilitator:** Trevor

**Materials:** Included

**Description:** Embark on an exciting journey into the world of coding with this beginner course. Students will be introduced to the fundamentals of computer programming through fun and interactive projects using Scratch, a user-friendly visual programming language developed by MIT. In this class, kids will unleash their creativity as they learn how to create their own animations, stories, and games. We will also use non-screen games, challenges, and demonstrations to learn the concepts and skills behind coding such as sequence and problem-solving. Students will explore Scratch's intuitive interface, drag-and-drop coding blocks, and colorful sprites to bring their ideas to life on the screen.

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# TUTORING & SMALL GROUPS

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## ONE to One Tutoring – Private

**Grade Target:** 1<sup>st</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup>

**Schedule:** Monday to Friday available

**Price:** \$90

**Time:** per hour

**Description:** We offer comprehensive, one-to-one tutoring in all subject areas from 1<sup>st</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grades. Whether your young one needs a little foundational support, full intervention, or just a boost - let us help you reach your academic goals.

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## TWO to One Tutoring – 2 learners

**Grade Target:** 1<sup>st</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup>

**Schedule:** Monday to Friday available

**Price:** \$50 per learner

**Time:** per hour

**Description:** We offer comprehensive tutoring in all subject areas. Partner up with a buddy at a similar academic level and enjoy the fun of learning together. Whether your young one needs a little foundational support, full intervention, or just a boost - let us help you reach your academic goals.

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## Small Group

**Grade Target:** 1<sup>st</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup>

**Schedule:** Monday to Friday available

**Price:** \$500 per learner for a 11-week session. A small group has 4 learners (or more at the group's request).

**Time:** Small groups meet for 2 hours.

**Description:** The LOFT will design a Lab to meet your specific needs for your small group.

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