

# Summer Express Class Descriptions

Summer 2016

**Summer Express** is a flexible summer enrichment mix and match camp program offering a variety of fun and challenging classes for elementary and middle school campers. Summer Express classes are grouped into five categories: Academic; Arts (Music, Visual and Performing); Special Interest; Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM), and Sports and Fitness. Most classes are broken into two age groups: 6-9 years and 10-13 years. A few classes have different age requirements and are listed below in the class descriptions. For more information, please call 408-730-7523.

See you this summer,  
The Summer Express Staff Team

## Academic Classes

### Chess Skills

Chess is an excellent mental exercise that enhances logic skills and increases problem solving capacity. Lessons include fundamental rules, movement of pieces, capturing and strategies. No experience necessary.



builds on critical reading skills that require more thought than simply recalling facts from the story. With vocabulary instruction, campers learn strategies for deciphering unknown words. Campers receive a grade appropriate book list for selecting better book choices.

### Solve This

(7-9 years)

Campers become confident, analytical thinkers and problem solvers as they explore many options to solve problems. The course includes reviewing the problem-solving process, learning to apply problem-solving strategies and practice solving different word problems.



### Solve This

(10-13 years)

Solve mathematical word problems using a variety of strategies. This program sheds light on the process of problem solving, so that word problems will become less intimidating and students become confident, analytical thinkers and problem solvers. Campers explore options to solve problems and discuss their tactics with the group.

### Sum Fun with Math

(7-9 years)

Children learn about addition and subtraction tables and improve understanding of basic math facts, while increasing speed and accuracy using this fun approach.

### Write On

(10-13 years)

Your child will become a more confident writer while exploring and practicing various writing techniques, including different approaches to pre-writing, discovering a literary voice, and creating a unique piece of work that reflects style.



### Writing

(7-9 years)

Campers learn to organize their ideas in effective paragraph writing. In addition, campers learn appropriate writing structure in order to build more detail and connection to the topic sentence to make their writing stand out.

### Computer Science

Students learn about the different components that go into a computer and assemble a working computer. Campers gain a broad understanding of computer theory, electronics, and programming. In addition, class format provides a hands-on learning environment in building and solving electronic projects. Campers learn simple C++ programming.

### Reading Comprehension

(7-13 years)

This class is broken into two age groups (7-9 and 10-13 years), and



# Arts: Music, Visual and Performing Classes

## Bollywood

Interested in Hindi cinema? Campers explore Bollywood, one of the largest film producers in India. This fun interactive class helps participants build confidence, self esteem as well as gain knowledge rich in Indian culture.



## Drama Club

(Session 1 only)

Theater games, costuming and props set the stage for a fun-filled time as campers are guided through the production and performance of a live show! Class begins with the basics of acting, learning techniques in stage presence, vocal projection, character development and script analysis. Campers learn about the different parts of a production, such as costume and set design, directing and stage managing. Class concludes with a live performance.

## Get Up and Dance

(Session 1 only)

Dance to hip hop beats and other hit pop music. This class features exciting dance moves, along with basic techniques that improve coordination, stamina and overall fitness. Dance steps are introduced slowly in an easy-to-understand language. As campers sharpen their moves and refine footwork, choreography is introduced. Instruction is broken down to simplify the learning process, thereby helping to instill confidence in all dancers. Program culminates with a dance showcase.



## Guitar

Come join the Summer Express class of rock! Lessons taught in the classroom are strategically planned to cover all basic guitar techniques. Campers also learn some fun popular songs along the way. **Please bring your own guitar.**



## Knitting and Crochet

Come have fun exploring a whole new world of yarn crafts. Campers earn finger knitting, straw weaving, dyeing yarn and how to create their very own loom. No prior experience necessary.



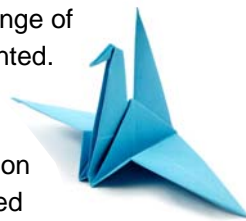
## Artistic Crafters

Campers develop new skills and techniques as they learn about artists and artist styles. Kids experiment with charcoal pencils, pastels, watercolor and discover their inner muse. Specialty crafts are explored as well.

## Origami

Discover the ancient art of paper folding. Campers learn basic folding techniques used to create an endless variety of origami models. Campers decorate their own special papers and use their folding skills to create projects and games. This program is suitable for children of all

ages, as a wide range of designs are presented. Campers begin with simple models and move on to more complicated levels. While origami is a fun and educational art form, it also reinforces math and science concepts.



## Pottery

Pottery making can stimulate the brain and eye, and trigger artistic expression in children. Participants learn to create from clay, with the three basic methods of hand building: Coiling, pinching and slab work. Campers will create bowls, statues, mugs and more.



## Singing for Fun

Campers learn basic singing techniques and vocal training. Emphasis will be on the personal improvement and individual development of the student's singing abilities. No prior experience required.



## Special Interest Classes



### Let's Get Cooking

Campers learn basic cooking along with other culinary skills in a hands-on setting that emphasizes fun. Children prepare delicious snacks, meals and desserts. At the end of each session all recipes are compiled into a cookbook to be taken home.



### Spanish

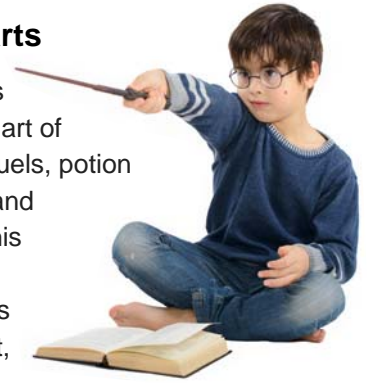
¡Vamos a hablar Español! (Let's go speak Spanish!) This class teaches the basics of the Spanish language. Topics covered include alphabet, colors, numbers, days of the week, the months, simple phrases and salutations. Lessons are taught through conversation, reading and writing including songs and games.

¡Venga a divertirse! (Come have fun!)



### Hogwarts

Campers earn the art of wizard duels, potion making and more! This program combines visual art, stage combat, dance and drama in a mystical journey through your imagination. Be transformed into campers of The Hogwarts School and introduce friends and family to this magical world when they watch the final performance.



## Sports & Fitness Classes

### Archery

(7-13 years)

Participants learn about safety, shooting, fundamentals, marksmanship, sportsmanship, different shooting styles and equipment. All equipment is provided.



### Martial Arts

This class provides an excellent introduction to martial arts. Traditional curriculum gives campers the opportunity to develop character and self-control. Basic blocks, strikes and kicks will be demonstrated.

### Self-Defense for Kids

This class helps equip campers with knowledge and strategies to protect themselves in potentially dangerous situations. Children will be more confident and aware in their surroundings. The most important thing to remember when teaching children about "strangers" is to instill confidence and knowledge.



### Swimming

Learn basic strokes and skills to develop into a better swimmer. Participants will be grouped with those of similar ability. Water safety and swim instruction is provided.

**Bring a swimsuit, towel and sun block.**

### Team Sports Variety

Receive personal instruction on skill development for basketball and soccer. Children learn basketball footwork drills, rebounding, and shooting. Soccer techniques include receiving, shooting and passing.



### Tennis

Learn the basic skills of tennis: forehand, backhand, serving and volleys. Players will also develop sportsmanship, social skills, motor skills and appreciation for this fun, challenging game. **Please bring your own racket.**

### Dance Fitness

(Session 2 only)



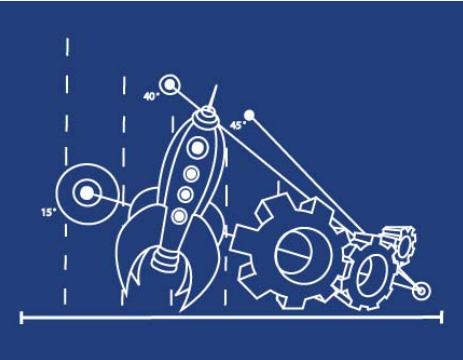
Party, groove and dance yourself healthy! This Dance Fitness class uses easy steps, fun combinations and great music to get your body moving. Enjoy an energetic class filled with great beats and a party atmosphere!



# STEM Classes

## Engineering

Have fun building rockets, catapults, crossbows, humane mousetraps, and a ride-able hovercraft! Curriculum for this class is based around teaching the simple machines of engineering, and the basics of Newton's forces.



## Electronics with Minecraft

This class is for Minecraft Engineers, and Redstone Enthusiasts! Over the two weeks campers learn basic electronics skills within the wonderful world of Minecraft. Participants learn how to make logic gates, timers, sensors and memory devices, and use these skills to build fantastic machines! (Minecraft and Redstone are trademarks of Notch AB. This camp is not affiliated with or endorsed by Notch AB.)

## Humanoid Robotics

Campers learn to program humanoid robots first using stop motion programming, then using traditional programming language to program the robots using sensors. After this



participants experiment with tweaking the source code to expand the robots' capabilities. Robots are capable of walking, running, doing handstands and more!

## Robotics

Children build small robots. Children learn about robotic components and learn basic problem-solving skills. Campers have an opportunity to build jousting robots, drawing robots, robotic claws, robot walkers, line-following robots, searching robots and a robot programmed to bring its programmer a soda!



## Robotics with Lego® E3V

In this class campers build capable robots as well as learn about robotic hardware and software interaction. Campers have an opportunity to build hexapods, robotic arms, ball-collecting robots, self-balancing robots, line-following robots, Lego-sorting robots and a Mars rover robot!

## STEM Coding

In STEM Coding campers learn how to use operators, if then statements, loops, and more. Campers then build working games inside Scratch and demonstrate how to control real electronic circuits using Scratch.

## 3D Printed Rocket Car

Campers are guided through designing a small rocket powered drag race car in 3D modeling software. Campers aim to make their car the fastest by utilizing proper weight distribution, a low drag coefficient, and aero stability. Projects are 3D printed, and tested in preparation of race day. On the last day, campers compete for the fastest race time.

## Sloppy Science Lab

(Session 1 only)

Slap on some safety goggles, snap on some gloves, and get ready for this incredible journey into the science lab.



Experiment with substances you probably have at home to create really radical reactions right before your eyes! Uncover the secrets of chemistry as you grow a crazy crystal garden, build a giant bubbling potion, and transform two regular liquids into an oozing batch of slippery slime. Learn about detective science, and use your newfound knowledge to become a Crime Scene Investigator.

## Move With Science

(Session 2 only)

Mad Scientist inventors have been hard at work putting together this "mad" bunch of physics fun. Investigate, create and play with a variety of objects while learning about motion and simple machines. Assemble and control pulleys, levers, and catapults. Explore the science of circuits and energy which will blast us into space, where campers learn about rockets and airplanes. Whether your child likes to build things or destroy them, this session is sure to include lots of both!