

CROSS MIDDLE SCHOOL 2022 - AMP UP COURSE OFFERINGS

ART

2-D ART

This course is an in-depth focus on the fundamental skills of 2-D art which includes both drawing and painting. Students will work from basic drawing foundations of using shapes and continue through gesture, observational and perspective drawing. This course will teach students how to stretch and prep a canvas before preparing the canvas for use of acrylic paint techniques.

3-D ART

This course is designed to fabricate and build 3-dimensional projects. Students will work with a variety of materials to build sculptural pieces of art that are both functional and decorative.

ELECTIVES

FORENSICS INVESTIGATION

Crime scene investigation is a hot topic in the world of science! We see in TV shows how forensic evidence can be used in criminal investigations. Students who take this class have the chance to play the role of the crime scene investigator! Sharpen your observational skills by collecting evidence such as fingerprints and hair and fabric samples. Practice scientific laboratory techniques and use chart comparison to analyze the data you collect. Come see an investigation from start to finish as you solve the crimes!

FUNDAMENTALS OF WEIGHT TRAINING

This is an introductory course to strength training through the use of free weights and machines. The emphasis in this course is on muscular strength, endurance, flexibility, and safety. The workouts in this class will cover every major muscle group of the entire body. Weight room safety, warm-up/cool down procedures, proper lifting techniques, and identification of major muscle groups are the basis of this course. In addition, students will monitor and improve their fitness levels by completing a training log which will keep track of their progress.

HISTORY OF THE WORLD

Who were the first Europeans to land on American soil? VIKINGS! Join us as we explore their history, language, beliefs, and interactions with the rest of the world. You will be building your own Viking village demonstrating all you have learned!

INDOOR GAMES

Come join us and stay cool indoors. You will be introduced to several different games including, Soccer, Softball/Baseball and Dodgeball. Learn to play each game in a smaller indoor gym where games are fast paced and exciting!!

MIND GAMES: SWORDS AND STORIES

We will use tabletop roleplaying games to help students develop classroom skills such as cooperative learning, problem solving, critical thinking, cause/effect relationships, and interpersonal communication. Students will

create characters to represent themselves in a series of curated adventures using a good ol' pencil and some paper. They will use these characters to navigate through puzzles, ethical dilemmas, and complicated instructions. They will use their strengths to overcome their weaknesses in order to defeat seemingly insurmountable challenges in whatever way their imagination can come up with. They will need to talk to each other to analyze situations, make plans to beat the obstacles before them, and accurately follow through on those plans to achieve victory!

The creative writing elements in this course will allow students to develop their own adventuring hero and to write that hero's origin story. Students will provide written responses to an assortment of gaming dilemmas, as well as logging their thoughts about the day's adventuring.

STEM

Students will work together in small cooperative groups in order to engineer prototypes of bridges and towers. Students will use everyday materials to construct and test a gravity powered car and compete in an egg drop contest.

SPANISH

This class involves a quick overview of the Spanish language. Students will learn how letters are pronounced in Spanish, numbers, days of the week, how to say basic phrases in the language, etc. as well as quick cultural tidbits from Spanish-speaking countries around the world."

THE SCIENCE OF COOKING

Why do some breads rise? What is the purpose of adding eggs to baked goods? What exactly happens when liquids go into the freezer? In this class, students will make, bake, and create various food items while learning the science behind their delicious concoctions. Students will have opportunities to use kitchen utensils, measure out ingredients, and produce edible food items while learning about specific ingredients and processes that aid our cooking efforts. **Must indicate all food allergies prior to start of class**

LANGUAGE ARTS

ARTS, CRAFTS, AND LITERATURE

An opportunity to read and respond to novels, short stories, and poems as a group and individually. The class will focus on integrating speaking, viewing, reading, and writing in response to a variety of texts. It will also provide a creative outlet with arts and crafts aligned to some portion of the text or background materials. Socio-emotional learning will also be incorporated as it aligns to the content of the reading materials.

Example: Read and respond to the book Scarface by Paul Kropp (a book about a Cambodian refugee who is being bullied at his new American high school). Craft – decorate and fly kites. Socio-emotional – reflect on experiences with bullying and ways to prevent it in middle school.

FOCUSED READING

This class is designed for students who want to improve their ability to read and respond to different types of text. Students will use passages at their reading levels and within their areas of interest. Readings will be fictional, factual, and functional (like schedules and recipes). Students will be helped to find the main ideas and details of the text as well as ways to clearly summarize what they've read.

FOCUSED WRITING

This class is designed for students who want to improve their ability in writing. Too often students look at a writing assignment or question they need to answer and then stare sadly at a blank page or flashing cursor on the computer screen. The class focus will be on helping students determine how to start, continue, finish, and edit a writing assignment with clear, student-friendly instructions.

NOVEL STUDY

Heartbreaking, funny, and beautifully written, *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian*, which is based on the author's own experiences, coupled with drawings by Ellen Forney that reflect the character's art, chronicles the contemporary adolescence of one Native American boy as he attempts to break away from the life he was destined to live.

We will do a novel study using the novel "*The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian*"; the study includes comprehension questions, summarizing skills, vocab study, and extension activities.

READING AND WRITING INTERVENTION

Time spent reading a variety of texts across genres and writing in various modes. Elements of speaking and viewing will also be incorporated to support overall academic growth in English Language Arts in middle school.

SUMMER NOVEL STUDY

Otherwise known as "Book Club", this class offers students a chance to read a novel together, talk about it, and go in-depth for character study, detailed imagining of the setting, "what-if" predictions and alternative endings, along with a few serious and creative writing activities related to the novel. This is a great opportunity for students to read over the summer, either with friends, or as a way to meet others interested in reading. If the class is organized with enough lead time, and if parents and the district approve, students may be able to choose the novel themselves.

MATH

ACCELERATED MATH (This class will be all 3 periods)

This course is a rigorous course of study that moves at a rapid pace and incorporates challenging and demanding material. The students must be proficient with both calculations and problem solving and should be able to work at a brisk pace. The program is designed for students who excel at mathematics, are self-motivated and are interested in pursuing more advanced mathematics classes in high school. Teacher recommendation only.

MASTERING MATH THROUGH ART AND GAMES!

We will be designing our own graphs, making scale drawings of your favorite candy, building 3-D pyramids, origami, Battleship, Connect the Dots, and lots of card games. Come share your creativity and math skills!!!!