



# Learning Lab Winter 2023

Learning Lab classes are hands-on, high interest enrichment classes for students. Classes challenge students academically and creatively. Students will make new friends while exploring topics in-depth and developing new skills. Class sizes are limited to ensure optimal student/teacher interaction. Excellent teachers are chosen for expertise in their area and their skill working with bright students. **Classes are open to all.**

## In-Person Requirements:

Currently, masks are recommended, not required. Protocols are subject to change, based on local conditions/guidelines.

## Learning Lab Dates:

Saturdays - Feb. 4, 11, 18, 25 & March 4, 11

## Learning Lab Location:

Wydown Middle School, 6500 Wydown 63105

## Learning Lab Tuition & Payment:

Classes are \$100/six-week class, payable online or by check.

**For More Information:** Contact the GRC office at (314) 962-5920 or [info@giftedresourcecouncil.org](mailto:info@giftedresourcecouncil.org).



## Class Schedule

### SESSION 1: 9:30 - 11:00

Ages 4 - 5	Set Up Shop
1 <sup>st</sup> - 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Ocean Odyssey
1 <sup>st</sup> - 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Architecture Meets Mythology: Africa
1 <sup>st</sup> - 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Science of Flight
3 <sup>rd</sup> - 4 <sup>th</sup>	CSI: Wydown
3 <sup>rd</sup> - 4 <sup>th</sup>	It's Electric!
3 <sup>rd</sup> - 8 <sup>th</sup>	Chess: Intermediate/Advanced
3 <sup>rd</sup> - 8 <sup>th</sup>	LEGO Mindstorms Robotics - Beginner
4 <sup>th</sup> - 8 <sup>th</sup>	Comics for Change
5 <sup>th</sup> - 8 <sup>th</sup>	Minecraft Meets Conservation
5 <sup>th</sup> - 8 <sup>th</sup>	Revolutionary Science

### SESSION 2: 11:15 - 12:45

Ages 5 - 6	Set Up Shop
K - 1 <sup>st</sup>	Ocean Odyssey
K - 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Chess: Beginner/Novice
1 <sup>st</sup> - 4 <sup>th</sup>	Readers' Theater
3 <sup>rd</sup> - 4 <sup>th</sup>	Science of Flight
3 <sup>rd</sup> - 4 <sup>th</sup>	Architecture Meets Mythology: Africa
3 <sup>rd</sup> - 6 <sup>th</sup>	Native Peoples
4 <sup>th</sup> - 5 <sup>th</sup>	CSI: Wydown
3 <sup>rd</sup> - 6 <sup>th</sup>	Reptiles & Amphibians
k3 <sup>rd</sup> - 8 <sup>th</sup>	LEGO Mindstorms Robotics: Advanced
3 <sup>rd</sup> - 8 <sup>th</sup>	Enviro-preneurs



# Class Descriptions – Winter 2023

## **NEW!! Architecture Meets Mythology, Africa**

**Grades 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> 9:30 - 11:00**

**Grades 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> 11:15 - 12:45**

Let's travel to the home of the world's longest river, and some of the largest animals on the planet! Create *ndbele* homes and cardboard pyramids. Investigate the legendary *grootslang* (giant snake) and *abata* (like a unicorn, but with two horns)! Create web art (based on Anansi) and take the windmill challenge. Immerse yourself in African art, architecture & mythology with take-home projects each week!  
Instructor: Lisa Bader

## **Checkmate! - Beginning/Novice Chess**

**Grades K - 3<sup>rd</sup> 11:15 - 12:45**

If your child is just learning chess (or wants to learn!), this class is the perfect place to start. Learn the basics of chess, how to begin the game, strategies such as pins and forks, how to queen a pawn and how to checkmate with Queen and King or Rook and King at the end of the game, all while playing and having fun. Benefits of the game for all levels: Problem-solving skills, coping with the consequences of your decisions, and good sports behavior.  
Instructor: Stephen Randall

## **Checkmate! - Intermediate/Advanced Chess**

**Grades 3<sup>rd</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> 9:30 - 11:00**

Learn advanced concepts in chess, including openings to produce swift checkmating attacks or the win of material, learn how to plan ahead in chess and create positions where tactical themes can be used, all while playing and having fun. Benefits of the game: Problem-solving skills, coping with the consequences of your decisions, and good sports behavior.  
Instructor: Stephen Randall

## **NEW!! Comics for Change**

**Grades 4<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> 9:30 - 11:00**

Like to draw AND want to help change the world? Let's see how comics and graphic novels are used to tell stories about pollution, civil rights, education, religious freedoms, and more! Using the UNICEF Global Goals, create a comic that teaches kids (and adults) about what YOU want to change for a better future!  
Instructor: Chuck Baker

## **NEW!! CSI: Wydown**

**Grades 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> 9:30 - 11:00**

**Grades 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> 11:15 - 12:45**

Are you ready to solve a crime in which each player is suspect AND detective? Join us as we explore intriguing secret codes, mini-mysteries and real crime scene procedures! Each student will choose a character to play during the mystery, complete with props, evidence, and character profiles. Explore crime scene techniques like fingerprinting, handwriting analysis, shoe prints and more! Will you be the

Master Detective, the Suspect, or the Perpetrator? Come and find out!

Instructor: Rochelle Spencer

## **NEW!! Enviro-preneurs**

**Grades 3<sup>rd</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> 11:15 - 12:45**

Are you a budding entrepreneur? Build your first business plan! You'll develop a environmentally-themed business plan that includes your target market, cost analysis, marketing strategy, and more! Finally, you will pitch your plan to the class, and the winner could see their product made during this summer's ECO Academy camp!  
Instructor: Chuck Baker

## **NEW!! It's Electric!**

**Grades 3<sup>rd</sup> - 4<sup>th</sup> 9:30 - 11:00**

Do you like experimenting with science and seeing what will happen? Do you like designing projects? In this class we will uncover the basics of electricity and explore how to create circuits. We'll even discover surprising objects that will complete and power a circuit. Don't miss this electrifying opportunity!  
Instructor: Rebecca Lee

## **LEGO Mindstorms Robotics - Beginning**

**Grades 3<sup>rd</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> 9:30 - 11:00**

This is your chance to learn the basics of LEGO Mindstorms EV3 robots! Consider a real-world problem, create your hypothesis, program your solution and test your results! Build a rover-type robot to handle some basic tasks and experiment with other features of the kits. Apply the engineering process to your project. Problem-solving skills and creativity using robotics technology prove that the possibilities are endless.  
Instructor: Lisa Hummel

## **LEGO Mindstorms Robotics - Advanced**

**Grades 3<sup>rd</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> 11:15 - 12:45**

If you've taken at least a beginning Mindstorms class, now you can go further! Learn more and work on harder challenges, based on your skill level. Build and program working robots which respond to your commands as well as information from their environments. Working with a partner, you can even design your own robot from scratch! You'll learn to control your creation using multiple sensors, various moving parts, and complex programs that allow the robot to assess its environment and make decisions. You will be given a specific challenge to accomplish with your programming at the beginning of each class.  
Instructor: Lisa Hummel

## **NEW!! Minecraft Meets Conservation**

**Grades 5<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> 9:30 - 11:00**

Ender dragons, creepers, farmers, foresters, and gardeners. How can we change the Minecraft world to help conservation? We'll work on creating our own characters, quests, and tasks to transform the world of Minecraft to better our own. Journey through our world learning about all

the wonderful creatures we have, challenges they face, and then transport them into a video game reality to help address the plights they face.

Instructor: Michael Mahon

## **NEW!! Native Peoples Around the World**

**Grades 3<sup>rd</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> 11:15 - 12:45**

Let's embark into a look at some distinct social and cultural groups around the world – how are they similar? Different? You'll investigate the Algonquin culture from Canada and the Northern U.S., the Incas from South America, Mayans from Central America, Scythians from Central Asia, and Germanic tribes from Central Europe and Scandinavia. What was each group's way of life? Nomadic or settled? Warfaring or peaceful? What were their distinct social, economic and political systems?

Instructor: Art Koenig

## **Ocean Odyssey**

**Grades 1<sup>st</sup> - 2<sup>nd</sup> 9:30 - 11:00**

**Grades K - 1<sup>st</sup> 11:15 - 12:45**

Go into the deep as you explore the layers of the ocean, from the trenches to the surface, and discover the animals that live there. How are ocean currents generated? How do gravity, density, and anatomy allow animals to float? Simulate an oil spill and test clean-up methods. What is the impact of an oil spill on marine animals and their habitats? Develop your hypothesis and test what might happen if an octopus had a skeleton made of bone or cartilage like their predators. Enjoy experiments, activities, and the scientific method.

Instructor: Kara Viviano

## **Readers' Theatre**

**Grades 1<sup>st</sup> - 4<sup>th</sup> 11:15 - 12:45**

"All the world's a stage. . . And one [kid] in his time plays many parts." Do you love being dramatic? Do you love reading? This is the class for you! Collaborate with your fellow actors to practice and perform a new play in class each week. Vocal expression, gestures and student creativity provide all the drama you need. You haven't "scene" anything yet!

Instructor: Rebecca Lee

## **NEW!! Reptiles and Amphibians, Why Do We Need Them Anyway?**

**Grades 3<sup>rd</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> 11:15 - 12:45**

Reptiles and amphibians give us a glimpse into the past and our future. From the Sarcosuchus to the Komodo dragon, how do these animals impact their environments? How does Herpetoculture impact keeping these majestic animals as pets? In this lab we'll delve into reptiles' and amphibians' roles in the wild and in our own lives. We'll take a look at the role they play within their ecosystems, and how we can create natural environments to keep them within the home.

Instructor: Michael Mahon

## **Revolutionary Science!**

**Grades 5<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> 9:30 - 11:00**

It all started with the big bang, but what sparked the big revelations of Hypatia, Claudius Ptolemy, Copernicus and Galileo? Join us to explore how the big thinkers of the past offered new advances. Start with the beginnings of scientific

thought in the Middle East and Greece; continue with the medical work of Galen and the natural philosophers. Aristotle espoused beliefs, some of which held sway until the Renaissance and into the 19<sup>th</sup> century! How did Newton, Einstein and others correct some of his long-held scholarship? Black matter, astronomy, astrology, medicine, gravity – how did the great scientific minds give us these insights?

Instructor: Art Koenig

## **NEW!! The Science of Flight**

**Grades 1<sup>st</sup> - 2<sup>nd</sup> 9:30 - 11:00**

**Grades 3<sup>rd</sup> - 4<sup>th</sup> 11:15 - 12:45**

Passengers, please buckle your seatbelts and put your tray tables up, as we explore the science of flight. What keeps aircraft in the air? We will research the animals that fly such as bees, butterflies, birds, and bats. Then we'll investigate both man's successful *and* unsuccessful attempts to fly. While learning the science behind man-made flying machines, teams will build, test, modify, and evaluate their own planes and rockets.

Instructor: Hannah Noack-Ruebling

## **NEW!! Set Up Shop**

**Ages 4 - 5 9:30 - 11:00**

**Ages 5 - 6 11:15 - 12:45**

Let's set up shop! Our mini-entrepreneurs will explore different types of shops—grocery stores, pet adoption agencies—maybe an accessories store or an international store? Set up a different store each week and "sell" goods and services to your classmates. Think about your customers' needs - how can you meet them? Learn about marketing and pricing; practice with money and change, plus you'll think about your store "policies" including kindness and fairness to customers! Hands-on learning fun!

Instructor: Joanna Gubin



# Learning Lab Details

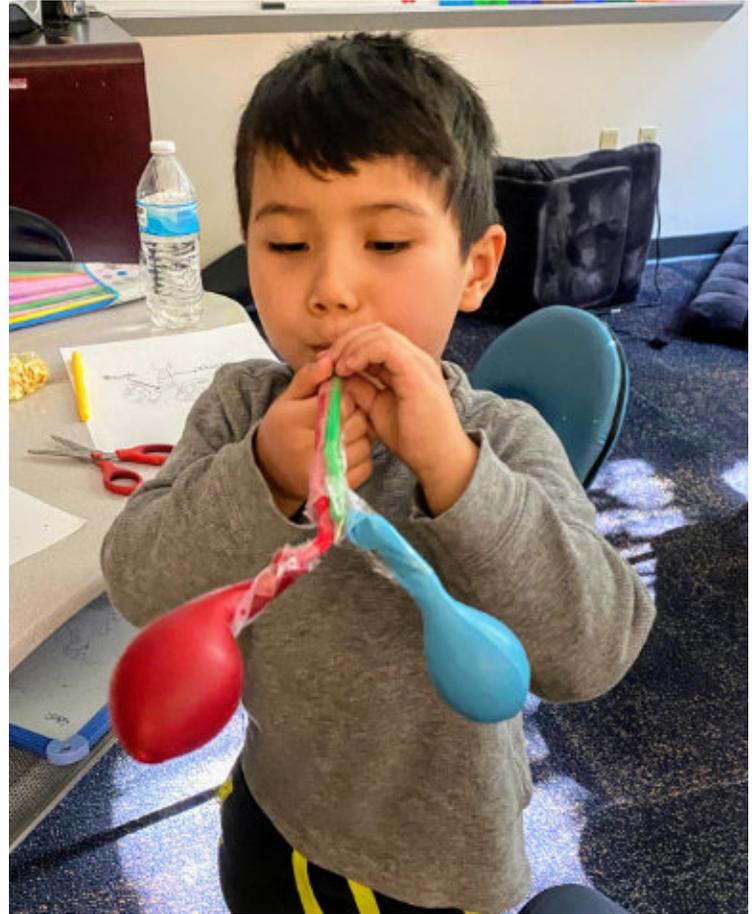
**Eligibility:** All children are eligible to participate in Learning Lab classes. They do not need to be enrolled in gifted programming at their schools.

**Safety:** All in-person classes will be held in accordance with St. Louis County guidelines regarding Covid-19 or other illnesses. Masks are not currently required. Students should NOT attend class if they have any symptoms or a known exposure to anyone who has tested positive for Covid-19.

**Dismissal:** Children must be picked up promptly at the end of class. If your child has signed up for two classes in a row, he or she will be supervised during the short break between classes, and you will pick up at the end of the second class.

**Notification:** If the class your child signed up for is full or cancelled, you will be notified and given the opportunity to sign up for an alternate class.

**Photos:** Pictures will be taken of Learning Lab classes, 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 classes.



## Instructors

**Lisa Bader, B.S.**, elementary teacher

**Chuck Baker, M.S.**, Math teacher, Ferguson-Florissant School District

**Joanna Gubin, M.S.**, Early childhood educator/play therapist

**Lisa Hummel, M.A.**, middle school science teacher, Ferguson-Florissant School District

**Art Koenig, A.M.**, GRC's "Renaissance Man"

**Rebecca Lee, M.A.**, elementary teacher, Ferguson-Florissant School District

**Michael Mahon, M.A.**, Middle school teacher, Rockwood School District

**Hannah Noack-Ruebling, M.A.**, Gifted teacher, Hazelwood School District

**Stephen Randoll, Ph.D.**, history professor St. Charles Community College, Rated USCF National Expert

**Rochelle Spencer, M.Ed.**, Gifted specialist, Webster Groves School District

**Kara Viviano, B.A.**, elementary teacher, St. Louis Public Schools

# Parenting Classes – Winter 2023

Come explore the various joys and challenges of raising bright, gifted children with us. Local experts in gifted education and child development will lead presentations/discussions on a wide range of topics. Classes are \$15 each or **FREE** with a GRC membership (starting at \$60/year). Classes will begin at 11:15 am and will run about 90 minutes total, with time for Q&A. These are interactive sessions, where we welcome questions and discussion.

February 4 - **Avoiding Power Struggles with Your Gifted Kid(s)** - Agnes Meyo, Psy.D., Clinical psychologist, private practice

February 18 - **LGBTQIA+ and Gifted: What You Need to Know** - Catherine Hasler Ph.D., Director of Counseling and Assessment for Behavioral Health

Two additional classes to be announced soon! We'll send out another email with registration information once we finish the line-up.



## GRC Membership

Your membership 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 (as allowed by law). Sign up by adding the appropriate amount to the total on the Learning Lab form or joining 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

# Registration Form – Winter 2023

(Registration is available by sending in the form below with a check or credit card information or by registering online at [www.giftedresourcecouncil.org](http://www.giftedresourcecouncil.org) – credit card payments will be charged a service fee.)

Child's name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade/School: \_\_\_\_\_

Gender: \_\_\_\_\_ Address (Street/City/State/Zip): \_\_\_\_\_

Parent name: \_\_\_\_\_ Preferred phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent name: \_\_\_\_\_ Preferred phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent email(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Parent(s) occupations/employer: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Name/relationship: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Physician & phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Allergies or medical limitations: \_\_\_\_\_

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: \_\_\_\_\_

Please select your child's class choice(s) from the list(s) below.

## SESSION 1: 9:30 - 11:00 - Saturdays

## SESSION 2: 11:15 - 12:45 - Saturdays

### IN PERSON at Wydown Middle School

- Set Up Shop (Ages 4 - 5)
- Ocean Odyssey (1<sup>st</sup> - 2<sup>nd</sup>)
- Architecture Meets Mythology: Africa (1<sup>st</sup> - 2<sup>nd</sup>)
- Science of Flight (1<sup>st</sup> - 2<sup>nd</sup>)
- CSI: Wydown (3<sup>rd</sup> - 4<sup>th</sup>)
- It's Electric! (3<sup>rd</sup> - 4<sup>th</sup>)
- Checkmate - Intermediate/Advanced Chess (3<sup>rd</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup>)
- LEGO Mindstorms Beginning Robotics (3<sup>rd</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup>)
- Comics for Change (4<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup>)
- Minecraft Meets Conservation (5<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup>)
- Revolutionary Science (5<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup>)

- Set Up Shop (Ages 5 - 6)
- Ocean Odyssey (K - 1<sup>st</sup>)
- Chess: Beginner/Novice (K - 3<sup>rd</sup>)
- Readers' Theater (1<sup>st</sup> - 4<sup>th</sup>)
- Science of Flight (3<sup>rd</sup> - 4<sup>th</sup>)
- Architecture Meets Mythology: Latin America (3<sup>rd</sup> - 4<sup>th</sup>)
- Native Peoples (3<sup>rd</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup>)
- CSI: Wydown (4<sup>th</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup>)
- Reptiles & Amphibians (3<sup>rd</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup>)
- LEGO Mindstorms Advanced Robotics (3<sup>rd</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup>)
- Enviro-preneurs (3<sup>rd</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup>)

No refunds after January 27, 2023. Members' priority registration good until December 23, 2022. All others taken on a first-come, first-served basis.

Are you a current member of GRC?  Yes    No

Would you like to become a member?  Yes    No

At which level? \_\_\_\_\_

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

## Total Fees Enclosed:

Class(es): \_\_\_\_\_

Membership: \_\_\_\_\_  
(optional)

**TOTAL:** \_\_\_\_\_

Payable by check to: Gifted Resource Council  
or credit card (transaction fee charged):

Credit card #: \_\_\_\_\_

Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Security code: \_\_\_\_\_

Name on card: \_\_\_\_\_