

Bellingham Family Partnership Program

Course Catalog

Winter & Spring 2017

Our courses are typically multi-disciplinary, hands-on and experiential learning opportunities. The following course catalog is organized by learning themes. While classes may not fit neatly in a content-specific category we hope this helps. Note that some classes will occur once or twice a week or have two separate sections (A & B). While the course descriptions provide a general idea for the class, we do adjust once classes have formed. We design and adapt each class to provide the best learning experience for our students. At times changes are made to meet various needs and to reflect the different interests, resources, opportunities and pacing of each group. Refer to the schedule for times and locations.

PE/HEALTH/NUTRITION

The Art and Joy of Cooking (K-3 A & B)

The class offers myriad opportunity for thoughtful creation in the kitchen. Students will learn and practice a range of culinary skills particularly reading, implementing and adapting recipes, sanitation and team-work. Each class will create a cookbook, participate in food reviews and learn basics of food photography. Each participant will be invited to plan and create one recipe to share with the class. Home learning expectations and parent participation are integral to this course.

Cooking Up Something...(5-8 A & B)

This will not be your ordinary cooking class as something wild and crazy will be cooked up each week by the lead cook, and all the cooks in training. Nutrition, meal planning, baking, guest speakers, and a little something will be cooked up each week. Parents are encouraged to attend and help out with cooking up something...

Physical Education (K-4)

This class will allow students to explore basic movements such as hopping, jumping, skipping, throwing, calisthenics, jumping rope, Frisbee throwing. This class will also have structured games to help develop basic body movements.

PE (6-8)

This class will be developed by the students in collaboration with the teacher as they figure out their fitness needs and interests. Students will keep a weekly fitness log and design fitness goals. Students will have the opportunity to attend Weather Education Day in May which includes a weather lesson, lunch and a Mariner's game.

Track and Field (5)

Track and Field is in the air...well almost. Part of this class will be focusing around getting the 5th graders prepared to participate in the all district 5th grade track and field meet in June. But there will be other skills being taught also, so if this time slot works for your schedule, please sign up.

Bike Safety (5-8)

Since your student is not ready for driver's education, how about a bike safety class? This five to six-week curriculum called Safe Route to Schools Program is used in all 50 states. After the students have completed the curriculum, they will have the opportunity to put into practice what they learned in the classroom via bike rides in Fairhaven, the Inter-Urban Trail and other nearby neighborhoods.

Outdoor Adventure Games (1-3 & 4-6)

Let's adventure outside! This semester we will play games using a mix of movement including running, walking, and kinesthetic or sensory experiences. Each game aims to be collaborative exploring teamwork and self. Each class will also end with a circle of thanks to reflect and appreciate the unique gifts of each day. Remember to check the weather and be prepared with appropriate clothing and a water bottle.

LITERACY & LANGUAGE ARTS

Loving Literacy (1-2) - meets twice a week

This class is designed to give early literacy learners authentic reading and writing choices which will help them develop their love of literacy. Each week students will self-select from four engaging reading and writing choices, working independently and in small groups toward individualized goals. Students will also participate in fun whole-group and specialized small-group instruction, as well as one-on-one conferring as necessary. At home learning suggestions and supplemental reading and writing activities will be included to support our partnership in the development of young readers and writers.

Readers Theatre (1-2)

Actors, Dancers, and Readers unite! In this class we will role-play expressing stories and their variety of characters. There is no memorizing lines or designing sets, our senses and imagination will guide us to speak, dance, move, or read. A variety of books, poems, plays and more will be used to support literacy skills from phonemic awareness to fluency and comprehension.

Writers Workshop (3-5 & 6-8) - meets twice a week

Writing Workshop is an engaging, safe, process-oriented class where kids get to work like real writers by following the writing process. Spring semester will focus primarily on non-fiction writing skills such as the art of the argument, narrative writing, and/or informational writing. Topics will be self-selected and generated by students. Each class writers will warm-up with fun creative exercises, share (or not) their writing with each other and have time to work on and gain new strategies for their self-selected topics within a specific genre. This is a great class for a reluctant writer as well as the confident writer because every writer will learn at his or her own pace.

*Students will be expected to write consistently outside of scheduled class time.

Book Club (3-8)

Come join your fellow readers as you choose books together and share ideas and projects related to books you enjoy. This semester we will choose specific authors to study from both fiction and non-fiction genres. Maybe Andrew Clements? Or Jean Fritz? Or Matt Christopher? Your passion and interests will help guide our book choices as well as our discussions.

***Reading is required outside of class time. Class time will be used for learning reading and reflecting strategies, discussing books and completing projects.

HISTORY and SOCIAL STUDIES

U.S. History (6-8) - meets twice a week

Come and explore U.S. History using an inquiry-based approach to all lessons. Students will be faced with a question to answer or problem to solve and will examine primary sources for evidence to create hypothetical solutions. Each chapter will present students with an essential question to answer, which will lead students into the primary source aspect of the class. There will be an extended time for learning at the conclusion of the regular scheduled class time, and students are strongly encouraged to attend.

Leadership (5-8)

In this fun, active, experiential class students will help create a strong school leadership team which will be responsible for leading and organizing many student initiatives and activities at BFPP. Students will have the opportunity to learn about and practice the qualities of effective leadership and to work cooperatively in small groups to complete exciting student led projects. Some projects will be service based while others will simply be for fun. Come learn about yourself as a leader and be an important part of growing our amazing community. Grades 5th through 8th only.

TedEd (3-8)

Share your passion by creating and recording your very own TedTalk. We will jumpstart the process by watching different videos and discussing their content, style, presentation, and more. If you're feeling camera shy, don't worry! We will polish up on public speaking skills among our trusted friends and peers. Using this digital platform, you can bring the next big idea to the world.

RADCAB: Real Facts vs. Fake News (4-8)

Google is the Pandora's Box of the Digital Age. We can access information instantly but at the risk of being overwhelmed and misled. Want better tools to sort truth from fiction? Hoping for safer searches that give you age appropriate sources? The skills that you need tell real facts from fake news will be useful your whole life! Learn how to use online sources safely and efficiently, confident that the information you choose to use can be trusted.

VISUAL, PERFORMING ARTS and MUSIC

Orchestra (3-8)

Students will learn the fundamentals of the violin, viola, or cello in a group setting. They will be able to develop their musical skills at home using methods taught in class, then incorporate this musical knowledge into an orchestra ensemble. Weekly classes will build on each other - students will be taught at a pace that adapts to individual as well as group needs. Classes will culminate with a concert that showcases musical skills developed throughout the course. Although this is primarily geared towards beginning string students, all those with string experience are encouraged to join - there will be opportunities for the development of leadership among the group. The course will be adjusted to fit student level of experience. Must enroll 10!

Band (3-8)

Students will learn the fundamentals of how to play a woodwind or brass instrument. They will be able to choose from a wide variety of instruments, including flute, oboe, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, trombone, baritone, or tuba. Students will be given opportunities to practice what they have learned in class at home, then incorporate this musical knowledge into a full band ensemble. Weekly classes will build on each other - students will be taught at a pace that adapts to individual as well as group needs. Classes will culminate with a concert that showcases musical skills developed throughout the course. Although this is primarily geared towards beginning band students, all those with band experience are encouraged to join - there will be opportunities for the development of leadership among the group. The course will be adjusted to fit student level of experience. Must enroll 10!

Theatre Arts (K-2)

Using verses and stories from around the world, students will develop expression through mime, spoken word, character, imagination, puppets, props, and simple costumes. Students will also explore ways to use active imagination and improvisation as a means of dramatic expression with others. Music and movement enhance their presentation of the story.

Beginner Hand Drum Ensemble (3-8)

Students will learn rhythm and ensemble playing through African and Caribbean percussion traditions. Percussion instruments will be provided.

Beginning Guitar (5-8)

Students will learn the basics of music through the study of the guitar. Our main goal will be to read and play music utilizing the notes on the guitar in first position. We will start with the lesson book, "The FJH Young Beginner Guitar Method Lesson Book 1."

Musical Explorations Through Recorder and Ukulele (3-8)

Students will learn melody, harmony, rhythm and music theory through learning the very accessible string and wind instruments: ukulele and recorder. They will play, sing and listen to each other to develop exciting sounds. Students will need to develop a habit of home practice in order to get the most out of this class. New students are welcome and will have to put in some extra effort to catch up with the rest of the class.

Art in Nature (1-2)

Using the natural world as our inspiration, we will observe, gather, draw, paint, build, create, wonder, record and more. Art explorations will make use of collected materials from the garden, forest and seashore. Art areas will include drawing, painting, printmaking, weaving and 3-D constructions. A nature journal will be used for some of our observations and recordings and will include some writing.

Theater (3-8)

Let's put on a play! This semester theater students will complete a student produced play from beginning to end. By the end of the semester students will present the play for our entire community. *Prior teacher approval required for registration. Email erica.wolverton@bellinghamschools.org if you are interested in being in the play. First priority will be given to students who participated in theater in the fall.*

Fiber Arts (1-3)

Come explore the wonderful world of fiber arts. In this class we will use paper, yarn, felt, fabric and other materials in creative and useful ways. Skills explored will include weaving, printing and dyeing, papermaking, felting, and stitching and sewing by hand.

Sewing and Textiles (4-8)

Students will learn different fabric dyeing and printing techniques, and use the fabric they design to create selected projects. Techniques will include batik, silk painting, printing, tie dye, photosensitive dye, natural dyes and more.

Geometry and Art (2-4)

This class combines studies in math, engineering, art and architecture. We will explore and create with 2 and 3 dimensional shapes, study the design and engineering of buildings and create geometric works of art. A planned group project will include designing a model city which will include accessing wants and needs, drawing to scale and building 3-D models.

Art Lab (K-2, 3-5, 6-8)

Art Lab is a place for students to explore their creativity and develop skills in drawing, painting, printmaking, collage and mixed media. Art activities will encourage students to ignite their imagination by experimenting with materials, exploring techniques and processes and developing their visual language vocabulary. For inspiration, we will make use of our surroundings, interesting objects, book illustrations and the work of a variety of artists.

Choir (K-3)

Students will be able to experience the joy of singing in a group. We will cover music fundamentals, vocal technique, self-expression and team building in a fun, safe and nurturing environment. Parents are welcome to participate

Choir (4-8)

Students will experience the joy of singing in a group. We will cover music fundamentals, vocal technique, and self-expression and team building in a fun, safe and nurturing environment. Student will start by singing unison melodies and will progress to singing in multiple part harmonies. We will explore many genres and will take into account the interests of the members of the choir in repertoire selection. Parents are welcome to participate

TECHNOLOGY & ENGINEERING

Lego (K-3 A & B)

Students will have different challenges throughout the semester to earn the title Junior Brick Master. We will be using simple machine kits and WeDo 2.0 for our challenges. Students will have some time to free build, but will be encouraged to improve on specific skills in class. Don't forget your hard hats when you enter the construction zone.

Lego/Tech Lab (4-8)

Students will have the opportunity to use EV3 robots to design, build, program and participate in challenges and investigations.

Digital Storytelling (2-8)

The art of storytelling has been around for thousands of years. This class will help students retell stories in a digital format. We will use different styles combining sounds, music, graphics, photographs and original artwork. Students will have the opportunity to share their stories with other students from around the state at the Young Authors Conference March 21-24 at Skagit Valley College. The featured presenter is Lynn Brunelle, Emmy Award-winning writer. The entry fee for the conference is \$25.00. Please let Mrs. Bass know if you are interested in attending. https://www.nwescd.org/young_authors

Bridges, Cars, Boats, and Planes (5-8)

This class will be using Pitsco Education materials and others, which will help students, complete our projects. (Bridges, Cars, Boats and Planes). Students will need to be willing to work slowly, precisely, and with precision during all phases of the building process. Quality is very important and will be emphasized constantly.

Tech/Tink/Code (K-4)

In this class, students will learn coding basics through hands-on activities, games, code.org, tech tinker projects and robots. Students will develop the skills of a computer scientist through the development of Computational Thinking Practices: creativity, collaboration, communication, persistence and problem solving. Students will have one hour of coding practice at home each week.

Tech/Tink/Code (5-8)

In this class, students will learn coding basics through hands-on activities, games, code.org and robots. Students will develop the skills of a computer scientist through the development of Computational Thinking Practices: creativity, collaboration, communication, persistence and problem solving. We will also take a look inside technology that we take apart, build and design our own tech tinker projects. Students will have one hour of coding practice at home each week.

WORLD CULTURE AND LANGUAGES

Spanish Through the Arts and TPR Storytelling (2-8)

We will continue to explore different art genres that emerge from the Spanish and Latin American worlds. We will also participate in Total Physical Response Storytelling, which is an inclusive method of language learning in which students follow commands in the target language, as well as listen to, create, and act out stories. The stories are both fictional and based on real life situations. Students easily internalize new languages through TPR Storytelling.

Spanish (K-2)

Spanish for K-2. We will use songs, games, rhymes and simple crafts to explore the Spanish language. This class is a continuation of the 1st semester class, although new students are welcome as well.

Spanish (5-8)

This class will follow the curriculum used by 8th grade Spanish classes that offer high school credit for first year Spanish. We will use the Realidades textbook and video program. There is an element of TPR Storytelling involved in this class. Students will get a basic understanding of sentence structure, do lots of questioning and answering, and learn the basics of Spanish verbs. This would be a great intro to Spanish for students who are planning to study Spanish in High School.

French (K-2)

This class will focus on interactive games and activities that are engaging and fun while learning a language. We will make crepes and fondue. Some assignments will be provided to enrich the classroom experience at home.

French (3-5)

This class will focus on interactive games, activities, conversation as well as oral and written expression in the target language. We will make crepes and fondue. There will be assignments for at home learning to enrich the classroom experience.

French (6-8)

This class will focus on conversational French. We will play interactive games, listen to music and explore the French culture, make crepes and fondue. There will be a minimum of one hour of language practice (provided by the teacher) outside of class required.

Chinese (K-3 & 4-8)

This is a fun and interactive course in Mandarin Chinese language and culture. Focus on building proficiency through gesture and story-telling students are introduced to the foundations of

learning Chinese. Instruction decodes the different aspects of Chinese and how to best acquire the language. Students will explore Chinese geography, history, and cultural heritage, as well as learning and practicing useful vocabulary and common expressions. Games, art, handcraft work, cooking Chinese food, Chinese painting and calligraphy will integrate language elements with cultural themes.

SCIENCE AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

Fun With Science (K-1 & 2-3)

Students will investigate a different hands-on science experiment each week. We will focus on mini thematic units of physics, energy and chemistry incorporating different skills into the investigations (measuring, predicting, discussion, data collection, etc.). There will be an hour of extension activities for each class to help with the flow of the class.

Energy science (3-5 & 6-8)

In this class we will make observations to provide evidence that energy can be transferred from place to place by sound, light, heat and electric currents. Students will apply scientific ideas to design, test, and refine a device that converts energy from one form to another. We will also explore geothermal energy, solar energy and wind energy. Students will have the opportunity to participate in a KidWind Challenge, make solar ovens and other hands-on projects.

Wings and Things (3-5)

Birds are amazing, beautiful and mysterious. In this class we will research the birds in our backyards and community. We will learn about bird adaptations and their talents as long distance travelers and nest builders. We will also look at ways to enhance our school yard to create bird habitat. Our bird study will include explorations in drawing, painting and poetry.

Northwest Plants, Animals and Ecosystems (1-3)

We live in an amazing place rich with diverse plant and animal life. In this class we will get to know some of our wild neighbors, learn about their life cycles and specific habitats and find out how they are connected in the web of life. We will use stories, photographs and other media to get to know our subjects better. Then, through a variety of drawing and writing projects, students will create their own book of Northwest Plants and Animals. This semester, greater emphasis will be placed on habitats and ecosystems while still learning about individual plants and animals.

Growing in the Garden (K-3)

Hands-on learning, science, and creativity come together in this class that focuses on plant science and the BFPP school garden. Activities will include digging in the dirt, planting,

harvesting, learning about plant and animal life cycles, conducting experiments and making observations, and creating through art, poetry and writing. We will be working with Common Threads, a local garden education organization. During the winter, while the garden sleeps, we will focus on some fun indoor gardening projects, learn about water cycles and watersheds, and other garden related topics. In the spring, we'll begin to plant outside and study the lifecycle of butterflies.

Out of this World Science: Astronomy and Rockets (3-8)

The Universe is so big that it is difficult to imagine. Students will be space detectives as they explore meteorites, comets, planets, stars, telescopes, rockets and more. This class will be project based and will incorporate one hour of at-home learning. Possible field trips include a rocket launch off campus, Western's Planetarium, Weather Education Day at Safeco Field in May, and the UW Engineering Discovery Day on Friday, April 21st.

Watersheds (4-6) - meets twice a week

Can you imagine a shed to store and replenish all your family's water? Come discover the moving parts of our local watershed to understand the living and nonliving forces that continually shape it. We will investigate the properties of water, rocks, and soil and their natural processes both inside the classroom and outside on the trail. Then you will design your own research question to closely examine the relationship between water and its surrounding land.

MATHEMATICS

Ground Rules of Math - meets twice a week

Got a problem? Let's discover a fun way to solve it using the ground rules of math. Concepts covered will include 2-dimensional geometry, division, fractions, and the properties of equations. The class will progress to develop a deeper and applied understanding of these topics. No prerequisite is required.

*Note: This course supports students currently working in Beast Academy level 3 books, OR the equivalent in another curriculum resource. Please contact the teacher if you have questions.

E=G+LAFS - meets twice a week

Excellence = Growth plus Laughs ☺ This class will provide creative hands-on ways to extend and advance the concepts of algebra, statistics, fractions, and 3-dimensional geometry using a problem-solving approach.

*Note: This course supports students currently working in Beast Academy level 5 books, OR the equivalent in another curriculum resource. Please contact the teacher if you have questions.

Math Beast Academy 4/and more - meets twice a week

If you are looking for a change of pace with your student's math instruction, this class may be just what you are looking for. Regardless, if you are using Beast Academy, Singapore Math or something else, you can register for this class. There will be a full lesson presented each class period focused around the following topics: shapes, multiplication, exponents, division, logic, factors, fractions, decimals, integers, and probability.

The Art of Problem Solving Pre-Algebra (7-8) - meets twice a week

This class is a continuation from first semester; it's just been re-named, re-packaged. Each class period will have a direct teaching time where students will explore pre-algebra concepts, have class discussion, watch a teaching video.

KINDERGARTEN

K Experience (K)

Is your kindergartner ready for a fun introduction to school? In this class, students will develop their "school skills" in listening and speaking, working in a group, interacting with peers, sharing and problem-solving, exploring new ideas, and fine motor development. Learning activities will focus on shared stories with extension activities, beginning science concepts, and independent explorations.

INTERDISCIPLINARY LEARNING

Team Genius Hour (K-3)

Team Genius Hour is a place for students to pursue ideas with a passion. Students use informational problem solving tools to go on a journey of discovery, setback, revision and eventual success. Team Genius Hour adds the challenge of the group dynamic. Students will work as a team to pursue a **common** project on which each member will share skills and talents. Students will learn to set protocols in order to offer and accept constructive criticism, compromise and come to consensus. Will the team decide to take action in the name of a cause? Will they invent a gadget? Will they create a piece of art? Will they form a band or write and produce a play? Who knows?! Wherever the students decide to go, the pebbles in their shoes will be the real teachers. Teamwork isn't easy, but it is important. In the words of Margaret Mead, "Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed, citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has."

Middle School Academic Lab (6-8 A & B)

Hey families! Are you looking for a class that will support the work that your middle schooler is already doing at home? Are you looking for a classroom setting that will promote inquiry-led

discussions while helping your child commit to that passion project you helped them begin? Are you looking for a mentor-teacher who will foster the exciting game of learning and achievement while encouraging your student to engage with their studies and complete assignments, investigations, and portfolios!? *Then our Middle School Academic Lab is for you!* The purpose of the 90-minute MS Academic Lab is to give students the opportunity to participate in a collaborative learning environment—with a teacher and peers-- to meet the goals of their unique Learning Plans. This class is being created to support at-home learning goals while giving students a structured learning community that will promote skill competency, academic persistence, and a growth mindset. Learning Plan partners (parents, students, mentor-teacher) will meet monthly to participate in a student-led review of progress and learning.

Ooey, Gooney, Creepy, Crawly (K-2)

Tinker Lab takes a new twist. This class was designed around the title because it's just too fun to say! The ooey gooney part will focus on creating and working with materials that feel gooney such as gak, playdough, paper mache and more. The creepy crawly part will focus on learning about and creating things inspired by our insect and reptilian friends and others.