



## BUILDING SKILLS FOR THE 21st CENTURY

Collaboration    Communication    Creativity    Critical Thinking

.....



.....

Tuesday-Thursday 9:00-2:15

9670 Maidstone Road  
Delaplane, VA 20144

[steamschooldelaplane@gmail.com](mailto:steamschooldelaplane@gmail.com)

[www.steamschool.org](http://www.steamschool.org)

---

**The STEAM School is a homeschooling co-op in Delaplane, VA We offer part-time school days and elective classes, providing both community and curriculum support**

## **CO-OP VALUES**

EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

TIME OUTDOORS

INCLUSIVITY

FREE PLAY

ACADEMIC CHOICE

INDIVIDUALITY

SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL GROWTH

INDEPENDENCE

RESPONSIBLE CITIZENSHIP

Classes at co-op are guided by experienced teachers. Lessons provide opportunities for group work, independent exploration, hands-on learning, and open-ended projects. Our goal is to inspire our children and foster an independent desire for learning. As projects finish, we take time for children to share their findings, experiences and questions with each other.

Community is very important to us, both within the school and outside our walls. Each month we schedule at least one field trip and one community event for co-op members. We also pair older children with younger ones for monthly buddy activities and each semester we participate in a service activity. We hope that these opportunities will help kids embrace diversity and grow a desire to contribute their ideas and improve the world around them.



---

## *To accomplish this we...*

- Provide multisensory, experiential, self-directed, and project-based learning experiences that fit the needs of individual learners
- Foster creative thinking and academic excellence through open-ended inquiry, meaningful conversation, and challenging content
- Create a safe environment for kids to be curious, take risks, make mistakes, and learn skills for how to be a part of a community
- Inspire children to think critically about social issues, consider multiple perspectives, and take meaningful action
- Invest in our teachers' professional development through compilation of resources and annual trainings
- Honor child development through age appropriate schedules and curriculum, including opportunity for free play and exploration

**CLASSES** Through their weekly class interactions, STEAM students have an opportunity to promote friendships, community, and to give natural opportunities for collaboration. Classes are led by experienced teachers and parent assistants, which helps us keep a very low student to teacher ratio. Class sizes range from 8-12 students, and vary in length from 30mn-1 hour, depending on age and subject. During classes multi sensory instruction is used to introduce new material and children learn through experience, projects and exploration. We do not use tests or grade students, but teachers are available to discuss progress by parent request.



---

## ELEMENTARY CLASSES

*Tuesdays and Thursdays* we divide children by grade group for core classes. These classes follow a schedule and include science, art, creative writing, math projects, geography and STEM Extensions. Each class is 45 minutes, and covers 3-4 units each semester. Teachers communicate class progress by providing a list of units at the beginning of the semester and by updating a child's portfolio in our parent communication app as projects are completed.

*Wednesdays* (and during our January term) we offer multi-age electives. Topics for these classes change monthly, but always include at least one art subject, one technology subject, and one based on student choice. Students gather at Morning Meeting to discuss the options available for the day, and to create their own schedules. A child may choose to work in one class for the whole day if space allows, or to try all three classes. Topics are based on teacher availability, and we invite parents to come and guest teach a topic they're passionate about.

## MIDDLE SCHOOL

*Tuesdays and Thursdays* students start the day with University Model Math Lab. This is a multi-level, self-paced math class. Students work with the instructor on these days to learn new concepts and ask questions. They are expected to practice their skills and continue in their curriculum on the days they are not at STEAM. Following Math Lab, they take core classes to include Science, Art, Creative Writing, Math projects, and STEM extensions. Students must be registered for both days if they are interested in our core classes. Content and projects are connected in such a way that they cannot be taken independently from each other.

*Wednesdays* Middle schoolers start with Innovation Lab. This class is a time for the kids to learn how to plan and research their own projects. The teacher will guide the students through the process of picking a topic of interest, researching, writing, creating goals and developing a product or platform for other people to learn about their project. After Innovation Lab, students meet with the teacher to plan the rest of their day. They can keep working on their projects independently, work on their Math homework, take any of the available electives, or continue to work with the teacher to work on a new tech project each month, such as website development, or learning a new software. We encourage families who are interested in only one day to register for Wednesdays, since these classes are independent from the work done in core classes.

---

## A TYPICAL DAY AT STEAM

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	MIDDLE SCHOOL
<p><b>9:00 Freeplay</b> This time is vital to our day! Homeschoolers need time to greet their friends before structured learning begins.</p> <p><b>9:15 Community Meeting</b> We check in with students, and review any new STEAM centers or games for Math Lab. On Wednesdays, extra time is given for kids to plan which electives they would like to try that day.</p> <p><b>9:30 *Tues/Thurs*</b> STEAM Centers <b>(PreK-1st) or Math Lab (2nd-5th)</b> 30mn of games and centers to build math skills. We encourage self direction to build and review skills, with teachers guiding and encouraging where needed.</p> <p><b>10:00 Classes *Tuesdays/Thursday*:</b> Core Classes <b>*Wednesday*:</b> electives</p> <p><b>11:30-12:30 Recess and Lunch</b> Kids take time outside to rest, reset and play before their last class.</p> <p><b>12:30 Classes Continue</b></p> <p><b>1:15-1:30 Clean up</b> As a community, we work together to take care of our space.</p> <p><b>1:30 Pickup</b> Kids are dismissed to the playground. Families are welcome to stay and let their kids play after school ends</p> <p><b>1:30-2:15 *Tuesday/Thursday*</b> Languages <b>*Wednesday*</b> 1st Lego League Jr These classes are optional and also open to non co-op members.</p>	<p><b>9:00 Morning Meeting</b> We use this time to get settled, share announcements, and set goals for the day. Special attention is given to student voice during this time, to address goals, passions and concerns.</p> <p><b>9:15 *Tues/Thurs*</b> University Model Math Lab <b>*Wednesday*</b> Innovation Lab</p> <p><b>10:00 Classes *Tuesday/Thursday*:</b> Core Middle School classes. Children must be enrolled on both days. <b>*Wednesday*:</b> Electives or continued work on innovation projects.</p> <p><b>11:45 Lunch</b> Lunch and break time overlap with elementary recess so they can opt to go outside and play with their friends in younger classes.</p> <p><b>12:30 Classes continue</b></p> <p><b>1:15-1:30 Clean up</b> The last classes of the day is the messiest, so classroom clean up is part of the the conclusion to those classes</p> <p><b>1:30-2:15 *Tuesday/Thursday*</b> Languages <b>*Wednesday*</b> 1st Lego League These classes are optional and also open to 4th graders and non co-op members.</p>



## OUR TEACHERS

STEAM teachers hold college degrees, have extensive experience working with and coaching children, and are paid for their work. All of our current instructors are parents with children in the program, however we are also open to qualified outside help. Most classes also have an assistant working with the teacher to answer questions and help guide kids through projects. Assistants are parents who choose to remain on campus with their children, and work with the

teachers to learn how they can best help students. All assistants and teachers have been screened, and are exempt from paying drop off fees if they have children in the program. Teachers and assistants work together to plan our curriculum, create our schedule and organize school field trips. We are always interested in expanding our talent pool, if you are interested in a staff position please email us!

**OUR STUDENTS** We offer classes to kids in Kindergarten through 8th grade. Our belief is that kids do best when they're understood and nurtured, and we aim to work as a team with parents to provide an environment where their child can thrive.

**SPECIAL NEEDS** We accept students with learning disabilities, ADHD, Sensory Processing Disorder, autism and other profiles that impact their experiences in our learning environment. We encourage parents and teachers to engage in ongoing dialogue about how best to nurture students. Our teachers design learning experiences with all their students in mind, including those for whom traditional classroom instruction might be a poor fit.



# SCHOOL POLICIES

---

## RULES FOR ADULTS AND KIDS

Be respectful and kind to all!

Encourage others and keep a positive attitude

Mind the safety and personal space of others

Listen to each other

Help with clean up and taking care of school and church property

Make learning fun!



## DISCIPLINE

STEAM School places student learning at the center of our work. Therefore, when there are instances in which students are having difficulty participating appropriately, playing respectfully, and/or following the rules listed, teachers support the students through the use of calm down strategies, conflict resolution, and reflective conversation. The goal is for students to learn to self-regulate, including responding in healthy ways to their emotions, and to solve problems independently. We communicate with parents when these instances occur so that learning and reflection can continue at home and so that the STEAM-home partnership is strong.

If issues become ongoing and impact the health and learning of the child or his peers, a formal meeting with the leadership team may be called to discuss how to move forward. Children may be removed from the classroom temporarily, moved to another classroom, or asked to leave the co-op if they do not participate in a productive way during class or are continually upset and not benefiting from learning experiences.

When there are instances of adults acting in ways that are disrespectful, unkind, or unsupportive to other adults, the leadership team will talk directly to him/her. Action plans moving forward may include conflict resolution, making amends, changing behaviors, or leaving co-op if the relationship is deemed to be unproductive or unhealthy. Instances of disrespect or unkindness from an adult to a child will not be tolerated.

---

---

## SAFETY GUIDELINES

- Two adults are needed for the Nursery/PreK class to be open.
- If a child needs help in the bathroom, his or her parents should be asked to provide help or asked for consent for another adult to help the child.
- Children who are upset, physically aggressive, and/or overwhelmed during classes or recess will be removed from the situation, and supported by teachers to de-escalate.
- No food sharing except snacks provided for the entire class, which must be nut free and dairy/allergy friendly
- Children and adults must be symptom free from contagious illness for 24 hours before attending school.
- Each child must be signed in and out each day. Children will only be released to the parent or emergency contact listed on registration forms unless prior notice is given.
- Children should be dressed appropriately for the weather, and have closed toed shoes.
- Slippers or socks must be worn inside, and shoes outside at all times. No bare feet.
- All parent volunteers and teachers are subject to a background check.

**GRADING** No formal evaluations will be given. Teachers are available for suggestions on improvement, feedback on submissions, or areas to correct by parent's request. Portfolios of student work will be provided online for parents to review. We can facilitate end of year evaluations for the county upon request for a fee.

**RELIGION** We are expressly a secular co-op, this means that content will be taught from a secular perspective. Children and parents are welcome to share their personal faith perspectives when it is relevant to the topic.

**VOLUNTEERING** **All co-op members pay the family fee to participate and agree to volunteer.** Since we are a cooperative, we ask that all families share responsibilities. We ask that a parent volunteers at least 5 hours per semester. Available positions are morning playground monitor, signing up to substitute teach, after school clean up, administrative duties, and assisting at parties. A list of volunteer opportunities will be posted on our school app before the start of each semester. If you are unable to fulfill any of the volunteer slots please speak with co-op coordinators.

---

---

## TUITION AND FEES

All Families must pay the registration and family fee as their tuition. Parents who choose to enroll their child as a drop off student must also pay for drop off service. These fees should be paid by the 15th of each month, and are non-refundable. A late fee of 10% of your tuition costs will be applied if payment is made late. Families must pay fees for every month they are enrolled to hold their child's place. If you choose to not attend and not pay fees, your child's space may be forfeited to someone on the waiting list.

Please plan to pick up your child by 1:30pm for regular classes or 2:15 for electives. If a parent is late to pick up, there will be a \$15 charge for every 20 minutes past their pick up time, added to their monthly invoice.



**COMMUNICATION** All Parents and teachers must register in our parent communication app. It holds our calendar, volunteer schedule, student portfolios, files, class updates, supply needs and general announcements. All news between co-op administrators and teachers will be posted there.

**SCHOOL CLOSINGS** In the event of weather we follow both Fauquier AND Warren county school closings, since we have teachers and families in both counties. If one or the other needs to close, we will also close. In the event of a 2 hour delay, we will forgo Morning meeting and center time and begin the day at 10am. Updates for delays and closings will also be posted in our parent app and on Facebook.

## SUPPLIES FOR EACH CHILD

- 1- 9x12 wire spiral bound unlined sketchbook
- slippers
- Backpack
- Water bottle

## SUPPLIES FOR EACH FAMILY

- 2 rolls of Toilet paper
- 2 rolls of paper towels
- 1 Package Anti Bacterial cleaning wipes
- 2-3 items from the communal supply list. Sign ups will be sent out at the beginning of each semester

## 2020/2021 IMPORTANT DATES

*September* 8 School begins

*November* 3 No School, election day  
24-27 Fall Break

*December* 1 January and Spring registration  
17 Student Showcase, End of Semester  
22- January 7 Winter Break

*January* 12 January Term Begins

*February* 2 Spring Semester Begins

*March* 23- *April* 2 Spring Break

*May* 26 Student Showcase, End of Semester  
27 End of year final party



# 2020 Fall Course Offerings

## Tuesday/Thursdays- Core Classes

	K/1	2/3	4/5		Middle School
9:00		Arrival and Morning meeting			
9:30	STEAM centers	Math Lab- centers and games		9:15	Math Lab 1
10:00	Writing	Writing	Art		Science
10:45	Music	Art	Science	10:00	
11:30	Recess	Lunch		11:00	Creative Writing 1
12:00	Lunch	Recess		11:45	Lunch/Recess
12:30	Science	Science	Writing		
1:30	DISMISSAL			12:15	Art <i>Lyndsey</i>
		1:30-2:15	Opt. Electives: Sign Language or Spanish		

## Wednesday- Electives

	K/1	2/3	4/5		Middle School
9:00		Arrival and play			
9:20	Morning Meeting			9:15	Morning Meeting
9:45	Session 1 -Mixed age electives Choose from Art, Technology, or Misc. elective			9:30	Genius Hour
10:30	Session 2 -Mixed age electives Choose from Art, Technology, or Misc. elective			10:30	Tech Projects or Mixed age electives
11:30	Recess	Lunch			
12:00	Lunch	Recess		11:30	Lunch/Recess
12:30	Session 3 -Mixed age electives Choose from Art, Technology, or Misc. elective				
1:30	DISMISSAL			12:30	Tech projects or mixed age elective
		1:30-2:15	Opt. elective Lego League, 1st-8th		

## Thursday- Core Classes

	K/1	2/3	4/5		Middle School
<b>9:00</b>		Arrival and morning meeting			
<b>9:30</b>	STEAM centers	Math Lab- centers and games			Math Lab 2
<b>10:00</b>	STEM Lab	Math Projects	Stem Lab	<b>9:15-10:30</b>	+ Project Based Learning
<b>10:45</b>	Math Projects	STEM lab	Geography	<b>10:30-11:15</b>	Creative Writing 2
<b>11:30</b>	Recess	Lunch			
<b>12:00</b>	Lunch	Recess		<b>11:15</b>	Lunch/Recess
<b>12:30</b>	Art	Geography	Math Projects		
<b>1:30</b>	<b>DISMISSAL</b>			<b>12:15-1:30</b>	STEM Lab
		<b>1:30-2:15</b>	Opt. Elective - Spanish (4th-8th)		

Pre K/Nursery *	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
<b>9:00</b>	Arrival and Morning meeting		
<b>9:30</b>	STEAM centers	Freeplay	STEAM centers
<b>10:00</b>	STEM Storytime		
<b>10:30</b>	Activity and Snack	Snack or optional elective	Activity and Snack
<b>11:30</b>	Recess/ Lunch		
<b>12:30</b>	Activity, Play, Cleanup		
<b>1:30</b>	<b>DISMISSAL</b>		
<b>1:30-2:15</b>	After school play for teacher kids and siblings in electives		

\*Not available for drop off. For children of teachers and assistants only

## 2020-2021 Co-Op Fees and Drop-Off fees

Registration: \$55/ family      Tuition: \$155/ family each semester

TOTAL: \$315/ family.

Drop off fees:

Core Classes	1 day	2 days	3 day
1 child	\$80	\$144	\$192
2 Children	\$144	\$256	\$360
3 Children	\$192	\$360	\$504
4 Children	\$256	\$448	\$672

Middle School	Wed	Tues/Thurs	All 3
1 Child	\$85	\$175	\$235
2+ children (including siblings in k-5)	\$77	\$158	\$212

Elective Classes	Spanish	Lego League	Sign Language
For Coop Members:			
1st child	\$30	\$15	\$15
Each additional sibling	\$25	\$12	\$12
K-3 Late pick up (2:15)	\$15	\$10	\$10
Non-Members	\$50 registration fee		
1st child	\$45	\$25	\$25
Each additional sibling	\$41	\$23	\$23

# 2019-2020 STEAM School Co-Op Support Classes Registration Form

**Who will be attending?** (Include all children if the parent is staying on site)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_ (Circle) Days attending: Tues Wed Thur

Spanish (tues/Thurs) Sign Language (Tues/Thurs) 1st Lego League (Wed) Elective Sibling care: Tues Wed Thur

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_ (Circle) Days attending: Tues Wed Thur

Spanish (tues/Thurs) Sign Language (Tues/Thurs) 1st Lego League (Wed) Elective Sibling care: Tues Wed Thur

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_ (Circle) Days attending: Tues Wed Thur

Spanish (tues/Thurs) Sign Language (Tues/Thurs) 1st Lego League (Wed) Elective Sibling care: Tues Wed Thur

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_ (Circle) Days attending: Tues Wed Thur

Spanish (tues/Thurs) Sign Language (Tues/Thurs) 1st Lego League (Wed) Elective Sibling care: Tues Wed Thur

**What would you like us to know about your child(ren)?** (allergies, special needs, interests)

---

---

---

---

**Will you be volunteering or dropping off?**

\_\_\_\_ I would like to be considered for a LEAD teacher role in \_\_\_\_\_

---

\_\_\_\_ I would like to be considered for an assistant teacher role in \_\_\_\_\_

---

\_\_\_\_ I will pay drop-off fees.

I understand that I must pay the \$50 registration fee as soon as possible and before Sept 1 at the latest to secure my children's spaces in co-op. I must also pay the \$150 semester 1 family fee by Sept 1 and the semester 2 family fee by January 1<sup>st</sup> of that year to ensure my children's space. I understand that these fees are non-refundable.

Parent Name/Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent/Guardian Information**

Names: \_\_\_\_\_

Home address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email addresses: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone numbers: \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact and Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Who has permission to pick-up your child? \_\_\_\_\_

Who does NOT have permission to pick-up your child? \_\_\_\_\_

**Permission to Use Photographs**

I grant to the STEAM school, its representatives and volunteers the right to take photographs of me and my children during STEAM co-op time or STEAM events. I authorize the STEAM school to use and publish the photos in print and/or electronically.

I do NOT grant permission to the STEAM school, its representatives and volunteers, to take and publish photographs of me and my children.

I grant to the STEAM School permission to take and publish photographs of me and my children under the following conditions:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Names of Children: \_\_\_\_\_

# Parent Proxy and Medical Release

**Parent Proxy** I designate the following person to serve as a parent proxy in my absence, (Either yourself, a friend, or our coordinator, Lyndsey Pheister)

\_\_\_\_\_

By signing this form, I hereby waive the STEAM School, its officers and members, from any liability of injury and loss or damage of personal property associated with participating in this event. I understand that my children are under the care of a parent proxy, not the STEAM School. By signing my name below, I acknowledge that I understand this waiver.

\_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature

\_\_\_\_\_

Print name

## Medical Information

Pediatrician \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Allergies or other medical conditions

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Insurance provider/Name on Policy/Group, ID#

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_