



BUILDING SKILLS FOR THE 21st CENTURY

Collaboration Communication Creativity Critical Thinking

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**The STEAM School is a homeschooling co-op in
Delaplane, VA offering **two** classroom school days per
week, providing both community and curriculum
support**

CO-OP VALUES

EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING TIME
OUTDOORS
INCLUSIVITY

FREE PLAY
ACADEMIC CHOICE
SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL GROWTH

INDEPENDENCE
RESPONSIBLE CITIZENSHIP
INDIVIDUALITY

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. Weekly class interactions help promote friendships, build community and offer natural opportunities for collaboration. We periodically pair older children with younger ones for buddy activities. 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

- Honor child development through age appropriate schedules and curriculum, including opportunity for free play and exploration

Our Students

We offer classes to kids in Kindergarten through 9th grade. Our belief is that kids do best when they're understood and nurtured, and we aim to work as a team with families to provide an environment where their child can thrive.

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

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 their 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 are not tolerated.

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.

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!

Safety Guidelines

- 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.
- STEAM School is a nut-free school. Please do not pack peanuts or tree nuts in student snacks or lunches.
- No food sharing except snacks provided for the entire class, which must be nut free and dairy/allergy friendly

- Each child must be signed in and out each school 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. We play and learn outside a lot.
- Slippers or socks must be worn inside, and shoes outside at all times. No bare feet.
- **COVID 19** - STEAM School will comply with current Virginia Department of Health and CDC guidelines in place during our Fall 2022 semester. STEAM school will communicate specific guidelines to parents prior to the start of the fall semester as they relate to social distancing, mask wearing, hand washing, positive tests within our school etc. based on guidance at that time.
- Children and adults must be symptom free from contagious illness (respiratory illness, sore throats and/or fever) for 48 hours before attending school or meet-ups. Please monitor your child's symptoms and temperature directly before attending an event. If you or your child begin to show symptoms after arrival, we ask that you leave. If you have had exposure to Covid, please inform us and follow all current recommendations of the CDC.
- All parents will need to sign a waiver releasing STEAM school from liability and agreeing to adhere to our safety policies.

Technology

Students able to be responsible for their own technology are encouraged to bring their own chromebooks or laptops to use for writing and other projects. Teachers cannot be responsible for students' chromebooks/laptops so please use your own discretion. STEAM provides chromebooks for shared use in robotics and other classes. Students are not permitted to use cell phones while on campus, although they may be stored in a student's backpack if a family would feel more comfortable with their student having one while at co-op.

Grading

Parents are their children's primary teacher. Our classes are designed to be exploratory and child-focused. As such, no formal evaluations will be given. Teachers are available for suggestions on improvement, feedback on submissions, or areas to correct by parents request.

Communication

All parents and teachers must create an account in our parent communication app, Bloomz. It holds our calendar, files, class updates, supply needs and general announcements. All news between co-op administrators and teachers will be posted in this app.

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 begin the day at 10am. Updates for delays and closings will also be posted in our parent app and on Facebook.

Supplies

Each child should come to STEAM School with the following...

- **Slippers** - Each student should bring slippers to leave at STEAM School during the semester. Students wear their slippers while inside the school building to help limit daily floor clean up.
- **Backpack**
- **Lunch, snack and water canteen** - Lunch and snack should be nut-free

and if packing a disposable water bottle, please label it with the child's name.

Spring 2023 Important Dates

- January 31 and February 2 - First days of school
- April 10-21 - Spring Break
- May 16 and 18 - Last Days of school

Spring 2023 Course Offerings

Tuesday Classes

	Pk/K	1st Grade	2-3rd Grade	4th-6th Grade	Middle School (12+)
9-9:30	Free Play Outside				
9:30-9:45	Morning Meeting				
9:45-10:45	Science/Art	Theater/Art	Science	Hands on History	Math Projects
10:45-11:00	Break				
11-12:00	Centers	Science	Theater/Art	Math Projects	Hands on History
12-12:45	Lunch				
12:45-1:30	Electives offered on a rotating schedule: Sensory and Play Centers, Indoor/Outdoor Games, STEAM Folktales, Stop Motion, Dungeons and Dragons				

Thursday Classes

	Pk/K	1st Grade	2-3rd Grade	4th-6th Grade	Middle School (12+)
9-9:30	Free Play Outside				
9:30-9:45	Morning Meeting				
9:45-10:45	Lit/Art	Kitchen Science	Coding	Art	Physical Science
10:45-11:00	Break				
11-12:00	Centers	Coding	Kitchen Science	Physical Science	Art
12-12:45	Lunch				
12:45-1:30	Electives offered on a rotating schedule: Sensory and Play Centers, Indoor/Outdoor Games, Woven Melodies, Craft, Open Art Studio, Dungeons and Dragons				

Registration Cost and Fees

All Families must pay the registration and family fee applicable to the option they choose. Parents who choose to enroll their child as a drop off student must also pay monthly fees 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 family fee costs will be applied if payment is made late. If you do not pay required fees, your child's space may be forfeited to someone on the waiting list.

Please plan to pick up your child by 1:30pm. 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.

Registration: \$100/family per academic year

Family Fee: \$200/family per semester

Total: \$300/family (plus *monthly drop off fees if applicable)

***The following monthly drop off fees apply if you will NOT be on campus in a teacher or assistant teacher role during class days**

Drop Off Fees	One Day	Two Days
1 child	\$80	\$144
2 children	\$144	\$224
3 children	\$192	\$315
4 children	\$256	\$416
5 children	\$320	\$520

Volunteering

All co-op members pay the family fee to participate and agree to volunteer. We are a cooperative, which means not every job is filled by teachers. 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.

Teachers and Assistants

Parents who work as lead teachers are compensated monetarily and will receive a 1099. Any parent who volunteers as a teacher assistant is expected to lead lessons if the lead teacher is absent. All teachers and assistants should plan to arrive by 9:00am to monitor students before class time while teachers set up. **All teachers and assistants must maintain an 85% attendance rate (or send a substitute) for their commitment.** Teachers and assistants must provide agreed upon service to receive the reduced tuition rate. The leadership team reserves the right to rescind assistant and lead teacher positions if a team member is not meeting expectations. Financial aid discounts will be given to teachers and

assistants first and will be negotiated on a case by case basis.

Questions? steamschooldelaplane@gmail.com