

### **Quiet on the Set! Silent Film & The Wild West**

3, 2, 1... Action! Join us for a week of creativity and investigation, learning about and creating our very own silent film. Students will write, act out, edit, and produce a silent film. Through the lens of the Wild West, students will learn about the elements and origins of film, particularly Westerns. Hone your skills in writing, drawing, acting and directing, and discover your inner cowgirl or cowboy! "Yee Haw!"

### **The Circus is Coming to Town**

Ladies and Gentlemen! Children of all ages! McGillis is offering Circus Arts! Circus Arts is for anyone who loves to try new things, challenge their bodies, build trust with other Magpies, and perform amazing feats and stunts. In this class, you will learn to juggle, perform death-defying stunts, master the Philippine art of Tinikling and more! We will work on core strength, agility, and coordination, not to mention patterning, brain building, and balance of both body and mind. Fun will be had by all...the circus is about to begin!

### **Travel the World in Your Own Backyard**

Do you want to visit Greece, China, Africa, the Middle East, and Mexico without getting on a plane? Would you enjoy cooking, tasting, and sharing the foods from different parts of the world? Are you interested in learning about different cultures, how different people worship, and games different countries play? In this course, we will learn about our community neighbors through the lenses of religion, food, dance, and meeting new people. We'll spend time off campus visiting ethnic markets, houses of worship, restaurants, a museum, and an African child care center. We will also throw in a few games to work off our eating and learn about other cultures through how they play. Come travel the world in your own backyard!

### **Design Your Own Logo, Costume, and Eco-apparel**

Ignite your creativity with an exciting week of logo, costume, and apparel design! With many designers and companies to look to for inspiration, we'll develop strategies for creating your own brand and logo and learn the importance of creating a brand identity. We'll also explore basic techniques for generating simple swag for your personal style and interests. Our designs will focus on the growing movement towards sustainable fashion and care for our environment through the creation of apparel made from unconventional and repurposed materials. In addition, you'll discover the top-secret location of the McGillis costume bins as we learn the secrets of how to costume different stock characters in a show. This hands-on course will delve into design through engaging field trips, art labs, and a culminating fashion show.

### **Real life, Rockin' Robots**

Calling all coders, programmers and creators! Are you ready to embrace real world robots? From building houses to performing life-changing surgeries, robots are quickly becoming an important aspect of our world. In this course, we will explore new innovations and learn how robots can impact our lives. We'll travel off campus to see how robots are being used right here in Salt Lake City, and we'll bring in experts to talk about their careers which involve robots. Dedicated time will be spent programming and coding a Sphero Mini robot to help with a real world task! We will also dabble in 3D design and learn about 3D printing robots. Don't be a cyborg, come join the world of robot designers!

### **From Inner to Outer Space**

Our journey will begin by turning our exploration of space inward. We'll practice mindfulness, intentional breathing, the Chakra system, meditation, body movement and yoga poses. We'll make eye pillows to assist with deep relaxing meditation and to help find what heightens our inner spatial senses. Students will delve into the beauty of mandalas. Our journey then turns outward as we examine the intergalactic wonders of outer space. We will travel to the Clark Planetarium and explore the planet Mars by learning about the technology behind the creation of the Mars Rover and scientists' search for life. We'll test our engineering skills by building egg drop landers and launching rockets. Join us for this adventure of discovering yourself and the world beyond!

### **Earth Art & Installations**

Have you ever seen autumn leaves arranged in a concentric circle from deep purples to reds to oranges to pale yellows? Have you ever seen icicles frozen together and carefully wound around a tree trunk? (Artist Andrew Goldsworthy did this!) Or maybe you've walked around the Great Salt Lake's giant spiral jetty made of mud, salt crystals, and basalt rock? Have you ever watched an artist create huge intricate designs with just his snowshoes on a winter landscape? Or marveled at ancient petroglyphs carved into the sandstone of Utah? If you are curious about seeing and creating this kind of ephemeral beauty and magic, join us for an exploration of "earth art," where artists use earth's natural materials to sculpt and create art directly on the land. We'll focus on several artists' unique works and techniques, go on field trips to see "land art" in its original settings or in museums, and make sun prints using natural materials and the rays of the sun. Our final project will be creating our own art installation which we will photograph or video to share with the McGillis community. In this class, you will inspire us to transform a special part of our school grounds with the shimmer and swirl of your own creativity!

### **Build A Solar Powered Amusement Park**

Do you love theme parks? Do you want to design your own amusement park ride? In this course, students will be introduced to the world of creative engineering when they design and build an amusement park ride that's powered only by solar energy! Students will be exposed to the engineering design process, solar energy and panels, and simple motors. Students will create detailed designs, build and test their prototypes, and re-design to optimize their solutions. Join us to build a fabulous, miniature amusement park powered by solar energy!

### **Wild in the Wasatch**

We are lucky to live in such a beautiful and adventurous place. Whether you are a climber, hiker, skier, or biker, playing outside in the wilderness brings its own unique set of challenges. Each of these challenges can push us outside our comfort zones and requires determination, resilience, courage, and critical thinking to overcome them. In this course, students will explore the wilderness, experience its challenges, and learn how to overcome and reflect on the ways they were successful. We will spend the majority of our time outside in the elements, and by design, students will be asked to work collaboratively and empathetically in order to complete the course. If you are someone who enjoys challenge, collaboration, and creative thinking while being outside, this course is for you!

### **The Hidden History of Books**

Do you love books? Are you curious to learn how books are made? In this hands-on course, we'll explore early writing systems that used clay, stone, and handmade paper. We'll make our own cuneiform tablets by pressing symbols into clay discs, write our names in hieroglyphics, and even make our own paper. We'll visit the Book Arts Printmaking Studio at the University of Utah, where we'll learn about type, letterpress, photoengraving, and bookbinding techniques. We'll also tour a facility where giant presses print our local newspapers every day, and we'll discover how the printing press changed the world. Join us as we immerse ourselves in the world of books!

### **The Bond Between Humans and Animals**

Do you adore animals? Do you want to learn more about the dynamic relationship between humans and animals? We'll explore the science behind this incredible bond and discover the many ways in which we help each other. We'll learn first hand how therapy dogs are trained, visit with a K-9 police dog and its handler, and discover how avalanche dogs learn to search for humans buried in the snow. We'll spend a day with different rescue animals and learn how animals are helping medical researchers find a cure for cancer. Join us on our animal adventure and experience the incredible bond between humans and animals first hand!

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Teacher Name

Using 1-4, with 1's representing your top choices, rank the courses in order of preference, choosing three courses for each rank. You should have three #1's, three #2's, etc.

Return this page to your homeroom teacher by March 10. No list? We will make your selection for you.

- \_\_\_ Quiet on the Set
- \_\_\_ The Circus is Coming to Town
- \_\_\_ Travel the World in Your Own Backyard
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- \_\_\_ Real Life, Rockin' Robots
- \_\_\_ From Inner to Outer Space
- \_\_\_ Earth Art & Installations
- \_\_\_ Solar Powered Amusement Park
- \_\_\_ Wild in the Wasatch
- \_\_\_ Hidden History of Books
- \_\_\_ Humans & Animals

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Signature

*We will do our best to give students one of their top choices, but please be open to new experiences if this isn't possible.*



## Calling all students in grades 3-5:

It is time for CSI- Curious Student Investigations! This is the chance for you to select from a list of fascinating mini-courses, gather with a small group of interested students led by our passionate teachers, and focus on one exciting topic for four consecutive days. Beginning April 3, guest speakers, hands-on activities, and outings into our community will provide innovative and in-depth learning in an "out-of-the box" experiential learning model to groups of about twelve 3rd-5th graders. These courses are part of the regular school day.

# CSI:

## Curious Student Investigations

Grades 3-5  
April 3-8, 2020

