

Summer 2025 Camp Ideas

Humanities

Shakespeare in Love (HS)

Experience the timeless impact of Shakespeare's greatest love stories by combining an in-depth study of the Bard's romantic works with an exploration of how these themes echo through modern music, movies, and media. Through interactive workshops, theater games, and creative projects, students will see how Shakespeare's insights into love and relationships remain relevant today.

Cursive and Calligraphy

Master the lost art of handwriting, from flowing cursive to elegant calligraphy styles and modern brush lettering. This hands-on workshop employs traditional tools like fountain pens, brush pens, and metal nibs while exploring the historical significance of various scripts. Campers collaborate on creative hand-lettered projects, culminating in a gallery showcase.

Adventures in Medieval Europe (LS)

Learn about the history of the European Middle Ages as you design a manor economy – including a castle, agriculture, a village with houses and shops, and a Gothic cathedral. We will dive into the daily life of knights, Lord and Lady Einstein, freemen, and peasants as we explore the architecture, entertainment, and technology of the age.

Genealogy

Embark on a fascinating journey to uncover your family history and learn the art of ancestral research. Trace your lineages, analyze historical documents, and assemble a digital family tree. We will also research the historical contexts that shaped our ancestors' lives.

The Age of Exploration (LS)

Learn about the technological advances that made worldwide travel possible and sent explorers from Europe around the globe. Through immersive activities and study, you will become a member of a crew: captain, first mate, navigator, cook, priest, conquistador, missionary, or mate, who contributes to the journey of the ship.

Shipwrecks (LS)

Several famous shipwrecks have left behind sunken treasure and fascinating legends. Why did these ships sink? What happened to their crews? What kind of cargo went down with these ships? Is there still treasure to be found? Find out in "Shipwrecks!"

Executive Functioning – Building SKILL through games (LS)

Develop crucial life skills while strengthening your organizational abilities, time management, planning, and decision-making through strategic gameplay, digital challenges, and team-based competitions. Learn to create personalized systems for task management, learn practical study techniques, and develop stress-reduction strategies in a supportive, game-focused environment.

Academic Excellence (HS)

This camp focuses on mastering proven strategies for notetaking, research, critical thinking, and test preparation while learning to balance academic success with personal wellness and stress management. Participants develop the practical skills and mental mindset needed to excel in high school, college, and beyond.

Star Wars and the Ancient Roman Empire (HS)

Learn about the many fascinating parallels between George Lucas's epic space saga and the rise and fall of the Roman Empire that inspired it! Discover how ancient history influenced modern storytelling through interactive discussions, creative projects, and themed activities.

Applied Morality and Ethics (HS)

Through case studies and real-world examples, explore the ethical frameworks and moral principles behind everyday decisions. Students will engage in discussions, group projects, and written exploration as they strengthen their ability to recognize ethical implications and build a personal framework for making principled decisions.

Improv Bootcamp (LS)

Develop your stage presence through an intensive workshop designed to build core improvisation skills. Through rapid-fire exercises, character development, and impromptu scene work, students will master fundamental concepts while building confidence. This high-energy program culminates in a live showcase!

Acting Workshop (HS)

Discover the fundamentals of stage performance in this hands-on workshop exploring character development, scene study, and basic acting

techniques. Students build confidence and creativity through theater games, monologue work, and collaborative exercises designed for beginners. The fast-paced course culminates in a showcase performance by students!

Weird History

History is stranger than fiction! Learn about uncanny events, historical oddities, and downright strange occurrences. Topics depend on student interest but could include historical mysteries and influences on Roman Britain, Arabian city builders, classical Greeks, and World War II.

Great Cities Throughout the Ages

Explore the inauguration and evolution of some of history's greatest cities, ranging from London's Roman origins to the city of Mosul as an outgrowth of the Assyrian capital of Nineveh. Examine these cultures' human geography /anthropology by focusing on the development of their related cultures.

War Goes to the Movies

View war movies combining emotional depth, dramatic realism, and compelling storytelling. We will discuss the historical and cultural context, explore the reasons behind each war, and consider whether the movies glorify war or reveal its dehumanizing effects on everyone involved, regardless of which side they were on.

The Making of Modern Germany (1648-1871)

Starting with the mess left by the Thirty Years' War, follow the wild ride of how modern Germany came to be. Examine how Prussia grew from a backwater duchy into a European powerhouse and how German thinkers

and reformers shaped the region's future. Learn how Otto von Bismarck's clever moves to unite Germany turned a bunch of scattered states into one of Europe's strongest nations.

The Evolution of Modern Sport

Learn how the rise of cities and mass media turned athletics into big business, and look at how class, gender, and national pride shaped different sports. From the birth of the Olympics to why we have sports leagues, you'll learn how games became a global obsession through hands-on activities.

History of the Black Death

Learn about the biggest pandemic in human history, the Black Death of the 1300s, and how it changed everything about medieval life. You'll learn how the plague spread across continents, why medieval doctors were powerless to stop it, and how regular people dealt with losing half their neighbors. We'll also examine how surviving this disaster changed everything from work and religion to art and science.

Science

Mad Scientist Lab! (LS)

Ignite your curiosity and experience the ultimate hands-on experiments at the Mad Scientist Science Camp! Marvel at the magic of physics, chemistry, and biology through interactive, direct experiments and

exploration. Embrace your inner innovator and unleash your creativity in this immersive, hands-on science camp!

Science Crafting (LS)

Combine your love of crafting with your love of science! Learn about the natural and physical sciences as you complete projects such as making your own felt and fabric cell pillows, crafting your paper skeleton, making the core types of clouds, and building bugs and animal figurines.

Junior Science Detective (LS)

Solve mysteries just like a real scientist! Collect clues, dust for fingerprints, learn about evidence, complete simple experiments, and learn how detectives use science to crack the case. Join us to become a science detective!

Awesome Animals (LS)

Learn about some of the most incredible creatures on Earth! Study common and unusual animals, their habitats, and how they survive. Join us for hands-on games and projects and become an animal expert!

Rocket Science (LS)

Build and launch your very own rockets! Learn simple physics, create cool rocket designs, and explore how things fly. We'll experiment, build, launch, and discover the magic of flight!

Ocean Explorers (LS)

Dive into the fascinating world of sea creatures! Learn about marine life, aquatic science, marine ecosystems, and the amazing secrets of the ocean. Bring your curiosity and love for underwater adventure!

Space Adventurer (LS)

Explore our solar system and beyond! Build planet models, learn about astronauts' jobs, create imaginative designs that could help astronauts in space, and discover the mysteries of the cosmos.

Future Tech Titans (HS)

Design cool technology and brainstorm amazing inventions with other future titans of technology! Build simple robots, explore basic coding, create innovative projects, and dive into a series of discussions about the future of technology.

Mathematics

Code Breakers and Puzzle Masters

Unlock the secret world of mathematical mysteries! Dive into cryptography to learn how mathematicians and spies use numbers to create unbreakable codes and solve mind-bending puzzles. Create your own encryption systems and discover how math can be the ultimate superpower of problem-solving!

Roller Coaster Mathematics

Work as a team to design the most epic roller coaster ever using mathematics and engineering! Learn how algebra, geometry, and physics combine to create heart-stopping rides while you plan and assemble a model of your creation.

Math, Magic, Tricks, and Puzzles (LS)

Discover cool math tricks that will amaze your friends and family! Learn fun number games, solve mind-bending puzzles, and unlock the secret superpowers of mathematics. You'll learn math shortcuts that seem like magic, play exciting brain teasers, and become a math magician who can wow everyone with your incredible number skills!

Crazy Cool Math Challenges (LS)

Get ready for the most fun math experience ever! Solve wacky math challenges, play competitive math games, and discover how exciting math can be!

Math Escape Room Challenge (HS)

Work as a team to create your very own math-themed escape room! Use algebra, geometry, and logic to crack codes, unlock mysteries, and escape the room. Join us for excitement, teamwork, and brain-twisting mathematical adventures!

Financial Literacy (HS)

Learn how to manage money like a pro! Create budgets, understand basic investing, calculate discounts, explore credit, and gain the mathematical skills to help you become financially wise using real-life math that matters!

Culture, Music, and Fine & Performing Arts

Latin American Civilization (HS)

Discover the incredible history of Latin America! Travel through time, starting with Spain's rich history that led to the age of exploration and the impact of colonial rule on Latin America, to the modern-day struggles and triumphs that shape the region today. Explore the complex and fascinating history of Spain and Latin America!

Spanish/Latin American Cuisine Cooking Class

Travel the Spanish-speaking world by cooking and tasting iconic dishes from various cultures! Taste the crispy churros of Spain, the savory arepas of South America, the delicious pupusas of Central America, and the rich tamales that span Mexico, Central America, and the Caribbean. Join us for this hands-on, flavorful experience!

Ancient Greek Language and Culture

Immerse yourself in ancient Greece's language, literature, and daily life while learning its classical language fundamentals. Students will explore the richness of ancient Greek mythology, philosophy, art, and politics while learning about one of history's most influential civilizations.

The Music and Language of Brazil

Learn Brazilian Portuguese through contemporary music! Explore pop songs, learn language basics, and dive into the vibrant culture of Brazil. No previous language study is required – just bring your excitement!

Instrumental Strings Class

Learn any orchestra string Instrument (such as the violin, viola, cello, or double bass) while exploring different musical styles such as classical, pop, rock, and more. Beginners welcome!

American Jazz Music: Post-WWII through the 1980s

Trace jazz's evolution from popular entertainment to a sophisticated art form through focused listening sessions, historical analysis, and interactive activities. Learn how musical innovations connect to broader cultural movements, including civil rights, urbanization, and technological change, and an understanding of jazz as a reflection of American society.

Jazz Dance Through the Decades: From Bebop to Hip-Hop (HS)

Explore the evolution of jazz dance's iconic moves and styles that have defined each decade since the 1940s. Each session combines history, music, and hands-on dance practice, culminating in a final showcase celebrating jazz dance's enduring impact on culture and self-expression. No prior dance experience is necessary.

Costuming Workshop

Step into the world of costume design in this engaging, hands-on workshop where creativity takes center stage. Hunt for materials and inspiration during a class field trip to a local thrift store and then learn how to repurpose and upcycle items into unique costume pieces. Every participant will complete at least one costume piece and develop a deeper understanding of the art.

Mask Making and Creature Accessories Workshop

Design and craft unique display or performance masks and creature-inspired accessories. Explore sculpting, painting, and mixed-media crafting techniques to bring your wearable art pieces to life. All skill levels are welcome!

Get Started with Sewing (HS)

Prepare for next fall's Advanced Fashion course by learning sewing machine basics, essential hand-sewing techniques, fabric selection, and simple project construction. Students will learn the foundational skills to tackle more complex designs by completing several small projects. No prior experience is required—just bring your enthusiasm and imagination!

Framing the World through Photography

Create beautiful images as you learn the structural and compositional forms underlying great photography! Practice photo composition, learn to understand proportions, and play with perspective. Join us as we discover the beauty and patterns hidden in every photo!