

5TH DAY COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

The 5th day schedule will consist of three blocks (Dual Language Immersion, Science Lab, and Fine Arts/Extracurricular). Each age group will rotate through these blocks during the fifth day. The school year will be divided into eight-week sessions allowing classes within these blocks to change every eight weeks. Students may choose to participate in each session on an individual basis.

BLOCK #1: DUAL LANGUAGE ACADEMY

Instructors: Debra Doering / Aides / Parent Volunteers

Description: Students will be instructed in Spanish and English by bilingual staff. They will use music, games, grammar and communicative activities to develop the use of both languages. English speaking students will learn Spanish and reinforce English grammar and skills. Spanish speaking students will get English aide while continuing their Spanish education. This fifth day class will serve as a core to a program that can also be implemented during the other four school days.

BLOCK #2: SCIENCE LAB

#1 Project Wet (K-12)

Instructors: Current teachers on rotating schedule and/or parent aides

Description: Students learn a variety of water-related issues through a collection of innovative, hands-on and fun activities and experiments. While providing a thorough water education program project wet also addresses water's chemical and physical properties, quantity and quality, aquatic wildlife, ecosystems, and management strategies. Wet activities promote critical thinking, and problem-solving skills and help provide young people with the knowledge and experience they will need to make prudent decisions regarding water resources.

#2 Project Wild (K-12)

Instructors: Current teachers on rotating schedule and/or parent aides

Description: Project wild is an interdisciplinary environmental education program emphasizing wildlife. Students learn about the complex relationships in nature through a multitude of activities and scientific observations. The goal of project WILD is to assist learners in developing awareness, knowledge, skills and commitment that result in informed decisions regarding wildlife and the environment.

#3 Science Through Gardening (K-12)

Instructors: Current teachers on rotating schedule and/or parent aides

Description: Using curriculum developed by 4H, students learn the science of gardening fruits, vegetables and flowers. More than just a school garden, students participate in indoor and outdoor activities and experiments that cultivate an understanding of biology, chemistry and the scientific process. Students learn and reinforce scientific concepts through experiential learning and applied practices.

#4 Project Food, Land & People (K-12)

Instructors: Current teachers on rotating schedule and/or parent aides

Description: Age appropriate activities that promote approaches to learning to help people better understand the interrelationships among agriculture, the environment and people of the world. Twenty of the FLP lessons have been fully translated into Spanish for use in Spanish-speaking or bilingual classrooms.

#5 California Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom (K-12)

Instructors: Current teachers on rotating schedule and/or parent aides

Description: Increasing Awareness and Understanding of Agriculture Among California's Educators and Students

#6 SERIES

(Science Experience & Resources for Informal Education Settings) (K-12)

Instructors: Current teachers on rotating schedule and/or parent aides

Description: Students explore topics ranging from Oak Woodland Ecosystems and chemistry to agriculture and water systems. The SERIES curriculum stands apart from other science curriculum due to its use of the scientific learning process, cross-age instruction, the learning cycle and an apprentice structure where students are involved in community service projects.

#7 Health and Life Long Fitness (4H=K-5) (Other 6-12)

Instructors: Current teachers on rotating schedule and/or parent aides

Description: Students learn the science of health and fitness through hands-on activities and implementation of their own healthy lifestyle. Topics include nutrition, body systems and exercise science. Students track the success of their healthy choices and scientifically observe changes.

BLOCK #3 FINE ARTS / EXTRACURRICULAR

#1 Band (K-12)

Instructors: Community Professionals / Volunteers

Description: Students learn music themes along with conventional instruments in a classic style environment

#2 Music: Rock Band (1-12)

Instructors: Kevin Canova, Jonathan Van Pelts??

Description: Students learn guitar, drums and base in a more non-conventional style.

#3 Poetry (2-12)

Instructors: Chris Olander

Description: Chris Olander, a long time poetry teacher at Potter Valley School, guides students to find their own voice through poetry. Chris will not only continue his tenure but expand his program to include grades 2nd through 12th. Students are taught though the style of writing and revising.

#4 SPACE (K-8)

Instructors: Space Staff

Description: Choir, Rhythm Instruments, Contemporary Movement, Performing Arts, Basket Making and Art

#5 Ecology Art (K-12)

Instructors: Parent Volunteers/ Aides

Description: Students will learn how to create art from recycled and /or reused objects. After all one man's trash is another man's treasure. Seeing trash with a new perspective, as a misplaced resource, both reusable and recyclable, will broaden each student's consciousness in respect to urban ecology.

#6 Mosaics

Instructors: Elizabeth Raybee

Description: Students will learn that art of mosaics from internationally recognized mosaic artist and teacher.

#7 Martial Arts (K-12)

Instructors: Community Professionals / Volunteers

Description: Students combine physical and mental practices to build confidence and self-esteem as well as self-discipline, respect, concentration and courtesy.

#8 Yoga (K-12)

Instructors: Pearlie Johnson

Description: Yoga teaches practical mind-body health and balance that helps to build strength, flexibility and self-esteem on all levels, physically, mentally and emotionally. Yoga provides children with valuable tools to help control stress, improve focus and increase self-awareness.

#9 Dance

Instructors: Community Professionals / Volunteers

Description: Students learn and practice the art of movement through a variety of techniques and dance styles.

#10 Building Small Engines (3-12)

Instructors: Community Professionals / Volunteers

Description: Students learn the important skills of small engine building, maintenance and repair.

#11 Sport Fishing (3-12)

Instructors: Parent Volunteers

Description: Using curriculum developed by 4H, students explore the basics of sport fishing through experiential educations. Student's participate in indoor and well as outdoor activities that not only introduces them to the skills of fishing but also the science of water ecology and wildlife stewardship.

#12 Hunter Safety

Instructors: Community Professionals / Volunteers

Description: This course instills in students the knowledge and skill to be a responsible and safe hunter. Students learn how hunting accidents are caused and how they can be prevented. Hunter responsibility and safety are stressed throughout the classes, which consist of lectures, demonstrations, group discussions, practical exercises, and individual study and activity assignments.

#13 Driver's Education

Instructors: Community Professionals / Volunteers

Description: Students learn the skills of safe driving along with the rules of the road. Classroom lessons coupled with student practice driving will promote safe driving habits.

#14 Boy and Girl Scouts

Instructors: Community Professionals / Volunteers

Description: Student's learn responsible citizenship, character development, and self-reliance through participation in a wide range of outdoor activities, educational programs, and, at older age levels, career-oriented programs in partnership with community organizations. For younger members, the Scout method is used to inculcate typical Scouting values such as honesty, good citizenship, and outdoors skills.

MENDOCINO COLLEGE ACADEMY (9-12)

Instructors: College Staff

Description: Students take one college class per semester on Friday. Classes are typically four hours long and will be held at Mendocino College, Potter Valley High School or through distance education. The combined total of these classes will equal almost a year of college credits and will give students a free jump-start on college.