

3rd & 4th Grade STEAM/Elective Class Proposal for Schools

Spin, Spark, and Wonder: Building Resilience Through Yo-Yo and Magic Skills *a skill-building, SEL elective with Jenifer Joy*

This skill-based enrichment course integrates physical skill development, growth mindset learning and creative performance through the yo-yo and magic tricks. Students in grades 3–4 will explore the physics of motion, spatial awareness, and cause-and-effect while building perseverance, focus, and confidence through hands-on practice in skill-based activities.

This course engages learners in **active exploration, reflection, and collaboration**, aligning with **Oregon State** and **Common Core Standards** in the following areas:

- **Science:**

- 3-PS2-1 & 3-PS2-2 – Investigate how balanced and unbalanced forces affect motion through hands-on yo-yo experiments.

- **Mathematics:**

- CCSS.MATH.CONTENT.3.MD.A.2 – Measure and compare motion, distance, and time.
- CCSS.MATH.CONTENT.4.G.A.3 – Understand rotation, symmetry, and geometric relationships.

- **Social Emotional Learning:**

- SEL.3.SEH.1 – Demonstrate perseverance and resilience in learning new skills.
- SEL.4.SEH.2 – Identify personal strengths and apply them toward growth and confidence.

- **Physical Education:**

- PE.3.MS1 & PE.4.MS1 – Demonstrate control and coordination in complex motor skills.
- PE.3.PA1 – Participate regularly in physical activity and exhibit self-discipline.

Students will be able to:

- Build fine and gross motor coordination through sequential practice and repetition.
- Strengthen focus, patience, and adaptability while developing creative problem-solving.
- Gain confidence presenting skills and reflecting on progress.
- Experience joy through effort, persistence, and openness to learning.

Logistics:

- **Duration:** 1x per week, 45 minutes per session (winter term)
- **Materials:** Yo-yos and magic props provided; optional kits available for purchase.
- **Fee:** varies depending on situation, ideally minimum \$50 per session baseline

Instructor: *Jenifer Joy Christensen* — Edutainment Performer & current Masters in Teaching student at SOU, with years of professional experience as an educational performer - integrating science, skill, music, storytelling, history, storytelling and hands-on experiences to spark joy and curiosity in our young developing learners.

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Option 1 Wording for Parents:

Yo-Yo Magic: Skills, Focus, and Fun!

All materials provided—just bring curiosity and a can-do spirit!

Discover the joy of learning in skill based play! Join the fun this winter and learn to throw the yoyo and do magic tricks! Students will build coordination, confidence, and resilience through hands-on yo-yo play and simple magic skills. In this exciting class, students will discover that joy takes effort—and that trying new things can be both challenging and rewarding!

Each 45-minute weekly session includes active movement, creative play, and hands-on practice. All materials are provided, with optional take-home kits available.

Instructor: *Jenifer Joy Christensen* — performer and educator who brings science, art, and joy to life through yo-yoing, music, and magic.

Option 2:

Yo-Yo & Magic Skill Based Play!

In this exciting winter class, students in grades 3–4 will learn how to yo-yo, perform fun magic tricks, and discover the joy of mastering new skills! Each week we'll build coordination, focus, and confidence while exploring the science of motion and the magic of persistence.

Through hands-on practice and creative play, students will:

✨ Learn beginner and intermediate yo-yo tricks and simple sleight-of-hand magic.

🎯 Build hand-eye coordination, balance, and 3D spatial awareness.

💪 Develop resilience and confidence as they learn that *joy takes effort!*

🎩 Discover how trying new things can be both challenging and rewarding.

No experience is necessary—just curiosity and a willingness to try! Yo-yos and magic props are provided.

Taught by: *Jenifer Joy Christensen* , a professional performer and educator who brings science, art, and joy to life through yo-yoing, music, and magic.