

Course Descriptions for Monday Creative Options Program Mighty Roots Academy 2025-2026



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Monday Creative Options Course Schedule 2025-26

9:15-9:25	Drop-Off					
9:30	Circle Time					
9:35	Forest School (4-7 yrs) 2 hours Can be ½ day enrollment or full day enrollment	Our Amazing Bodies (6-9 yrs)	Art Through Story (7-10 yrs)	CSI: Crime Scene Investigation (10+ yrs)	Outdoor Adventure Skills (10+ yrs)	
10:35	½ Day enrollments must be enrolled in "Forest School Only" enrollment tab. Lunch is included with this enrollment.	Author's Notebook (6-9 yrs)	Explorer's Club (7-10 yrs)	2D Studio Art: Drawing & Painting (10+ yrs)		
11:35	Lunch and Discovery Play					
12:35	Storybook Journey (5-8 yrs)	Nature Art (5-8 yrs)	Lego STEAM Lab (7-10 yrs)	Gardening (8+ yrs)	Drama Club (6+ yrs)	Handbuilding with Clay (11+ yrs)
1:35	Laboratory of Fun (5-8 yrs)	Playful Thinkers (5-8 yrs)	Construct It: Builders & Makers (6-9 yrs)	Math Super Sleuths (7-11 yrs)	Rhythm & Moves (6+ yrs)	Board Game Masters (10+ yrs)
2:35	All Program Discovery Play					
3:00	Pick-Up					

Creative Options Monday: 9:35-11:35 2 Hour Blocks

Forest School

Ages: 4 – 7

Required for 4- and 5-year-olds

Students will enjoy the beauty of nature while learning! This outdoors-designed learning time will explore the wonderful 5-acres that Mighty Roots Academy has to offer. Along with highlighting natural learning opportunities through adventuring and playing, forest schoolers will have two to three teacher-prepared *Learning Times* each program day. These lessons will inspire interest in academics without formal pressure.

Applications for 4-year-olds please use Forest School Only application link.

Additional Materials: Raincoat, rain boots, snow pants, snow boots & waterproof gloves.

Outdoor Adventure Skills

Ages 10+

This outdoor course gives students hands-on experience with the natural world. Students will develop skills to help them navigate the great outdoors as well as wilderness survival skills. Some of this year's topics may include: Fire starting and campfire cooking, topography and cartography, natural dyes and fibers, knot tying, survival skills and scenarios, historical and interactive treasure hunting. **Additional Materials: Fixed-blade knife required for some topics.**

Creative Options Monday: 9:35-10:35 Block

Our Amazing Bodies

Ages: 6-9

Students will take a holistic and systematic approach to learning about their bodies. This will include how to care for them through choices they make each day like nutrition, rest, and physical activity while learning about the common body systems and how they work together.

Creative Options Monday: 9:35-10:35 Block Continued

Art Through Story

Ages: 7-10

In this engaging, project-based art class, young artists will dive into the magical world of children's literature, using classic and award-winning picture books as inspiration for creative expression. Each session will begin with a read-aloud of a beautifully illustrated book, followed by an art project inspired by the story's themes, characters, or artistic style. Students will explore a variety of materials and techniques, from painting and collage to printmaking and sculpture, while developing fine motor skills, creativity, and an appreciation for visual storytelling. This class celebrates the artistry of beloved illustrators and encourages students to experiment with their own imaginative ideas in a fun and supportive environment. Perfect for lower elementary students, this class fosters a love of reading, art, and self-expression through hands-on, literature-inspired creativity!

CSI (Crime Scene Investigation)

Ages: 10+

After learning about the history of forensics, crime labs and forensic scientists, students will analyze physical evidence such as glass, fingerprints, hair, fibers, chemical analysis and more! Through projects and experiments, students will develop observation and creative thinking skills; investigate a crime scene; analyze evidence by means of chemistry; use biology to learn more about a crime and analyze documents to solve it!

Creative Options Monday: 10:35-11:35 Block

Author's Notebook

Ages: 6-9

In this early writing skills class, students will create their own Author's notebook as they explore writing and grammar concepts. Daily they will write and create literary works using figures of speech, affixes, grammar, punctuation, inferences, rhyming and other early elementary language arts skills.

Explorer's Club

Ages: 7-10

Students will receive a great opportunity to dive deep into nature themed unit studies! By using STEM projects, literature, nature journaling, group projects, games, cooking and survival skills, students will embark on understanding and appreciating the natural world around them. This year's units will include: the habitat of Mighty Roots Academy and the animals that live here, plant diversity at Mighty Roots Academy and their many uses, the trees of Mighty Roots Academy and how we care for and use them, the power of fire and how to use it safely, as well as projects and topics based on students' interest.

Creative Options Monday: 10:35-11:35 Block Continued

2D Studio Art:

Ages: 10+

Drawing & Painting Exploration

This studio-based art class is designed for students ages 10 and up who want to develop their skills in drawing and painting. Students will explore a variety of dry media, such as graphite, charcoal, colored pencils, and pastels, as well as painting techniques in watercolor, acrylic, and mixed media. The class will begin with guided lessons focused on building technical skills in shading, perspective, composition, and color theory. As students gain confidence and proficiency, they will transition to independent projects, selecting their preferred medium and subject matter to develop their personal artistic style. With a balance of structured instruction and creative freedom, this class provides a strong foundation for young artists looking to refine their 2D art skills while fostering individual expression in a supportive studio environment!

Creative Options Monday: 12:35-1:35 Block

Storybook Journey

Ages: 5-8

Students will journey through the wonderful world of early literacy by exploring a variety of picture books paired with engaging hands-on activities like acting, art, crafts, cooking, math, and science experiments to bring literacy skills off the page and into students' lives as they read, write, and explore.

Nature Art

Ages: 5-8

Students will explore the wonderful world of art while using items found in nature as a basis of their art. Students will explore with leaves as painting tools, use sticks and branches to create 3D art, and so much more. The possibilities are endless!

Lego Steam Lab

Ages: 7-10

Explore science, technology, engineering, art and math through the perennial favorite – LEGO! A new STEAM concept will be explored as a group in each class session, followed by an opportunity for students to explore and build with Lego in an open studio setting. This class will utilize both collaborative and independent learning, enabling each student to share their own unique strengths and skills with the class.

Creative Options Monday: 12:35-1:35 Block Continued

Gardening

Ages: 8+

Students will get their hands dirty in this course as they explore what it means to be a gardener and botanist! Not only will students help plant a fall and spring garden but will also make science connections: learn about soil biology, worms, bugs/bugs/bugs (the good guys and the bad guys), and what to do about them! Students will dig into how compost works and do math as we learn how to plan a garden and how much space each plant needs. While the garden slumbers in winter, students will plan, explore different ways to start seeds, and learn how to cook, ferment, and/or preserve what is grown.

Drama Club

Ages: 6+

This is a performing class that will put on one 1-hour show of The Wizard of Oz Youth Edition in late spring. Students will work on acting fundamentals and some in-class workshops during the fall. Students will audition in November and everyone receives a part. Students are expected to: memorize lines, dance and sing, work on the show outside of class, write down blocking and choreography, take direction from directors, and more. Parents are expected to: stay in touch with the directors through Class Dojo and emails, and help their students work on their memorization, singing, and dancing.

Handbuilding with Clay

Ages: 11+

Creative Pottery for T(w)eens

In this hands-on ceramics class, middle and high school students will explore the art of handbuilding with clay, learning fundamental techniques such as coil, slab, and pinch construction. Through guided projects and independent exploration, students will create functional and sculptural pieces while developing an understanding of form, texture, and surface design. Students will experiment with carving, stamping, and glazing techniques to bring their unique visions to life. Whether new to pottery or looking to refine their skills, participants will build confidence in working with clay while expressing their creativity in a supportive and engaging environment. This class is perfect for teens who enjoy working with their hands and want to explore the timeless art of ceramics!

Creative Options Monday: 1:35-2:35 Block

Laboratory of Fun Science Lab

Ages: 5-8

Students will observe and explore the wonders of the world around us through experiments, projects, literature, games and more! We will ask questions, test hypotheses, and work together to understand the natural world.

Students may take this course multiple years, as topics rotate.

Playful Thinkers

Ages: 5-8

Playful Thinkers is an exciting and interactive learning games experience for kids aged 5 to 8, where curiosity is a must, and learning never stops! In this class, students will embark on a fun-filled journey that combines play and education. We'll explore new ideas, discover the world around us, and nurture a love for learning through engaging board games, hands-on activities, and imaginative play. This class will incorporate early learning concepts such as numbers, letters, patterns, and problem solving. There is no subject off limits: we'll play with geography, biology, outer space, math, language arts, and so much more!

Construct It: Builders & Makers

Ages: 6-9

Builders, architects, archaeologist, and engineers unite as we explore structures that make our world past, present and future. Students will step into the roles of many STEM related careers as they construct engineering marvels that we explore through picture books and hands-on building projects.

Rhythm & Moves

Ages: 6+

This class will focus on the rhythm of music, and how to read written music. Students will dance to the beat, learn music notes, and try rhythm exercises in the fall. Students are encouraged to work on learning music during the winter break. After the break, class time focuses on continued rhythm development through activities, songs, and dancing related to The Wizard of Oz. This is a performing class that supports Drama Club. Enrollment in Drama Club is not required. If students wish to be in the Wizard of Oz musical, they must also enroll in Drama Club.

Creative Options Monday: 1:35-2:35 Block (continued)

Super Sleuths:

Ages: 7-11

Math Puzzles, Mysteries & Escape Rooms

Students will explore code-breaking, the secrets of escape rooms, and the world of espionage – with a focus on mathematics. Through challenging games, students will engage their teamwork and problem-solving abilities while also building their math skills. The goal: help students build essential math skills in interactive and exciting ways (while having fun!).

Board Games Masters

Ages: 10+

In this course, students will be invited to participate in playing various games that have been thoughtfully chosen by the Learning Guide. The year will be divided into units, each being six weeks. Units covered will include: Storytelling & Role Playing; Math; Strategy & Logic; Cooperative; Student Picks. Students must be open to having fun and willing to participate in pairs and in groups. No prior experience is necessary, part of the class will be going over the rules of a game. Students will benefit from working collaboratively, they will strengthen communication skills, and will hone decision making and analytical skills.