Enrichment Programs
Students will have the opportunity to...
...learn
...explore
...understand
...discover
...experience

The Improvement & Innovation Department, in collaboration with community partners, offers a fun-filled summer program. RPS 205 students in Kindergarten – 12th will have the opportunity to go on expeditions to discover and experience a variety of multisensory activities. These non-credit programs are free and are led by RPS 205 Teachers. Transportation is available for those who live farther than ½ mile from the program site. Breakfast and lunch will be provided for retreats that last longer than 5 hours on a program day.

How to register?

- Read the brochure
- Select the week for your student’s grade level
- Complete the forms from page 15 on
- Send the forms to: laura.rubio@rps205.com, drop off at your school, or mail to 501 7th Street, Rockford IL, 61104. 6th Floor - Attn: Laura Rubio
JUNE PROGRAMS

Architecture as Story June 10 - 14

Eligible Grades: 7th – 12th
Class limit: 30
Location: Sports Factory
Hours: 8:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Students will explore Rockford’s rich architectural history and document their discoveries in video and photomontages. Students will see their work compiled in a book to be published in 2021. **Field trips include:** Downtown Rockford. For additional information, please call 815-490-4135.

Beauty in the Valley Retreat June 10 - 14

Eligible Grades: K – 12th
Class Limit: 30
Location: RESA
Hours: 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Participants will experience a variety of natural settings that have been used by artists for over a century while learning the basics of horse riding, horsemanship, field study, and historical fiction. Students will use a variety of media arts tools to document and tell their adventure in a video. For additional information, please call 815-490-4135.

**Field trips include:** Byron Forest Preserve and Nature Center, White Pines Ranch, Lowden State Park/Lorado Taft Field Campus, Oregon’s bronze sculptures and casting facility, and Castle Rock State Park.
Essay Writing June 10 - 14

Eligible Grades: 9th – 12th  
Location: Jefferson High School  
Hours: 12:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Participants will learn to write an essay for college applications. This class can be an elective for students attending SAT preparation week. For additional information, please call 815-966-3176 or 815-966-8926.

Engineering June 10 - 14

Eligible Grades: 9th – 12th  
Location: Jefferson High School  
Hours: 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Join students in the all-day or afternoon session to explore many uses for Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAV) through hands-on projects, designing and building, flying a variety of drones with various payloads and sensors. For additional information, please call 815-966-3176 or 815-966-8926.

Engineering Rockets June 10 - 14

Eligible Grades: 9th – 12th  
Location: Jefferson High School  
Hours: 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Model rocketry is pretty amazing. In this one week session, we will build a small model rocket and fly it. We will then take what we learned and build a bigger kit that would prepare you to join the Team America Rocketry Challenge next school year. For additional information, please call 815-966-3176 or 815-966-8926.
Graphic Design June 10 - 14

Eligible Grades: 9th – 12th
Class limit: 30
Location: Jefferson
Hours: 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Join all-day or afternoon graphic design students to work on learning how design thinking and design processes can be used as a catalyst for exploration, innovation and research. This course exposes students to many facets of design thinking and provides them with an interdisciplinary perspective about design and graphics. Students will create portraits, logos, and create custom shoe designs using drawing tablets. For additional information, please call 815 966-3176 or 815 966-8926.

Journalism June 10 - 14

Eligible Grades: 9th – 12th
Location: Jefferson High School
Hours: 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Students to explore news literacy, high school newspapers, photography and photojournalism, and newspaper design. Join us for Publications Explorations! For additional information, please call 815 966-3176 or 815 966-8926.

Lincoln Summer Leadership Camp June 10 – 14

Eligible Grades: 6th – 8th
Class limit: 30
Location: Lincoln Middle School
Hours: 9:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Open to Lincoln Middle School students. Participants will develop leadership and team building skills, providing an opportunity to learn how to work well with others, which will benefit them in future endeavors. Embrace and share their personal views and reflections of their community via new technology communications. Highlight the importance of education and future goals. For additional information, please call 815 966-3176 or 815 966-8926.
**SAT Prep June 10 - 14**

Eligible Grades: 9th – 12th  
Location: Jefferson High School  
Hours: 9:00 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.

Learn content of SAT and test taking strategies. Students attending SAT preparation week can choose Graphic Design, Engineering, Computers, Essay Writing, Scholarship Search, or Art for the afternoon class. For additional information, please call 815-966-3176 or 815-966-8926.

**Scholarship Search June 10 - 14**

Eligible Grades: 9th – 12th  
Location: Jefferson High School  
Hours: 12:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Learn to look for opportunities for scholarships for higher education. This class can be an elective for students attending SAT preparation week. For additional information, please call 815-966-3176 or 815-966-8926.

**Studio Art June 10 - 14**

Eligible Grades: 9th – 12th  
Location: Jefferson High School  
Hours: 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Selecting from a variety of art making materials, students will combine new techniques with observational drawing skills to create finished “portfolio quality” works of art. Students will also be challenged to create additional works that address conceptual concerns reflecting their own personal voice. All studio sessions will incorporate the process of group critiques as well as individual teacher feedback. For additional information, please call 815-966-3176 or 815-966-8926.
**Water, Water, Water June 10 – 14**

Eligible Grades: K – 12th
Class limit: 30
Location: Atwood
Hours: 8:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Students will learn about the beauty and uses of different water facilities in our area while improving their environmental awareness. Participants will have access to a digital camera or iPad to document their adventure and learning. For additional information, please call 815-490-4135.

**Field trips may include:** Rock River, Rock Cut State Park, Water for Rec (Levings Lake), Water Treatment Plant and wells.

**Where’s Rhythm? June 10 - 14**

Eligible Grades: K – 5th
Class limit: 30
Location: Marshall Elementary
Hours: 8:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Students will study the “rhythms of nature” through reading, drama, music, visual arts, mathematical movement, and technology. The STREAM Enrichment Retreat will provide a hands-on integrated approach to learning while encouraging student participation and ownership. For additional information, please call 815-490-4135.

**Field trip:** Burpee Museum
Architecture as Story July 29 – Aug 2

Eligible Grades: 7th – 12th
Class limit: 30
Location: Sports Factory
Hours: 8:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Students will explore Rockford’s rich architectural history and document their discoveries in video and photomontages. Students will see their work compiled in 2021 in a book to be published. For additional information, please call 815-490-4135.

Art Explorations July 29 – Aug 9

Eligible Grades: 9th – 12th
Location: Jefferson High School
Hours: 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Join this class to create art in a studio classroom as well as participate in art adventures. A variety of materials will be introduced and work will be finished with an emphasis on design. For additional information, please call 815-966-3176 or 815-966-8926.
**Beauty in the Valley Retreat July 29 – Aug 2**

Eligible Grades: K – 12th
Class Limit: 30
Location: RESA
Hours: 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Participants will experience a variety of natural settings that have been used by artists for over a century while learning the basics of horse riding, horsemanship, field study, and historical fiction. Students will use a variety of media arts tools to document and tell their adventure in a video. For additional information, please call 815-490-4135.

**Field trips include:** Byron Forest Preserve and Nature Center, White Pines Ranch, Lowden State Park/Lorado Taft Field Campus, Oregon’s bronze sculptures and casting facility, and Castle Rock State Park.

**Choir Retreat July 29 – Aug 2**

Eligible Grades: 6th – 12th
Class limit: 30
Location: RESA Middle School - Band Room
Hours: 8:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Students are provided the opportunity to communicate and grow their skills in a group setting when working in a music ensemble. Participants will build a sense of community through part learning a musicianship or “team” building. Students are given the opportunity to challenge themselves and manage their practice techniques. Our music selections will embrace diversity and teach our students to feel connection with those that have lives very different from their own. Retreats conclude with a performance for parents and friends on Friday, August 2nd. For additional information, please call 815-490-4135.
Computers July 29 – Aug 9

Eligible Grades: 9th – 12th
Location: Lincoln Middle School
Hours: 12:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Do you ever wonder what computer technicians do when your computer breaks down? In this short session (afternoons only) we will take some old computers apart and put them back together and see if we can get them to work. This is a great opportunity for anyone who thinks that they might want to be a computer technician. We will go over all of the parts of a computer and explain what they do as well as some of the things that might go wrong with them. For additional information, please call 815-966-3176 or 815-966-8926.

Engineering July 29 – Aug 9

Eligible Grades: 9th – 12th
Location: Jefferson High School
Hours: 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Join students in the all-day or afternoon session to focus on the use of drones, not just simply fly around, but focus on actual planned flight missions/challenges that they need to accomplish with the resources at hand and techniques they already know and/or some techniques they may need to research. For additional information, please call 815-966-3176 or 815-966-8926.

Essay Writing July 29 – Aug 9

Eligible Grades: 9th – 12th
Location: Jefferson High School
Hours: 12:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Participants will learn to write an essay for college applications. This session can be an elective for students attending SAT preparation week. For additional information, please call 815-966-3176 or 815-966-8926.
**Graphic Design July 29 – Aug 9**

Eligible Grades: 9th – 12th  
Class limit: 30  
Location: Jefferson  
Hours: 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Join all-day or afternoon session graphic design students to work on learning how design thinking and design processes can be used as a catalyst for exploration, innovation and research. This course exposes students to many facets of design thinking and provides them with an interdisciplinary perspective about design and graphics. Students will create portraits, logos, and create custom shoe designs using drawing tablets. For additional information, please call 815 966-3176 or 815 966-8926.

**Kayaking and Fishing July 29 – Aug 2**

Eligible Grades: 6th – 11th  
Class limit: 12  
Location: Roosevelt  
Hours: 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

We need more students becoming stewards of the Rock River and to speak up for the importance of clean, moving water in our environment. Knowing paddlesports can open up a number of other career opportunities for them. In addition, this retreat teaches students a life-long recreational sport. Emotional health, physical health, environmental awareness, and community action are all incorporated into learning how to fish and how to kayak/canoe. For additional information, please call 815-490-4135. **Field trips include:** Windsor Lake, the Rock River, Nicholas Conservatory, and Rock Cut State Park.
Makers Retreat July 29 – Aug 2

Eligible Grades: 9th – 12th
Class limit: 45
Location: East High School
Hours: 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

This Makers' Retreat is your chance to be a part of building a Maker Community in RPS205. Throughout the week, students will have the opportunity to work on individual and group projects that utilize various skills and disciplines such as soldering electronics, making pottery, woodworking, gardening, and cooking to name a few. Students will also have the opportunity to take field trip to various Maker Spaces in Rockford to learn what resources are available in their community and connect with existing Maker Communities throughout Rockford. The goal of this Makers' Retreat is to inspire students to make the world a better place through creativity and community. For additional information, please call 815-490-4135. Field trips include: Rockford Maker Spaces.

Mariachi Band July 29 – Aug 2

Eligible Grades: 7th – 12th
Class limit: 30
Location: RESA Middle School - Band Room
Hours: 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Students must have at least one year of experience playing either guitar, violin or trumpet. Participants will receive lessons on their own instruments and have the opportunity to try other traditional instruments used in Mariachi. Retreats conclude with a concert for parents and friends on Friday, August 2nd at 12:00 p.m. For additional information, please call 815-490-4135.
Rockford Fire Department Retreat July 29 – Aug 1

Eligible Grades: 3rd – 12th
Class limit: 30
Location: Rockford Fire Department Training Center
3329 West State Street, Rockford, IL 61101
Hours: 8:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Rockford Fire Department is happy to partner with the RPS 205 to offer an opportunity for middle school students to learn more about careers in Firefighting and EMS. Through a series of simulations, hands on learning, and interactive participation, students will learn basic emergency response and first aid skills in an environment that promotes team building, leadership, and physical fitness. This camp will teach the participants more about our community and opportunities in public service. For additional information, please call 815-490-4135.

SAT Prep July 29 – Aug 9

Eligible Grades: 9th – 12th
Location: Jefferson High School
Hours: 9:00 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.

Students will work on sample tests to prepare for SAT testing. Students attending SAT preparation can choose Graphic Design, Engineering, Computers, Essay Writing, Scholarship Search, or Art for the afternoon class. For additional information, please call 815-966-3176 or 815-966-8926.
Scholarship Search July 29 – Aug 9

Eligible Grades: 9th – 12th
Location: Jefferson High School
Hours: 12:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Learn to look for opportunities for scholarships for higher education. This class can be an elective for students attending SAT preparation week. For additional information, please call 815-966-3176 or 815-966-8926.

Studio Art July 29 – Aug 9

Eligible Grades: 9th - 12th
Location: Jefferson High School
Hours: 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Selecting from a variety of art making materials, students will combine new techniques with observational drawing skills to create finished “portfolio quality” works of art. Students will also be challenged to create additional works that address conceptual concerns reflecting their own personal voice. All studio sessions will incorporate the process of group critiques as well as individual teacher feedback. For additional information, please call 815-966-3176 or 815-966-8926.
Water, Water, Water July 29 – Aug 2

Eligible Grades: K – 12th
Class limit: 30
Location: Atwood Center
Hours: 8:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Students will learn about the beauty and uses of different water facilities in our area while improving their environmental awareness. Participants will have access to a digital camera or iPad to document their adventure and learning. For additional information, please call 815-490-4135. Field trips may include: Rock River, Rock Cut State Park, Water for Rec (Levings Lake), Water Treatment Plant and wells

Swimming Retreat Aug 5 – Aug 9

Eligible Grades: Going into 5th through 9th grade
Class limit: 45
Location: Jefferson
Hours: 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Students will have opportunities to do team building techniques/relays inside and out of the swimming pool. We want them to enhance their teamwork skills, set goals, develop social skills, and make swimming more about mindfulness and a calm mind. Letting the water take away all the worries and just make swimming a peaceful situation. For additional information, please call 815-490-4135.

Required items: Towel and swimsuit. Girls will need a school appropriate, 1 piece swimsuit. Boys will need a swimsuit. Basketball shorts are not accepted.