

P R O J E C T T E R M
L O W E R E L E M E N T A R Y
G R A D E S 1 - 3



B L A C K R I V E R P U B L I C S C H O O L

PROJECT TERM 2024

Grades 1-3

Project Term for grades 1-3 is a two-week term that begins on Tuesday, May 28. Project Term is a valuable opportunity for Black River students and faculty as it provides hands on, experiential learning to each student while adhering to Black River's academic requirements. We are excited to offer a great list of classes and remind students that learning is fun!

Course Listings

Please read the course listings and discuss them with your child. Each child will be participating daily in two, one-hour long Project Term classes throughout this two week period. The Project Term schedule for grades 1-3 will be as follows:

- **Daily Schedule**
 - 8:00 – 10:50 Normal work time
 - 10:50– 11:10 Recess
 - 11:10 – 12:10 **Session 1 Project Term Class**
 - 12:10 – 12:15 Return to homeroom, prepare for lunch
 - 12:15 – 1:15 Lunch and recess
 - 1:20 – 2:20 **Session 2 Project Term Class**
 - 2:20 – 2:25 Return to homeroom
 - 2:25 – 2:40 Homeroom, prepare for dismissal

To clarify: each student will participate in two classes and he/she will have both of those hour-long classes every day during Project Term.

Course Selection and Registration

Once you have narrowed your choices down to the top ten courses your child would like to take, please fill out the *pink* registration form and return it to your child's classroom teacher by **Monday, December 4, 2023**. We will do our best to make sure that each student gets to participate in his/her preferred courses, but we do ask that you provide five alternate courses for each session to allow for scheduling flexibility.

Parent Volunteers

We encourage parent participation in all stages of Project Term including preparation, assistance, and even teaching! Please contact your child's teacher if you are interested in volunteering.

SESSION 1 COURSES

American Sign Language *Krystin Krasnowski*

Let's learn sign language! In this class, we will explore different ways people communicate. Students will learn to sign the alphabet, their name, numbers, animals, places, and other basics.

Art From Your Heart *Sydney Putzke*

Come paint an amazing abstract work of art! In this course, we are going to learn the elements of design to help you become the best artist you can be! We will talk about line, color, shapes, texture, and much, much more! Using what you learn, you will paint a beautiful work of art to bring home with you!

Arts & Crafts *Katie Melnick*

Do you like to do arts and crafts? Do you like to be creative? If you do, then this class is for you! In this class students will use different materials to participate in fun arts and crafts activities everyday!

Cartooning *Allyson Cosentino*

Come Draw Some Awesome! We are going to learn multiple aspects of the cartooning and comics trade. Starting with developing characters, we'll walk through how to create expression, action, environments, light and dark contrast, depth, comic strips, comic book page layouts and even a full four-page graphic story. You have to come ready to concentrate and draw hard every day for this course, but It will be really rewarding...it's the most comprehensive two week crash course in cartooning you'll ever take. Think you can't draw? Think again. Simple daily exercises will help you learn everything you need to know begin building your own characters, strips and visual stories in such a way that you can continue to develop on your own. Thinking visually helps your brain make connections, so lets exercise our visual brain muscles and tap into a fun and effective means of communication...cartoons! ***There is a \$45 fee for the class.***

Fantasy Writing *Adam Naylor-Tatterson*

Do you love exploring different worlds in exciting fantasy books and movies? In this class we will be creating and writing our own fantasy stories. Students will create interesting characters and imaginative settings in order to tell a unique and fun story. The sky's the limit in this writing class.

Hot Off the Press *Christin Lankheet*

Extra! Extra! Read all about it! Black River's lower elementary students are creating a newspaper during Project Term 2024! They will be exploring the writing process by becoming journalists and writing about the events that have happened at school this year through interviewing their peers and teachers. It will be an exciting couple of weeks as they brainstorm the newspaper's sections and stories, conduct interviews, write and edit their articles, finalize the layout, and publish the newspaper. Pencils will be flying and fascinating stories will be revealed. You won't want to miss out on this exciting adventure! Check out Hot off the Press today.

SESSION 1 COURSES

Little Lens Story Tellers *Dustin Smith-TerHaar*

Learn about some of the beginning building blocks of photography. Tell a story through the lens of your camera. Experience photography from your level.

Spellbinding Books! *Phil DiCicco*

Imagine a book with no beginnings or endings. Imagine a book that unfolds ways you've never seen, or a book with hidden compartments. You don't need to be an expert reader or writer to love making books. In Spellbinding books, any student who loves art class, comics, collages (and, sure, writing!) will have a great time creating a portfolio of handmade books, including a hardcover journal of their own.

Sweet Creations *Carrie Ames*

Welcome to Sweet Creations, where budding young bakers learn the art of transforming simple cookies into edible masterpieces! Through hands-on activities and step-by-step guidance, students will explore various techniques including piping, flooding, and embellishing with edible decorations. There is a \$15 fee for this class.

Tag of All Types *Rachael Naylor-Tatterson*

When kids play tag, they don't just run—they have to think on their feet. The need for quick reflexes, sudden changes of direction, and speed means that playing tag is great exercise. Tag games are easy to learn, with few rules and usually few (or no) props or equipment. We will play variations of tag, compiling a rule book including each version we have played.

Ukeing Around *Jesse Davenport*

What did the guitar say to the ukulele? (Answer: Uke, I am your father.) Come Uke around and learn how to play the ukulele or perfect your skills! We will learn the techniques of playing a stringed instrument, learn some fun songs, and master some musical concepts. Uke you later :D

There is a \$50 fee for this course to buy a ukulele, which you may take home at the end of project term. Those who wish to bring their own ukulele from home may do so.

SESSION 2 COURSES

Art History 101 *Dustin Smith-TerHaar*

More art than history. More elementary than collegiate. We will be learning about famous artists through history and mimicking their work! I think someone said “Imitation is the sincerest form of flattery”? Let’s try our best to just have fun, create art, and learn a little along the way.

Basketball *Adam Naylor-Tatterson*

In this class we will be working on the FUNdamentals of the greatest sport of all time, Basketball. Whether you are wanting to try out a new sport or you have been dribbling a basketball since you were two, join Mr. Adam for some fun drills and games to learn how to shoot, handle and pass a basketball.

Field Games from Around the World *Phil DiCicco*

We all love field games like capture the flag or spiders and flies. But have you ever imagined what kids in other parts of the world are playing for fun together? The teacher of this class bets you have not heard of these games before. They also bet you will love every one of them! This class is for kids who love an extra recess, but also for kids who are interested in other countries and cultures. After a short geography (and sometimes language) lesson each day, we will head outside to learn and play a new game that's sure to become one of your favorites!

Incredible Edible Book Art *Alaina Kramer*

Join us as we settle in for some great reads, then get creative as we make an edible art project to go with each book. You'll create eight delicious projects, plus a recipe book to bring home so you can make these yummy creations again and again.

Jewelry Making With Beads *Katie Melnick*

In this class we will explore different patterns, techniques and materials that can be used in jewelry making. Students will create their own unique necklaces and bracelets to take home!

Kids Care *Krystin Krasnowski*

Do you want to make the world a better place? In this course, we’ll be completing service projects to help people and animals in need in the Holland area. Whether you’re making cards for kids in the hospital, picking up litter, collecting donations, baking a treat to share, or volunteering, you’ll be making people smile every day. Along the way, we’ll build empathy and practice friendship!

Let's Beautify Our School *Jesse Davenport*

Our school is a pretty great place, but we have the power to make it even better! Join Mr. Jesse in helping clean and take care of the spaces that we spend time in everyday. We will help the teachers, staff, buildings, and grounds that we love and use so much, as

SESSION 2 COURSES

well as the community surrounding Black River. And we will end our class with a very special super secret project. Bring your gloves, yard tools, paint brushes, and elbow grease to beautify our school!

Odyssey of the Mind Exploration *Rachael Naylor-Tatterson*

Are you interested in acting? Are you a problem solver? This creative problem solving course will be an exploration of Odyssey of the Mind challenges, teamwork, and skit making. Those who have been involved in this program and other students who have not, are all welcome. We will be making skits, doing STEM-like challenges, and working on teamwork.

In this Project Term class, students explore a bit of what Odyssey of the Mind is all about by working as a team to solve hands-on challenges, verbal challenges, and verbal hands-on challenges. Students will work as a team to put on a skit with props and backdrops. In the end, the skit is performed as the final project.

Tech Safari *Courtney Phillips*

Do you love playing computer games and solving puzzles? Then this is the perfect class for you! During 'Tech Safari', you will be asked to go on a coding adventure, explore the world of robotics, and work in teams to solve STEAM challenges.

Toys R Us *Sydney Putzke*

Do you love toys? This is the perfect challenge for you. In this class, you will get to use your imagination to design and invent your very own toy.

Wonderful World of Watercolors *Allyson Cosentino*

In this course, we will use watercolors to create many pieces of artwork and learn new techniques. If you want to get in touch with your artistic side, this class is for you!