



A special thanks to Polk County Community Foundation for supporting and funding the AIG Summer Seminars for students enrolled in Polk County Schools! Polk County Schools is fortunate to partner with the Polk County Community Foundation in offering the ninth annual AIG Summer Seminars series in June/July 2024. These incredible experiences are designed to challenge and engage students in various topics. Students selected for participation will attend *at no cost*. Student numbers will be kept small to maximize instructor contact and seminar impact. The seminars will be led by talented instructors who will employ project-based learning, Socratic seminars, & other instructional techniques designed for academically gifted & high-achieving students.

Polk County Schools is excited to offer the following seminars for Summer 2024:

STEM: Robotics, Engineering & Rube Goldberg Machines

Facilitator: Linley Foster

Location: Tryon Elementary School, 100 School Place, Tryon, NC 28782

Grade Levels: rising 4th - 6th grade students

Dates: June 24 - 27 from 9:00am - 1:00pm

Description: Students will engage in basic-level coding with various robotics. They will also have the opportunity to delve into the engineering design process, participating in hands-on STEM challenges (both including and not including robotics). Students will be pushed to think outside the box and encouraged to fail and try again.

Title: Sphero Robotics

Facilitator: Jonathan Greene

Location: Polk County Early College, 1545 NC-108, Columbus, NC 28722

Grade levels: rising 4th - 6th grade students

Dates: July 8 - 11 from 9:00am - 1:00pm

Description: Are you interested in robotics and computer science? Then this may be the program for you! This seminar will introduce you to basic computer science, robotic programming, and problem-solving in a fun, comprehensive approach to STEM.

Title: Bullet Journaling, Embroidery, and Being Mindful

Facilitator: Rebekah Morse

Location: Tryon Elementary School, 100 School Place, Tryon, NC 28782

Grade Levels: rising 3rd - 5th grade students

Dates: June 24 - 27 from 9:00am -1:00pm

Description: Creating a bullet journal and embroidery are just two ways to relieve stress/anxiety and promote mindfulness (being aware, being nonjudgmental and being nonreactive). In this seminar, you will develop an organizational journal for the 2024-25 school year; explore doodling techniques; learn basic embroidery stitches; and take time for reflective journaling after nature walks.

Title: Learning Through Art

Facilitator: Ginger Rackley

Location: Tryon Elementary School, 100 School Place, Tryon, NC 28782

Grade Levels: rising 3rd - 5th grade students

Dates: June 24 - 27 from 9:00am - 1:00pm

Description: In Learning Through Art, students will show their creative side as they learn about different concepts in ELA, Math, Science, and Social Studies. The students will create history boxes in Social Studies and work on poetry art in ELA. In Math, students will learn about and create art with compasses, protractors, and rulers. Finally, in Science, the students will use a technique called Fresco Painting and they will do a color experiment using the scientific method. All this creativity might get a little messy, but we are going to have some fun while learning!

Title: Crime Busters: A Study of Forensic Science

Facilitator: Elisa Flynn

Location: Polk County Middle School, 321 Wolverine Trl, Mill Spring, NC 28756

Grade Levels: rising 7th - 10th grade students

Dates: June 24 - June 27 from 9:00am - 1:00pm

Description: Ever thought about being a Crime Scene Investigator? Here is your chance! This week, we will dive into the world of Crime Fighting and the tools used. During this time, we will learn about fingerprinting, chromatography, and impressions. Students will have the opportunity to study the dynamics of DNA and how powders help solve crimes. Who Robbed the Bank? Who is responsible for the Crazy Cookie Caper? Come to camp and let's work together to find out!

Nature & Art

Facilitators: Jeanne Ferran and Stephanie Luedi

Location: Monday & Thursday at Pearson's Falls, 2748 Pearson Falls Rd, Saluda, NC 28773

Tuesday & Wednesday at Tryon Arts & Crafts, 373 Harmon Field Rd, Tryon, NC 28782

Grade Levels: rising 7th - 10th grade students

Dates: July 8 - 11 from 10:00am - 2:00pm (Bring a bagged lunch & water bottle.)

Description: Do you like art? Do you like being outside? Do you love animals? Students will explore the world around them *through art* using nature as our inspiration. We will create bird houses, practice our artistic skills, journal, write, create pottery, and explore the links between the natural world, art, and creativity through the lens of observant naturalists, scientists, and artists.

Coding with Drones

Facilitator: Leslie Rhinehart

Location: Polk County Early College, 1545 NC-108, Columbus, NC 28722

Grade Levels: rising 7th - 9th grade students

Dates: July 8-11 from 9:00am - 1:00pm

Description: Do you like coding? Want to learn to code a drone through an obstacle course? Students will use block coding to code a small drone through a series of Lego obstacles they build. Students will learn the different coding blocks and apply their knowledge of geometry to correctly fly their small drone over and through an obstacle course of their making.