

SUMMER SPARKS!

Go even further "Beyond the Bell" with half day programs to *spark* your interest!

Morning programs: Drop-off as early as 7:30am, programming begins at 9am and ends at 12pm.

Afternoon programs: Drop-off/Programming begins at 12:30pm and ends at 4pm.

Join us for the entire day for double the fun! Campers who are with us for both morning and afternoon sessions will stay for lunch between programs. Aftercare is also available until 6pm for an additional fee. To enroll in aftercare, please reach out to our Welcome Center (973)762-4145. You must be enrolled in an afternoon option to enroll in aftercare.

Camp Administrator: Gailmarie Green
ggreen@metroymcas.org (856) 588-7847

Week 1 (June 22nd-26th)

MORNING (9am-12pm)

Option 1: Photography (entering 4th-6th grade)

Capture & Create! Join us for a fun, hands-on photography experience. Campers will learn the basics of composition, lighting, and camera techniques before diving into photo editing to bring their images to life. Perfect for beginners and budding photographers who want to explore both shooting and creative post-processing. The morning includes some outdoor break time and a camper-packed snack (please pack a nut-safe item!)

Option 2: In My Dance Era: Taylor Swift (entering 1st-3rd grade)

Get ready for a fun-filled, hands-on experience that combines crafts, music, and performance! Each week, campers will design and make colorful friendship bracelets, learn a new section of choreography to a T. Swift song, and work together to create a custom music mix. We'll add sparkle by bedazzling t-shirts, ironing on letters, and decorating with stick-on gems to make personalized performance outfits. The camp wraps up with an exciting final showcase where participants perform their choreographed routine wearing their custom creations—an unforgettable celebration of creativity and teamwork! The morning includes some outdoor break time and a camper-packed snack (please pack a nut-safe item!)

Option 3: [Lego Builders](#) (entering 1st-3rd grade)

Join the LEGO fun! Campers will use their creativity to build vehicles, structures, cities and more. They will start as architects, creating and planning first and then using their engineering and building skills to create amazing structures, while gaining confidence using building elements and learning general building practices. The morning includes some outdoor break time and a camper-packed snack (please pack a nut-safe item!)

Option 4: [Polymer Clay Creations](#) (entering 4th-6th grade)

Get ready to sculpt, carve, and create! In this creative hands-on class, campers will use colorful polymer clay to make their very own keychains, bracelets, pins and magnets. With a little imagination and a lot of clay, everyone will leave with fun, personalized creations they'll be proud to show off. The morning includes some outdoor break time and a camper-packed snack (please pack a nut-safe item!)

AFTERNOON (12:30pm-4pm)**Option 1: [Animation Studio](#) (entering 4th-6th grade)**

Bring your ideas to life! In this exciting program, campers will learn the basics of animation—storyboarding, character design, and simple motion techniques—then create their own animated scenes. Campers will also explore beginner-friendly editing tools to polish their projects and share their creations at the end of the session. Perfect for creative minds who love art and technology! The afternoon includes some outdoor break time.

Option 2: [Wicked: Part 1](#) (entering 1st-3rd grade)

Step into the magical world of *Wicked* in this creative and performance-packed camp! Campers will craft their own enchanted accessories—wands, crowns, hats, and glasses—to bring their characters to life. Each day includes learning iconic songs and fun choreography inspired by the hit musical. Together, we'll build a mashup of favorite tunes from the first movie and rehearse for an exciting final performance. With dazzling costumes and plenty of sparkle, this camp is perfect for kids who love music, dance, and a touch of magic! The afternoon includes some outdoor break time.

Option 3: [Cupcake Decorating](#) (entering 4th-6th grade)

Campers will learn how to decorate cupcakes with basic buttercream icing. Throughout the session, they will practice using different decorating tips to create flowers, grass, shells, swirls, stars, and borders, while designing an edible creation. Please inform us of any food allergies during registration. The afternoon includes some outdoor break time.

Week 2

MORNING (9am-12pm)

Option 1: Game Design & Development (entering 4th-6th grade)

Turn your ideas into playable games! Campers will learn the basics of game design, character creation, and coding using beginner-friendly tools. By the end of the session, they'll have built their own interactive game and explored how creativity and technology come together in game development. The morning includes some outdoor break time and a camper-packed snack (please pack a nut-safe item!)

Option 2: Dance & Crafts: KPop Demon Hunters (entering 1st-3rd grade)

Step into an action-packed world where music meets adventure! In this unique camp, participants will craft stylish accessories like bracelets and learn to make paper swords for safe, theatrical stage combat. We'll explore creative patterns using long socks and practice braiding techniques to complete the perfect K-Pop-inspired look. Alongside the fun, campers will learn dynamic choreography to bring their characters to life. This camp also includes meaningful discussions about social-emotional challenges—like understanding guilt and shame—and strategies for managing big feelings in real life. It's a blend of creativity, movement, and mindfulness for an unforgettable experience! The morning includes some outdoor break time and a camper-packed snack (please pack a nut-safe item!)

Option 3: Polymer Clay Creations (entering 1st-3rd grade)

Get ready to sculpt, carve, and create! In this creative hands-on class, campers will use colorful polymer clay to make their very own keychains, bracelets, pins and magnets. With a little imagination and a lot of clay, everyone will leave with fun, personalized creations they'll be proud to show off. The morning includes some outdoor break time and a camper-packed snack (please pack a nut-safe item!)

Option 4: Checkmate! (entering 4th-6th grade)

Discover the exciting world of chess in this beginner-friendly camp! Students will learn the fundamentals of the game, including how each piece moves, the roles they play, and essential strategies for opening and sustaining a match. Through interactive lessons and guided practice, campers will develop critical thinking and problem-solving skills while exploring tactics to outsmart their opponents. Each day will wrap up with friendly games where players can put their new skills to the test in a fun, supportive environment. The morning includes some outdoor break time and a camper-packed snack (please pack a nut-safe item!)

AFTERNOON (12:30pm-4pm)

Option 1: [3D Model Building](#) (entering 4th-6th grade)

Join us for a fun and creative half-day camp where kids dive into the world of 3D modeling! Campers will learn the basics of designing and building their own 3D models using beginner-friendly software. Team-building will be encouraged as campers work on projects together as well as developing individual skills. Perfect for curious minds who love art, technology, and hands-on projects! The afternoon includes some outdoor break time.

Option 2: [Wicked: Part 2](#) (entering 1st-3rd grade)

Step into the enchanting world of *Wicked* and bring the story to life! In this immersive camp, participants will explore the captivating elements of the second movie, uncovering its themes, characters, and unforgettable moments. Campers will create iconic props & crafts, discover story elements, and learn & perform lines. Perfect for fans who love theater, crafting, and stepping into the spotlight! The afternoon includes some outdoor break time.

Option 3: [Polymer Clay Creations](#) (entering 1st-3rd grade)

Get ready to sculpt, carve, and create! In this creative hands-on class, campers will use colorful polymer clay to make their very own keychains, bracelets, pins and magnets. With a little imagination and a lot of clay, everyone will leave with fun, personalized creations they'll be proud to show off. The afternoon includes some outdoor break time.

Week 3

MORNING (9am-12pm)

Option 1: [Intro to Film](#) (entering 4th-6th grade)

Discover the magic behind the movies! In this hands-on camp, participants will learn the basics of filmmaking—from storyboarding and camera angles to acting for the screen. Campers will collaborate to create short scenes, explore the art of visual storytelling, and get a taste of what it takes to bring ideas to life on film. Perfect for beginners and budding filmmakers! The morning includes some outdoor break time and a camper-packed snack (please pack a nut-safe item!)

Option 2: [The Family Madrigal/Coco](#) (entering 1st-3rd grade)

Step into the vibrant worlds of *Encanto* and *Coco* as we explore the rich traditions and artistry of Latinx culture! In this dynamic camp, participants will learn about the music, dance styles, clothing, and foods that inspire these beloved films, and practice favorite songs and choreography. Campers will work together to prepare a lively showcase for family and friends at the end of the week. This camp is perfect for kids who love music, movement, and storytelling while celebrating the beauty of Latinx heritage! The morning includes some outdoor break time and a camper-packed snack (please pack a nut-safe item!)

Option 3: [Lego Builders](#) (entering 1st-3rd grade)

Join the LEGO fun! Campers will use their creativity to build vehicles, structures, cities and more. They will start as architects, creating and planning first and then using their engineering and building skills to create amazing structures, while gaining confidence using building elements and learning general building practices. The morning includes some outdoor break time and a camper-packed snack (please pack a nut-safe item!)

Option 4: [The Thread Lab](#) (entering 4th-6th grade)

The Thread Lab is an exploration of texture and colors. From weaving to macrame, campers will use thread in various ways to create projects they can be proud of. This program is perfect for campers who have a creative mind and love to use their hands to make works of art. The morning includes some outdoor break time and a camper-packed snack (please pack a nut-safe item!)

AFTERNOON (12:30pm-4pm)**Option 1: [Graphic Design](#) (entering 4th-6th grade)**

Unleash your creativity and learn the fundamentals of modern graphic design! In this hands-on camp, participants will explore essential design principles—color theory, typography, layout, and composition—while using beginner-friendly digital tools to bring their ideas to life. Campers will design posters, social media graphics, and personalized projects that showcase their unique style. Perfect for aspiring artists and creators who want to combine art with technology in a fun, interactive environment! The afternoon includes some outdoor break time.

Option 2: [SOMA Dance Mob Jr!](#) (entering 1st-3rd grade)

Based on our popular adult SOMA Dance Mob: Get ready to move, groove, and “go viral!” In this high-energy camp, participants will learn popular TikTok dances and fun flash mob-style choreography. Campers will practice trending moves, build confidence, and work together to create an exciting group performance. Perfect for anyone who loves music, movement, and sharing the joy of dance! The afternoon includes some outdoor break time.

Option 3: [Summer Sketchbook: Drawing & Painting](#) (entering 4th-6th grade)

Bring your imagination to life on paper! In this creative camp, participants will explore a variety of drawing and painting techniques while filling their own summer sketchbook with original artwork. Campers will experiment with different materials, learn tips for shading, color blending, and composition, and develop their unique artistic style. Perfect for budding artists who love to sketch, paint, and express themselves through art! The afternoon includes some outdoor break time.

Week 4

MORNING (9am-12pm)

Option 1: [Intro to Coding with Scratch](#) (entering 4th-6th grade)

Jump into the world of coding with Scratch! In this beginner-friendly camp, participants will learn the basics of programming by creating interactive stories, games, and animations. Campers will explore problem-solving and creativity while building projects they can share with friends and family. Perfect for kids who want to start coding in a fun, visual way! The morning includes some outdoor break time and a camper-packed snack (please pack a nut-safe item!)

Option 2: [Eras Tour Dance & Sing: Taylor Swift](#) (entering 1st-3rd grade)

Step into the world of Taylor Swift! Campers will journey through the Eras Tour, creating mini props for each era, crafting friendship bracelets, and learning lyrics and choreography to favorite songs. By the end of the session, we'll bring it all together for a spirited group performance. Perfect for Swifties who love music, creativity, and fun! The morning includes some outdoor break time and a camper-packed snack (please pack a nut-safe item!)

Option 3: [Cupcake Decorating](#) (entering 1st-3rd grade)

Campers will learn how to decorate cupcakes with basic buttercream icing. Throughout the session, they will practice using different decorating tips to create flowers, grass, shells, swirls, stars, and borders, while designing an edible creation. Please inform us of any food allergies during registration. The morning includes some outdoor break time and a camper-packed snack (please pack a nut-safe item!)

Option 4: [Jewelry Making & Beading](#) (entering 4th-6th grade)

Beading of all kinds: make necklaces, bracelets, wind chimes... Campers will also learn how to seed bead, where they design patterns and make them come to life with beautiful glass seed beads. The beads have a wonderful reflective quality that lend themselves to embroidery. Come bead with us! The morning includes some outdoor break time and a camper-packed snack (please pack a nut-safe item!)

AFTERNOON (12:30pm-4pm)

Option 1: [Stop Motion Storytelling](#) (entering 4th-6th grade)

Bring your stories to life—one frame at a time! In this creative camp, participants will learn the basics of stop-motion animation, from planning scenes and building characters to capturing and editing their own short films. Campers will combine art, technology, and storytelling to create unique animated projects they can share. Perfect for kids who love movies, creativity, and hands-on fun! The afternoon includes some outdoor break time.

Option 2: [Tap the Night Away!](#) (entering 1st-3rd grade)

Step into the world of tap and discover the joy of rhythm! In this energetic camp, participants will explore fundamental steps and techniques, dive into jazz rhythms, discover how tap connects to musicality, and learn about legendary tap dancers and iconic performances like STOMP!. Campers will make their own tap shoes with socks and pennies and craft homemade instruments so we can become the band! Tap shoes recommended. The afternoon includes some outdoor break time.

Option 3: [Intro to Chess](#) (entering 1st-3rd grade)

Discover the fun world of chess! In this beginner-friendly camp, kids will learn how each piece moves, what makes them special, and simple ways to start a game. Through easy-to-follow lessons and lots of practice, campers will build thinking skills while playing friendly matches. Every day ends with exciting games where everyone gets to try out their new moves in a supportive, fun environment! The afternoon includes some outdoor break time.

Week 5

MORNING (9am-12pm)**Option 1: [Photography](#) (4th-6th grade)**

Capture & Create! Join us for a fun, hands-on photography experience. Campers will learn the basics of composition, lighting, and camera techniques before diving into photo editing to bring their images to life. Perfect for beginners and budding photographers who want to explore both shooting and creative post-processing. The morning includes some outdoor break time and a camper-packed snack (please pack a nut-safe item!)

Option 2: [Dance & Crafts: KPop Demon Hunters](#) (entering 1st-3rd grade)

Step into an action-packed world where music meets adventure! In this unique camp, participants will craft stylish accessories like bracelets and learn to make paper swords for safe, theatrical stage combat. We'll explore creative patterns using long socks and practice braiding techniques to complete the perfect K-Pop-inspired look. Alongside the fun, campers will learn dynamic choreography to bring their characters to life. This camp also includes meaningful discussions about social-emotional challenges—like understanding guilt and shame—and strategies for managing big feelings in real life. It's a blend of creativity, movement, and mindfulness for an unforgettable experience! The morning includes some outdoor break time and a camper-packed snack (please pack a nut-safe item!)

Option 3: [Lego Builders](#) (entering 1st-3rd grade)

Join the LEGO fun! Campers will use their creativity to build vehicles, structures, cities and more. They will start as architects, creating and planning first and then using their engineering and building skills to create amazing structures, while gaining confidence using building elements and learning general building practices. The morning includes some outdoor break time and a camper-packed snack (please pack a nut-safe item!)

Option 4: [The Thread Lab](#) (entering 4th-6th grade)

The Thread Lab is an exploration of texture and colors. From weaving to macrame, campers will use thread in various ways to create projects they can be proud of. This program is perfect for campers who have a creative mind and love to use their hands to make works of art. The morning includes some outdoor break time and a camper-packed snack (please pack a nut-safe item!)

AFTERNOON (12:30pm-4pm)**Option 1: [Animation Studio](#) (entering 4th-6th grade)**

Bring your ideas to life! In this exciting program, campers will learn the basics of animation—storyboarding, character design, and simple motion techniques—then create their own animated scenes. Campers will also explore beginner-friendly editing tools to polish their projects and share their creations at the end of the session. Perfect for creative minds who love art and technology! The afternoon includes some outdoor break time.

Option 2: [Zombies: A Halloween Summer](#) (entering 1st-3rd grade)

Step into the world of *Zombies* and explore its exciting themes of friendship, acceptance, and embracing what makes us unique! In this creative camp, participants will discover the fun and powerful messages behind the story, design spooky outfits and help build a colorful set for our final performance, and practice energetic dance routines and music inspired by *Zombies*. Explore how characters overcome challenges and learn how we can come together in real life too! This camp is perfect for kids who love music, dancing, and a little spooky fun—plus plenty of creativity and teamwork! The afternoon includes some outdoor break time.

Option 3: [The Art of Comics and Cartooning](#) (entering 4th-6th grade)

Bring your stories to life through comics! In this creative camp, participants will learn how to design characters, create dynamic panels, and craft exciting storylines. Campers will explore the basics of illustration and storytelling while developing their own comic book pages filled with action, humor, and imagination. Perfect for kids who love art, writing, and superheroes—or want to invent their own! The afternoon includes some outdoor break time.

Week 6

MORNING (9am-12pm)

Option 1: [Game Design & Development](#) (entering 4th-6th grade)

Turn your ideas into playable games! Campers will learn the basics of game design, character creation, and coding using beginner-friendly tools. By the end of the session, they'll have built their own interactive game and explored how creativity and technology come together in game development. The morning includes some outdoor break time and a camper-packed snack (please pack a nut-safe item!)

Option 2: [Theater of the Wild: Learning Through Play & Puppetry](#) (entering 1st-3rd grade)

Step into the wild world of animal-themed stories and movies! In this imaginative camp, kids will explore fun movement exercises that mimic animal characters, create both large and small-scale puppets to learn the art of bringing creatures to life on stage, and act out favorite tales or invent original adventures. Along the way, we'll talk about the difference between pretend play and real-life wildlife—why animals deserve respect and space—and practice stage safety so performers can bring powerful animal roles to life without harming fellow actors. This camp combines creativity, performance, and learning for an unforgettable experience that celebrates both imagination and respect for nature! The morning includes some outdoor break time and a camper-packed snack (please pack a nut-safe item!)

Option 3: [Jewelry Making & Beading](#) (entering 1st-3rd grade)

Beading of all kinds: make necklaces, bracelets, wind chimes... Campers will also learn how to seed bead, where they design patterns and make them come to life with beautiful glass seed beads. The beads have a wonderful reflective quality that lend themselves to embroidery. Come bead with us! The morning includes some outdoor break time and a camper-packed snack (please pack a nut-safe item!)

Option 4: [The Art of Comics and Cartooning](#) (entering 4th-6th grade)

Bring your stories to life through comics! In this creative camp, participants will learn how to design characters, create dynamic panels, and craft exciting storylines. Campers will explore the basics of illustration and storytelling while developing their own comic book pages filled with action, humor, and imagination. Perfect for kids who love art, writing, and superheroes—or want to invent their own! The morning includes some outdoor break time and a camper-packed snack (please pack a nut-safe item!)

AFTERNOON (12:30pm-4pm)

Option 1: 3D Model Building (entering 4th-6th grade)

Join us for a fun and creative half-day camp where kids dive into the world of 3D modeling! Campers will learn the basics of designing and building their own 3D models using beginner-friendly software. Team-building will be encouraged as campers work on projects together as well as developing individual skills. Perfect for curious minds who love art, technology, and hands-on projects! The afternoon includes some outdoor break time.

Option 2: From Hollywood to Bollywood (entering 1st-3rd grade)

Experience the energy of Bollywood! In this exciting camp, kids will learn fun dance routines inspired by classic and modern Bollywood films, explore traditional Indian dance styles with guest instructors, and even pick up a few words in Hindi, Tamil, and Telugu while singing along to popular songs. Along the way, we'll celebrate culture through geography, music, and movement—focusing on appreciation, creativity, and respect. Perfect for kids who love dance, music, and exploring new traditions! The afternoon includes some outdoor break time.

Option 3: Lego Builders (1st-3rd grade)

Join the LEGO fun! Campers will use their creativity to build vehicles, structures, cities and more. They will start as architects, creating and planning first and then using their engineering and building skills to create amazing structures, while gaining confidence using building elements and learning general building practices. The afternoon includes some outdoor break time.

Week 7

MORNING (9am-12pm)

Option 1: Intro to Film (entering 4th-6th grade)

Discover the magic behind the movies! In this hands-on camp, participants will learn the basics of filmmaking—from storyboarding and camera angles to acting for the screen. Campers will collaborate to create short scenes, explore the art of visual storytelling, and get a taste of what it takes to bring ideas to life on film. Perfect for beginners and budding filmmakers! The morning includes some outdoor break time and a camper-packed snack (please pack a nut-safe item!)

Option 2: Zombies: A Halloween Summer (entering 1st-3rd grade)

Step into the world of *Zombies* and explore its exciting themes of friendship, acceptance, and embracing what makes us unique! In this creative camp, participants will discover the fun and powerful messages behind the story, design spooky outfits and help build a colorful set for our final performance, and practice energetic dance routines and music inspired by *Zombies*. Explore how characters overcome challenges and learn how we can come together in real life too! This camp is perfect for kids who love music, dancing, and a little spooky fun—plus plenty of creativity and teamwork! The morning includes some outdoor break time and a camper-packed snack (please pack a nut-safe item!)

Option 3: [Lego Builders](#) (entering 1st-3rd grade)

Join the LEGO fun! Campers will use their creativity to build vehicles, structures, cities and more. They will start as architects, creating and planning first and then using their engineering and building skills to create amazing structures, while gaining confidence using building elements and learning general building practices. The morning includes some outdoor break time and a camper-packed snack (please pack a nut-safe item!)

Option 4: [Checkmate!](#) (entering 4th-6th grade)

Discover the exciting world of chess in this beginner-friendly camp! Students will learn the fundamentals of the game, including how each piece moves, the roles they play, and essential strategies for opening and sustaining a match. Through interactive lessons and guided practice, campers will develop critical thinking and problem-solving skills while exploring tactics to outsmart their opponents. Each day will wrap up with friendly games where players can put their new skills to the test in a fun, supportive environment. The morning includes some outdoor break time and a camper-packed snack (please pack a nut-safe item!)

AFTERNOON (12:30pm-4pm)**Option 1: [Intro to Coding with Scratch](#) (entering 4th-6th grade)**

Jump into the world of coding with Scratch! In this beginner-friendly camp, participants will learn the basics of programming by creating interactive stories, games, and animations. Campers will explore problem-solving and creativity while building projects they can share with friends and family. Perfect for kids who want to start coding in a fun, visual way! The afternoon includes some outdoor break time.

Option 2: [Dance & Crafts: KPop Demon Hunters](#) (entering 1st-3rd grade)

Step into an action-packed world where music meets adventure! In this unique camp, participants will craft stylish accessories like bracelets and learn to make paper swords for safe, theatrical stage combat. We'll explore creative patterns using long socks and practice braiding techniques to complete the perfect K-Pop-inspired look. Alongside the fun, campers will learn dynamic choreography to bring their characters to life. This camp also includes meaningful discussions about social-emotional challenges—like understanding guilt and shame—and strategies for managing big feelings in real life. It's a blend of creativity, movement, and mindfulness for an unforgettable experience! The afternoon includes some outdoor break time.

Option 3: [Hands-On Creations: Sculpt & Build](#) (entering 4th-6th grade)

Get ready to roll up your sleeves and create! In this hands-on camp, kids will explore the art of sculpting and building using a variety of materials. From shaping clay to constructing imaginative structures with pipe cleaners, campers will learn techniques that bring their ideas to life. This camp is perfect for young makers who love to design, experiment, and create one-of-a-kind masterpieces! The afternoon includes some outdoor break time.