



2024-25 Course Summaries

Character Core: Science, History, Literature, Health

The Micro School “Character Core” courses for the 2024–25 Micro School year are Science, History, Literature & Health. These courses, together with the newly added “Micro Masters” courses are coach-led Monday–Thursday on a 2-week rotation within their Micro School class. Each unit of each course includes a step-by-step, application-based, unit project that students complete independently, or together if working within a local, in-person Micro School.

Science *Zoology*

Students explore the great diversity among animal life on Earth, from tiny insects to massive whales. Students learn about the differences and similarities between vertebrates and invertebrates, the divine design of animals and animal adaptations that have occurred to help them thrive, and some aspects of a bird’s life. Students investigate habitats and biomes, learning about the variety of living conditions that exist on Earth and the essential components for animal life.

Literature *Strengthening Character*

Throughout this course students learn how people become stronger through their experiences, challenges, joys, and decisions. In Shakespeare’s *The Merchant of Venice* they will discover the strengthening power of love, mercy, and forgiveness. The biography *Carry on, Mr. Bowditch* introduces them to Nathaniel Bowditch, a self-taught mathematician, ship’s captain, and Christlike man. Good literature inspires students to be and become “more useful in the Hands of God in building the Kingdom of God on Earth.”

History *Restoration, Expansion, Civil War*

Beginning with the Restoration of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, students learn about the life and character of Joseph Smith from his childhood to his martyrdom. Then they move on to the Industrial Revolution and the expansion of the United States as explorers and pioneers moved West. Students learn how the spirit of freedom led to the Civil War and the end of slavery in the United States and how freedom in the United States led many people to immigrate to the United States.

Health (Part 1) *Mental & Physical Health*

Health (Part 1) focuses on healthy mental, emotional, and physical practices. During unit 1, students learn about mental and emotional health. They learn practical skills, including stress management techniques and healthy habits. In unit 2, they explore first aid and safety, as well as substance abuse and what substances can be addictive. Students learn to recognize peer pressure and identify methods for standing strong. Finally, they will learn about nutrition and how it affects their physical and emotional health.



I Love Language

Based on decades of research-based, nationally ranked Virginia State Standards, *I Love Language* provides students with a comprehensive reading and writing program designed to help students become skilled writers and effective readers. Students study Greek and Latin root words, in addition to their reading and writing practice. This course has a suggested calendar, but students can complete lessons at their own speed. All levels (6-8) are available to students, allowing them to move at their own pace while receiving support from our writing tutors during labs offered each week only to Micro School students.

I Master Math

Similar to *I Love Language*, *I Master Math* was built using the backbone of the proven Virginia State Standards. Students learn math concepts through exploration and practice within five learning domains, including number and number sense, computation and estimation, measurement and geometry, probability and statistics, and algebraic thinking. Likewise, this course is self-paced, allowing students to progress at their own pace and on the schedule that parents determine is best. Importantly, as named, *I Master Math* is also mastery based. Students unlock the next lesson only after completing a lesson's post-lesson assessment with a score of 90% or higher. Advancing without learning gaps is a core objective of *I Master Math*.

Micro Masters Skills Courses

Also new for 2024-25 is the "Micro Masters" skills course offering! These elective mini-skill courses introduce students to skills that *they* are interested in and/or need to develop (see list below). Each course is comprised of one 8-lesson experience, and students will have the opportunity to choose from the Micro Masters library four times throughout the year (once per term). During each of these four Micro Masters two-week sessions, students gather with a new class for their daily Micro School class to learn with other students who have chosen the same course. Similar to all Character core courses (above), students complete an application-based project, step-by-step throughout the two-weeks. By the end of the course, students have learned and practiced a new skill that may become the beginning of a new life journey, and in many cases, an essential life skill that improves living and learning indefinitely!

- A Taste of French Cuisine: Introduction to French Cooking
- App Adventures: Introduction to Mobile App Development
- Artastic: Introduction to the World of Drawing and Color Theory
- Digital Design Discovery: Introduction to Digital Design
- Disasters & Emergencies: Preparedness, Prevention, and Response
- How to Train Like an Athlete: Introduction to Performance Training
- Kickstarting Your Beat Journey: Introduction to Drums
- Light and Lens: Introduction to Photography
- Lights, Camera, Edit: Introduction to Video Editing
- Motion Magic: Introduction to Animation
- Time Warriors: Conquering Time Management

2024-25 ACADEMIC CALENDAR

AUGUST					
WEEK	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
				1	2
	5	6	7	18	19
	12	13	14	15	16
	19	20	21	22	23
	26	27	28	29	30
SEPTEMBER					
WEEK	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
WEEK 0	LABOR DAY	3	4	5	6
WEEK 1	9	10	11	12	13
WEEK 2	16	17	18	19	20
WEEK 3	23	24	25	26	27
WEEK 4	30				
WEEK 4	History				
OCTOBER					
WEEK	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
(4)		1	2	3	4
WEEK 5	7	8	9	10	11
WEEK 6	Literature	Literature	Literature	Literature	
WEEK 6	Literature	Literature	Literature	Literature	
	21	22	23	24	25
			FALL BREAK		
WEEK 7	28	29	30	31	
WEEK 7	Skills	Skills	Skills	Skills	
NOVEMBER					
WEEK	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
(7)					1
WEEK 8	4	5	6	7	8
WEEK 8	Skills	Skills	Skills	Skills	
WEEK 9	11	12	13	14	15
WEEK 9	Science	Science	Science	Science	
WEEK 10	18	19	20	21	22
WEEK 10	Science	Science	Science	Science	
	25	26	27	28	29
			THANKSGIVING BREAK		
DECEMBER					
WEEK	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
WEEK 11	2	3	4	5	6
WEEK 11	History	History	History	History	
WEEK 12	9	10	11	12	13
WEEK 12	History	History	History	History	
	16	17	18	19	20
	23	24	25	26	27
			CHRISTMAS BREAK		
	30	31			

JANUARY						
WEEK	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	
			1	2	3	
			CHRISTMAS BREAK			
WEEK 13	6	7	8	9	10	
WEEK 13	Literature	Literature	Literature	Literature		
WEEK 14	13	14	15	16	17	
WEEK 14	Literature	Literature	Literature	Literature		
WEEK 15	20	21	22	23	24	
WEEK 15	MLK JR. DAY	Skills	Skills	Skills	Skills	
WEEK 16	27	28	29	30	31	
WEEK 16	Skills	Skills	Skills	Skills		
FEBRUARY						
WEEK	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	
WEEK 17	3	4	5	6	7	
WEEK 17	Science	Science	Science	Science		
WEEK 18	10	11	12	13	14	
WEEK 18	Science	Science	Science	Science		
WEEK 19	17	18	19	20	21	
WEEK 19	PRESIDENT'S DAY		WINTER BREAK			
WEEK 20	24	25	26	27	28	
WEEK 20	History	History	History	History		
MARCH						
WEEK	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	
WEEK 21	3	4	5	6	7	
WEEK 21	History	History	History	History		
WEEK 22	10	11	12	13	14	
WEEK 22	Health	Health	Health	Health		
WEEK 23	17	18	19	20	21	
WEEK 23	Health	Health	Health	Health		
WEEK 24	24	25	26	27	28	
WEEK 24	Skills	Skills	Skills	Skills		
	31					
			SPRING BREAK			
APRIL						
WEEK	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	
		1	2	3	4	
			SPRING BREAK			
WEEK 25	7	8	9	10	11	
WEEK 25	Skills	Skills	Skills	Skills		
WEEK 26	14	15	16	17	18	
WEEK 26	Science	Science	Science	Science		
WEEK 27	21	22	23	24	25	
WEEK 27	Science	Science	Science	Science		
WEEK 28	28	29	30			
WEEK 28	History	History	History			
MAY						
WEEK	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	
(28)				1	2	
WEEK 29	5	6	7	8	9	
WEEK 29	History	History	History	History		
WEEK 30	12	13	14	15	16	
WEEK 30	Health	Health	Health	Health		
WEEK 31	19	20	21	22	23	
WEEK 31	Health	Health	Health	Health		
WEEK 32	26	27	28	29	30	
WEEK 32						

First day of school: 3-Sep-2024
 Last day of school: 29-May-2025

Foundations Week	
Vacations & Breaks	