

Silver SPRUCE Academy

2026-2027 K-8th Grades HSE Fall Class Descriptions

Most classes are limited to 25 students unless otherwise stated.

Wednesdays

Mini Moose & Moose Herd - (Youngest Group of Students, Ages 5-9 years, Grades K-3)

Our Mini Moose & Moose Herd youth program offers a 7-hour day for our youngest students to enjoy social interaction, explore experiences in manners, and practice self-control while our middle group of students connect in group classes designed to challenge students to expand on many ideas and topics to be responsible, assertive, and resilient with peers. Taught by all teachers.

(Q1) Mini Moose & Moose Herd

8:30-9:00 (CLASS 1 w/ ALL STAFF) Civics-Morning Mingle

Through our morning schoolwide interactions, we will engage in civics for students to develop critical thinking and analytical skills, enabling them to learn about their rights and responsibilities as citizens and how to participate in the democratic process.

9:00-10:00 (CLASS 2 w/ Natalie) House for a Mouse

Have you ever wondered about houses of animals? We will investigate and build the houses of the Colorado State animals including a Lark Bunting, Hairstreak Butterfly, Greenback Cutthroat Trout, Western Tiger Salamander, Western Painted Turtle, & more!

10:00-11:00 (CLASS 3 w/ Stephanie) Fabled Frames

Travel through the progress of animation, from its earliest mechanical roots to modern digital techniques. Dive into the history of storytelling through discovering moving images and the innovators who shaped the industry.

11:00-12:00 (CLASS 4 w/ Evan) Assembly Assignments

Assemble different arts and crafts projects each week to build practical craftsmanship and creative confidence while mastering basic hand tools, exploring vibrant visual art concepts, and practicing safe techniques to bring original artistic designs to life!

12:00-12:15 (Lunch & Learn w/ Sarah) Lunch-n-Learn

While enjoying our lunches we bring from home, we will explore nutrition by discovering which MyPlate food group is represented by an item in their lunchbox to identify the health benefits.

12:15-1:00 (CLASS 5 w/ Sarah) Health & Nutrition

Explore the history behind popular foods and their nutritional value. Discover accidental food inventions, compare nutrition labels, discuss healthy eating habits, and participate in themed movement activities.

1:00-2:00 (CLASS 6 w/ Kim) Nature Explorers

Imagination is what turns found items into art, from ephemeral sand art to larger sculptures using natural materials. Students will use their imaginations and find bits of nature to design and create their own art.

2:00-3:00 (CLASS 7 w/ Natalie) DI, Novel, Meow Wolf

Use your imagination to innovate exhibition projects to compete in Destination Imagination Weekly Challenges and Competition on March 6, Author Novels in a Year to Publish, and Experience the Excitement of Designing a "Meow Wolf" themed classroom for our Exhibition on Apr. 7!

3:00-3:30 (CLASS 8 w/ ALL STAFF) Life Skills: SPRUCE'n Up

Learn ways to keep the campus clean, care for shared spaces, and work together through hands-on activities. Students will learn proper cleaning habits, take pride in their school environment, and build responsibility, teamwork, leadership, and respect for their community.

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(Q2) Mini Moose & Moose Herd

8:30-9:00 (CLASS 1 w/ ALL STAFF) Civics-Morning Mingle

Through our morning schoolwide interactions, we will engage in civics for students to develop critical thinking and analytical skills, enabling them to learn about their rights and responsibilities as citizens and how to participate in the democratic process.

9:00-10:00 (CLASS 2 w/ Natalie) Organized Chaos Art

So many things end up in the trash but incredible works of art can be made from recycling trash into organized chaos art! Students will pick their favorite animal, collect misc. recycled items from their home, and we will create Recycled Organized Chaos Art!

10:00-11:00 (CLASS 3 w/ Stephanie) Tangled Textures

Using unconventional tools like pen ends and tape frames, students will learn to create intricate yarn-based art. Through hands-on activities and tactile learning, students will discover the structural possibilities of fiber materials.

11:00-12:00 (CLASS 4 w/ Evan) Airplanes Across the Ages

Learn about different airplanes that have been made over the years! They will be making models and creating their own airplanes as well as learning how they operate!

12:00-12:15 (Lunch & Learn w/ Sarah) Lunch-n-Learn

Savor homemade packed lunches while carefully examining each meal component to identify and name at least one MyPlate food group (fruits, vegetables, grains, protein, or dairy) present on the plate.

12:15-1:00 (CLASS 5 w/ Sarah) Health & Nutrition

Discover the accidental origins of favorite foods and their nutritional value. Analyze nutrition labels, explore healthy eating habits, and participate in topic-related movement activities.

CLASS 6 w/ Kim) Game Lab

Become a game designer as we imagine, create, and refine our own games. We'll examine physics and probability as we learn how games work. Students will turn their ideas into games that are fun, fair, and ready to share.

2:00-3:00 (CLASS 7 w/ Natalie) ½ Diorama Digest & ½ Yearbook

Bring your favorite picture book, we will read it to the class, and each student will create a diorama of a scene with their favorite characters from the book. Each student will need to bring a shoe box (or similar sized box) to build a miniature 3D Model.

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½ Alternating with Ms. Sarah, students will get the yearbook started by designing their personal page, capturing memories and stories from the school year, encouraging creativity, collaboration, and attention to detail while preserving school history.

3:00-3:30 (CLASS 8 w/ ALL STAFF) Life Skills: SPRUCE'n Up

Explore simple, effective ways to care for the campus through engaging, hands-on activities while learning about cleanliness, organization, and caring for shared spaces while strengthening teamwork, leadership, and responsibility.

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Moose on the Loose – (Intermediate Group of Students, Ages 9-11 years, Grades 4-5)

Our Moose Posse youth program offers a 7-hour day for students to gain confidence and self-esteem by interacting in experiential learning opportunities to broaden learning objectives through self-reliance, accountability, and perspective. Taught by all teachers.

(Q1) Moose on the Loose

8:30-9:00 (CLASS 1 w/ ALL STAFF) Civics-Morning Mingle

Through our morning schoolwide interactions, we will engage in civics for students to develop critical thinking and analytical skills, enabling them to learn about their rights and responsibilities as citizens and how to participate in the democratic process.

9:00-10:00 (CLASS 2 w/ Kim) Tessellation Lab

Tessellations are a fascinating blend of math and art. We will experiment with symmetry, sliding, flipping, and turning to create our own imaginative shapes and we will search for tessellations in nature, art, and architecture.

10:00-11:00 (CLASS 3 w/ Natalie) Reader's Theater: Art

Teams of students read aloud from a script adapted from a children's book using vocal expression, focusing heavily on storytelling to create listener imagination while classmates create an artistic rendering of what they visualize from the reader's theater.

11:00-12:00 (CLASS 4 w/ Stephanie) Pulp and Poetry

Ancient craft of papermaking is made new as students create their own handmade journals. After creating the journals, creators will introduce "art of words," integrating poetry and creative writing into the physical books they produce.

12:00-12:15 (Lunch & Learn w/ Sarah) Lunch-n-Learn

As students savor their packed lunches, they will observe and categorize the different foods in their meal according to the five MyPlate food groups (fruits, vegetables, grains, protein, and dairy).

12:15-1:00 (CLASS 5 w/ Sarah) Health & Nutrition

Learn how favorite foods were invented by accident while exploring their nutritional value. Compare nutrition labels, discuss healthy choices, and engage in fun, themed movement activities.

1:00-2:00 (CLASS 6 w/ Evan) Personal Pet Project

Study the biological needs of a Leopard Gecko by learning about their habitat and responsible care. Students will construct a fully functional micro-habitat to introduce a live gecko into it!

2:00-3:00 (CLASS 7 w/ Kim) DI/ Novel Year/ Meow Wolf

3 big Imaginative year-long projects will be introduced. This quarter will mostly focus on beginning our Novel in a Year project where students will write and publish their own book.

3:00-3:30 (CLASS 8 w/ ALL STAFF) Life Skills: SPRUCE'n Up

Learn how to keep the campus clean, safe, and welcoming through fun, hands-on activities while practicing proper cleaning habits, learn how to care for shared spaces, and work together to make a positive difference while building teamwork, and responsibility.

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(Q2) Moose on the Loose

8:30-9:00 (CLASS 1 w/ ALL STAFF) Civics-Morning Mingle

Through our morning schoolwide interactions, we will engage in civics for students to develop critical thinking and analytical skills, enabling them to learn about their rights and responsibilities as citizens and how to participate in the democratic process.

9:00-10:00 (CLASS 2 w/ Kim) What If?

Each week, students will consider a hypothetical alternate version of our world where some key aspect is changed. We will investigate the science behind that key aspect and imagine what life would be like.

10:00-11:00 (CLASS 3 w/ Natalie) Fun Language Learning

The World has over 7,170 languages in use currently! Each student will pick one language to research 100 specific words; numbers, people, colors and animals using the words in weekly activities; charades, matching, pictionary, scavenger hunt, hangmoose!

11:00-12:00 (CLASS 4 w/ Stephanie) Beyond the Book

Multi-sensory activities will bridge literary analysis and creative expression to help students engage in classic and contemporary literature. Studies will help students create art inspired by the themes and characters they encounter in their reading.

12:00-12:15 (Lunch & Learn w/ Sarah) Lunch-n-Learn

Eat packed lunches from home while thoughtfully recognizing and naming one MyPlate food group found within their meal and describe what food group it is and what makes it a healthy choice.

12:15-1:00 (CLASS 5 w/ Sarah) Health & Nutrition

Learn the surprising history of popular food inventions and their health benefits. Compare nutrition labels to make informed choices and engage in fun, themed activities.

1:00-2:00 (CLASS 6 w/ Evan) Meow Wolf Miniature

Utilizing a doll house, students will create their own version of the famous Meow Wolf facility! They will get to create interesting different rooms and unique art for their tiny creation!

2:00-3:00 (CLASS 7 w/ Kim) Destination Imagination / Novel Year

Novels will continue to be developed and we will begin to switch our emphasis towards our Destination Imagination project. We will also continue to brainstorm ideas for our immersive art project.

3:00-3:30 (CLASS 8 w/ ALL STAFF) Life Skills: SPRUCE'n Up

Build teamwork and school pride while learning how everyone can help create a clean, safe, and welcoming campus. We will practice proper cleaning habits, care for shared areas, and discover how working together can make a meaningful difference in their school community.

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Moose Posse – (Older Group of Students, Ages 11-14 years, Grades 6-8)

Our Moose Posse youth program offers a 7-hour day for students to gain confidence and self-esteem by teaching to peers through experiences and challenging each other to be life-long learners. Taught by all teachers.

(Q1) Moose Posse

8:30-9:00 (CLASS 1 w/ ALL STAFF) Civics-Morning Mingle

Through our morning schoolwide interactions, we will engage in civics for students to develop critical thinking and analytical skills, enabling them to learn about their rights and responsibilities as citizens and how to participate in the democratic process.

9:00-10:00 (CLASS 2 w/ Evan) Sign Shennanigans

Make wooden signs to be used on a public mountain bike trail by wood burning, painting and using basic power tools to create custom signs! There will be an educational event Sept. 17 to the bike trail to visit the site, ride the track on your bike, and learn important skills through the process!

10:00-11:00 (CLASS 3 w/ Kim) Design Lab: Wildfire

Wildfire has become part of our lives. Together we will look for solutions to help prevent or lessen the severity of fires, protect people and infrastructure, and restore our forests. We will design and prototype our solutions.

11:00-12:00 (CLASS 4 w/ Natalie) Teen Scene; Middle School

Tweens will learn about numerous subjects that they may not be familiar with and paired up to teach to their peers. Class ideas may include; Quantum Physics, Aerospace, Veterinary Science, Bruce Broose SPRUCE Moose Munchies Cookbook, and more!

12:00-12:15 (Lunch & Learn w/ Sarah) Lunch-n-Learn

During lunchtime, students will thoughtfully analyze the contents of their packed lunches, identifying and naming the specific MyPlate food groups represented by each item they eat.

12:15-1:00 (CLASS 5 w/ Sarah) Health & Nutrition

Discover the fascinating history of popular foods and their nutritional benefits. Compare nutrition labels, discuss healthy eating, and participate in movement activities connected to each week's topic.

1:00-2:00 (CLASS 6 w/ Stephanie) Field & Feather

Combining outdoor exploration with artistic documentation, students will learn to create their own nature journals. Focusing on observational drawing and scientific notation of the natural world will help explorers learn about their surroundings.

2:00-3:00 (CLASS 7 w/ Evan) DI/ Novel Year

Discover what it is like to become a published Author! Students will be writing and publishing their own books by the end of the year! Through Destination Imagination, we will get to complete a variety of different fun challenges! And finishing up the year, we will be making a crazy art exhibit in our classroom!

3:00-3:30 (CLASS 8 w/ ALL STAFF) Life Skills: SPRUCE'n Up

Discover the importance of taking care of the school campus and shared spaces. Through hands-on cleaning activities, students will learn how small actions can make a big impact while developing responsibility, leadership, teamwork, and respect for their school community.

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(Q2) Moose Posse

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9:00-10:00 (CLASS 2 w/ Evan) How its Made- Solar Battery Bank

How are certain things made? Students will learn how solar charged battery banks work before designing, ordering parts and building one themselves! Lots of skills and tools to learn about and use!

10:00-11:00 (CLASS 3 w/ Kim) Hero Lab

Students will imagine their own hero character. They will design their character's abilities, gear, strengths, and weaknesses. We will put our heroes into story prompts and use our imaginations to finish the story.

11:00-12:00 (CLASS 4 w/ Natalie) Science Shenanigans

Build hands-on science skills and real-world knowledge learning about different science subjects; Life Science (Owl Pellets), Earth Science (Rock Cycle), Aerospace Science (Build a Rover), Physical Science (Water Samples), & Chemistry (Edible Bacteria)!

12:00-12:15 (Lunch & Learn w/ Sarah) Lunch-n-Learn

Enjoy lunches brought from home all the while analyzing the meal to identify which MyPlate food group is represented among the items and the benefits of those items chosen.

12:15-1:00 (CLASS 5 w/ Sarah) Health & Nutrition

Journey through the surprising history of popular foods and discover how some favorites came to be by accident. Through hands-on activities, explore everyday food choices and enjoy food-inspired movement activities.

1:00-2:00 (CLASS 6 w/ Stephanie) Corrugated Inno-Ventions

Industrial fiber and cardboard will be used to engineer articulated prototypes. Inventions will focus on structural integrity and mechanical movement using simple, everyday materials.

2:00-3:00 (CLASS 7 w/ Evan) Novel Year/ Destination Imagination

The journey to publication continues! This quarter, students focus on writing and illustrating the heart of their books while mastering hands-on Destination Imagination challenges. From quirky engineering puzzles to dramatic improv games, students will collaborate with problem-solving skills that bring their imaginative ideas to life.

3:00-3:30 (CLASS 8 w/ ALL STAFF) Life Skills: SPRUCE'n Up

Discover how we can make a difference by helping keep the campus clean, organized, and welcoming. Through hands-on activities, we will learn proper cleaning habits, practice caring for shared spaces, and work as a team while building responsibility, leadership, and cooperation.

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Educational Event Classes

Weekly Educational Event Classes are organized and led by an Academy teacher for students and families to learn in collaboration with other educational organizations. Students attend 3-4 events each semester. Most events require 1 parent chaperone. An RSVP is required on every event 1 week prior to confirm your attendance and assist hosts in accommodating our group size. Events, location, time, and RSVP is posted on the website. Some events will have an associated fee required to RSVP that is non-refundable.

Tentative Events:

SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER
17 UTV Tour	1 SPRUCE Spectacular	5 Active Shooter Training	3 Dgo. Gymnastics
24 Ign. Comm. Arts Center, Spacecowboy	8 Slide Rock Bolter	12 Aztec Ruins	17 Wolf Creek Club
	30 CPR First Aid		

Wolf Creek Ski & Board Club

Silver SPRUCE Academy is in collaboration with Wolf Creek Ski & Board Club for homeschooling students Ages 7-18. Please see our website at <https://www.silverspruceacademy.org/wolf-creek-ski-club> for more information after Oct. 15th. Each Educational Event Ski & Board Club date requires 8 hours of attendance.

Tentative dates include:

Dec. 17	RSVP/PAY before Thur. Dec. 3	FAMILY Dates: TBD
Jan. 28	RSVP/PAY before Thur. Jan. 14	Family members can ski for \$15 lift ticket w/ student that attended one or more lessons, includes 2 hr. lesson, and ski rentals. Snowboard rental is \$6 extra.
Feb. 25	RSVP/PAY before Thur. Feb. 11	

Moose Bugle Newsletter

A weekly Moose Bugle Newsletter is created by SPRUCE staff to keep you informed of upcoming classes, requested supplies, and educational activities your student/s are participating in, need to work on, or what can be expected to be prepared for class the next week. It is required that each family read the newsletter and communicate with their student prior to coming to class to be prepared for that week's programming.

National Standardized Testing and PSAT, SAT Practice Testing

We offer National Standardized Testing for grades 9th through 11th in April/May. Tutoring in most subjects can be scheduled during Curriculum Education hours.

Curriculum Education Classes

Curriculum Education Class Hours are applied to any Student/Parent Team to work with a certified teacher for up to 10 hours per year on core subject tutoring, supplemental classes, or extracurricular curriculum to enhance your school choice education. Tutoring sessions can be individualized towards each child's education.