

WINTER WORKSHOP Information: January – April 2025

Bee Best Learning Center is offering another session of fun and educational workshops. **Signups are limited, and students are only enrolled once we receive BOTH the completed registration form AND accompanying payment.** Once workshops reach capacity your child will be added to our waitlist. To register, click [here!](#)

Time	Mondays	Tuesdays	Wednesdays	Thursdays	Fridays
2:30					Art Exploration G1-5 Chess G1-2 Medi Kids-Health Matters G2-8
3:30	Pre-Public Speaking G1-2	Math Champions G2	Math Champions GK	Math Champions G4	Chess G3-5 Personal Finance G5-8
4:30	Public Speaking & Debate G3-5	Math Champions G1	Math Champions G3	Math Champions G5/G6	
Schedule	MEET: 01/13, 01/20 , 01/27, 02/03, 02/10, 02/17 , 02/24, 03/03, 03/10, 03/17, 03/24, 03/31 , 04/07, 04/14, 04/21 (12 sessions) NO CLASSES: 01/20, 02/17, 03/31	MEET: 01/14, 01/21, 01/28, 02/04, 02/11, 02/18 , 02/25, 03/04, 03/11, 03/18, 03/25, 04/01 , 04/08, 04/15 (12 sessions) NO CLASSES: 02/18, 04/01	MEET: 01/15, 01/22, 01/29, 02/05, 02/12, 02/19 , 02/26, 03/05, 03/12, 03/19, 03/26, 04/02 , 04/09, 04/16 (12 sessions) NO CLASSES: 02/19, 04/02	MEET: 01/16, 01/23, 01/30, 02/06, 02/13, 02/20 , 02/27, 03/06, 03/13, 03/20, 03/27, 04/03 , 04/10, 04/17 (12 sessions) NO CLASSES: 02/20, 04/03	MEET: 01/17, 01/24, 01/31, 02/07, 02/14, 02/21 , 02/28, 03/07, 03/14, 03/21, 03/28, 04/04 , 04/11, 04/18 (12 sessions) NO CLASSES: 02/21, 04/04

NO CLASSES:

- Monday, 01/20 Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday
- Monday through Friday, 02/17-02/21 President's Day Break
- Monday through Friday, 03/31-04/04 Spring Break/Cesar Chavez Holiday

Art Exploration Grades 1-5

(Minimum 8 students/Maximum 12 students)

Students will explore their creativity while using several different types of art media. Fun art projects may include glass fusing, raw clay, pottery painting, polymer clay, and more. Everything needed to create these hand-crafted works of art will be supplied.

Instructor:

Aran Mimran has owned Aran's Art Studio for over 22 years. Aran currently teaches art camp, acrylic pours, raw clay, glass fusing, and so much more. Aran frequently brings art lessons into public school classrooms in Castro Valley, San Leandro, Oakland, Hayward, and Fremont.

Cost: \$336 (\$28 per class x 12 sessions).

Sessions: Friday 2:30 pm – 3:30 pm.

Meet: 01/17, 01/24, 01/31, 02/07, 02/14, ~~02/21~~, 02/28, 03/07, 03/14, 03/21, 03/28, ~~04/04~~, 04/11, and 04/18.

No classes: 02/21 President's Day Break and 04/04 Spring Break.

Chess Grades 1-5

(Minimum 10 students/Maximum 20 students)

Immerse yourself in the exciting world of chess! Chess is fun and can be learned quickly and easily! Studies have found that chess helps improve test results in reading, science, and math, and produces growth in critical cognitive skills. Beyond academia, chess influences social behavior including self-esteem, respect for others, patience, and good sportsmanship. And did we mention it's FUN!

Instructor: Berkeley Chess School.

Cost: \$216 (\$18 per class x 12 sessions).

Sessions:

Grades 1-2: Friday 2:30 pm – 3:30 pm.

Grades 3-5: Friday 3:30 pm – 4:30 pm.

Meet: 01/17, 01/24, 01/31, 02/07, 02/14, ~~02/21~~, 02/28, 03/07, 03/14, 03/21, 03/28, ~~04/04~~, 04/11, and 04/18.

No classes: 02/21 President's Day Break and 04/04 Spring Break.

[Berkeley Chess School Saturday Quad Tournaments](#)

The Berkeley Chess School holds scholastic Quad tournaments at their chess center in Berkeley once a month all year round and once a month in San Ramon during the school year. Quad tournaments are good for players that are new to tournaments as well as experienced tournament players. Click [here](#) for more details.

All of our tournaments are USCF (United States Chess Federation) rated. All participants must have a current USCF membership. The basic membership for kids under 18 is \$20 for one year. Once someone has this membership and starts playing in rated tournaments, they start building an official chess rating. You can purchase or renew a membership online [here](#).

Math Champions Grades K-6

(Minimum 4 students/Maximum 10 students)

These workshops are for students with strong math skills who want to pursue excellence in math in fun-filled and interesting ways. Math Champions for Winter 2025 will be segmented into three parts – math worksheets, individual mental math quizzing, and Math Kangaroo word problems.

Most math subjects covered in common core are addressed, but problem areas will receive more attention. Math Kangaroo competition test problems and other word problems are the foundation for this workshop. The focus is on methods of analysis, critical thinking, and having fun with math rather than on "math drills".

Students are strongly encouraged to sign up for the [International Math Kangaroo competition in March 2025 with enrollment starting on September 15, 2024](#). Click [here](#) for more details.

- **Grade K:** beginning addition; subtraction; division into equal groups; and multiplication (or skip counting), using simple numbers and tens, In the teaching process, I will include lots of fun games, like counting dots on dice and simple work problems, with small rewards given for mastery.
- **Grade 1:** skip counting digits 1-5; subtraction of single digits; introduction to simple multiplication; division into equal parts; easy problems that develop observation and reasoning skills, including addition and subtraction with carrying and regrouping
- **Grade 2:** skip counting digits 1-9; simple subtraction, 1-2 digits; multiplication tables 1-5 then 5-10; mental multiplication using powers; work problems from previous year's Math Kangaroo National Test competitions; introduction to fractions, percent, and basic geometry problems.
- **Grade 3:** 2-and 3-digit addition and subtraction; multiplication tables out to 12; multiplication using powers, easy division without remainders; box multiplication and basic beginning algebra.
- **Grade 4:** working with fractions; multiplication tables to 15; geometry problems with area and perimeter; introduction to angles and shapes; multiplication and division of 2-3-digit numbers using basic algebra.
- **Grade 5 and Grade 6:** more advanced elementary math based on interest and skill levels.

Instructor:

Ron Latour is a retired electrical engineer with computer science experience who has a passion for helping students better learn mathematical and science concepts.

Cost:

\$240 (\$20 per class x 12 sessions)

Sessions:

Tuesday (12 sessions)	Wednesday (12 sessions)	Thursday (12 sessions)
Grade 2: 3:30 pm – 4:30 pm Grade 1: 4:30 pm – 5:30 pm	Grade K: 3:30 pm – 4:30 pm Grade 3: 4:30 pm – 5:30 pm	Grade 4: 3:30 pm – 4:30 pm Grades 5-6: 4:30 pm – 5:30 pm
Meet: 01/14, 01/21, 01/28, 02/04, 02/11, 02/18 , 02/25, 03/04, 03/11, 03/18, 03/25, 04/01 , 04/08, 04/15	Meet: 01/15, 01/22, 01/29, 02/05, 02/12, 02/19 , 02/26, 03/05, 03/12, 03/19, 03/26, 04/02 , 04/09, 04/16	Meet: 01/16, 01/23, 01/30, 02/06, 02/13, 02/20 , 02/27, 03/06, 03/13, 03/20, 03/27, 04/03 , 04/10, 04/17
No classes: 02/18-02/20 President's Day Break and 04/01-04/03 Spring Break		

Medi Kids – Health Matters Grades 2-8 (for age 7-15)

(Minimum 8 students/Maximum 15 students)

Get your children excited about health matters and the essentials of medicine: personal hygiene, eating habits, exercising, taking care of wounds and injuries, and much more. This fun and informative course teaches kids the essentials of medicine in an interesting and hands-on way. Children will be using and experimenting with apparatuses and models such as the microscope, stethoscope, and model human skeletons. Via this course, kids could develop an interest in becoming a doctor or medical professional when they grow up!

Instructor:

Gurus Education Program - Don Maker holds a BA in English and Comparative Literature from UC San Diego and an MA in Education from Chapman University. He was an English and history teacher before leaving public education to work with private companies and students. He is also a published author of seven novels, numerous articles, and poems, and has written two screenplays and one stage play. He loves teaching students of all ages and wishes for each student to reach their maximum potential.

Cost: \$276 (\$23 per class x 12 sessions).

Sessions: Friday 2:30 pm – 3:30 pm.

Meet: 01/17, 01/24, 01/31, 02/07, 02/14, ~~02/21~~, 02/28, 03/07, 03/14, 03/21, 03/28, ~~04/04~~, 04/11, and 04/18.

No classes: 02/21 President's Day Break and 04/04 Spring Break.

Personal Finance Grades 5-8 (for age 10-15)

(Minimum 8 students/Maximum 15 students)

Introduce students to money management using activities like Comparative Shopping, Salary analysis, budgeting a trip, wants and needs planning. Students learn how to track expenses and analyze them. They study entrepreneurship, loans, taxation and more. Parents love to see their children become aware of these concepts.

Instructor:

Gurus Education Program - Don Maker holds a BA in English and Comparative Literature from UC San Diego and an MA in Education from Chapman University. He was an English and history teacher before leaving public education to work with private companies and students. He is also a published author of seven novels, numerous articles, and poems, and has written two screenplays and one stage play. He loves teaching students of all ages and wishes for each student to reach their maximum potential.

Cost: \$276 (\$23 per class x 12 sessions).

Sessions: Friday 3:30 pm – 4:30 pm.

Meet: 01/17, 01/24, 01/31, 02/07, 02/14, ~~02/21~~, 02/28, 03/07, 03/14, 03/21, 03/28, ~~04/04~~, 04/11, and 04/18.

No classes: 02/21 President's Day Break and 04/04 Spring Break.

Public Speaking Grades 1-5

(Minimum 7 students/Maximum 10 students)

Pre-Public Speaking (Grades 1-2): This course teaches first through second graders the beginning building blocks of public speaking. Starting with being ready, practiced, and focused, they will learn the importance of body language and varying the tempo and tone of their voice. They will also learn the value of good openings and closings. Within the fun milieu of the show and tell, storytelling, and poetry recitals, the goal is for your child to start developing more confidence and skill in expressing themselves to a group.

Public Speaking and Debate Combo (Grades 3-5): This class focuses on teaching delivery and presentation skills to the students. Students learn how to manage public speaking anxiety, present themselves with confidence, and connect with their audience through effective body language. It improves their confidence in public speaking and communication skills. They learn different approaches to preparing for a speech, for example speaking from notes or from memory. The students learn how to make strong arguments, use tools like flow, and practice note-taking. This course instills critical thinking in students by providing reasoning and evidence. This course introduces various formats of debates popular in high school. The participants debate on a variety of age-appropriate topics in various formats.

Instructor:

Gurus Education Program - Don Maker holds a BA in English and Comparative Literature from UC San Diego and an MA in Education from Chapman University. He was an English and history teacher before leaving public education to work with private companies and students. He is also a published author of seven novels, numerous articles, and poems, and has written two screenplays and one stage play. He loves teaching students of all ages and wishes for each student to reach their maximum potential.

Cost: \$276 (\$23 per class x 12 sessions).

Session:

Grades 1-2: Monday 3:30 pm – 4:30 pm.

Grades 3-5: Monday 4:30 pm – 5:30 pm.

Meet: 01/13, ~~01/20~~, 01/27, 02/03, 02/10, ~~02/17~~, 02/24, 03/03, 03/10, 03/17, 03/24, ~~03/31~~, 04/07, 04/14, and 04/21.

No classes: 01/20 Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday, 02/17 President's Day Break, and 03/31 Spring Break.