

# Denver Options - Friday Class Catalog 2017-2018

Welcome To Denver Options

We are excited to spend time with you and your family. The basic information below will help you get started and avoid surprises.

Our school day is from **8:40 to 3:30**. Please drop children off in the gym between 8:30 and 8:40 and pick them up on time. Being late is a problem for teachers, can be a safety issue, and makes kids uncomfortable.

## PLEASE READ, PRINT AND SAVE THIS DOCUMENT

*("But I want to skip to the Class Descriptions!!!!" That is the fun part, but let's make sure you don't run into any surprises first. Please read page 1 and 2 before reading class choices)*

- ❖ Our website is: <http://denveroptions.aurorak12.org/>
- ❖ Email is [homeschooldenver@gmail.com](mailto:homeschooldenver@gmail.com).
- ❖ Lanae's contact phone number is: 303-349-5947 text is fine too.
- ❖ The address where we meet is: 1091 S Parker Rd Denver, CO 80231. Park and enter through the blue doors, around the back by the playground – lower level.
- ❖ Our funding is based on student attendance during the count period. This year that is September 12 to October 13 or so. If you know you will be unable to attend during this time, we need to know in writing. If an unexpected absence occurs, contact us in writing ASAP (email is fine) so we can complete the necessary paperwork. There are several proof sheets and signatures from teachers that have to be turned in if your child is not here.
- ❖ Our number one form of communication after Orientation will be on an app / website called Bloomz. You choose how many notifications you get, what device to use, and what groups you are a part of. Teachers, and all site communication will be sent via Bloomz. You will be invited to join, so stay tuned for those details. We piloted this in the 1516 year and learned a lot about streamlining the approval process. Bloomz is a wonderful way to find out what your kids are doing while at Options. It is easy for the staff, and will continue to replace group email lists at Options. Ask for tech help if you need it. Don't lose your password. :) ( I say this from experience. It is a VERY secure app, so they won't hesitate to lock you out.)
- ❖ The bookroom email is: [optionsbookroom@gmail.com](mailto:optionsbookroom@gmail.com)
- ❖ The book website is: [www.optionsbooks.info](http://www.optionsbooks.info)
- ❖ The book pick up site is 11351 E Montview Blvd. 80010. It is just west of Montview and Moline. Park behind the blond brick building and buzz to get in. The books are downstairs.
- ❖ After your child is fully enrolled in Denver Options, you can sign up for a time at the book room by going to:  
> <http://www.signupgenius.com/findasignup>  
then enter:  
[optionsbookroom@gmail.com](mailto:optionsbookroom@gmail.com)  
Come with an idea of what you are looking for by going to [optionsbooks.info](http://www.optionsbooks.info) to see what we carry. Bring a checkbook if you plan to purchase consumables.
- ❖ We have a Facebook page – look for Denver Enrichment Options on Facebook and request to join.
- ❖ Your family will be asked to do 2 lunch duty times, and help with one special event each semester. You may or may not be helping with your own child's group. This is not a time to 'come have lunch with munchkin.' We need your help to supervise all of the students. Bringing preschoolers is fine. Just keep them with you.
- ❖ We do have an option to "pay out" your time instead. Talk to Lanae for details. If you would like to be paid to do extra duty, tell us that as well. Dads and grandparents are welcome to do the family duty time if you so choose.

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❖ We have some field trips during the year. Watch your email, Bloomz and Facebook for opportunities, or use Bloomz to make your own events. The field trip committee usually uses a website like [signup genius](#) to reserve field trip places.

❖ Our rules apply to students and adults. We will agree to be:

- Positive
- Productive
- Pleasant
- Respectful
- Kind

If a student is not supporting the learning environment in the classroom, he or she will spend the remainder of the hour with another adult, and either a note or a phone call will be sent to the child's parents. If this happens 3 times in a day, the child and parents will meet with Mr. Burton to brainstorm solutions to help this be a good learning environment for everyone. This is a "3 strikes and you're out" system.

● We avoid discussions about anything controversial at Options, and instead focus on what we have in common. Statements and questions relating to religion, politics, online activity, evolution, or other 'hot' topics will be referred back to you at home to discuss your family's viewpoints with your own children.

● Options is not a good place for 'boyfriend /girlfriend, who likes whom discussions and games. No one 'belongs' to anyone. We value the innocence of childhood and work each week to preserve that precious time. Even into young adulthood.

● Your family choices about online activity and texting is up to you. We assume you monitor your own children's technology and will send any related questions home for you to work out away from school. Phones, tablets, and other technology can be used with teacher permission in class. You send these items of value at your own risk. At lunch and class changes they should be off and put away. If your child needs to call you, have them tell an adult. We will always let them contact you. So please leave your phone on and with you!! Getting voicemail when a kiddo needs mom is really yucky.

❖ Please contact us if your child will be absent or tardy.

❖ Consistently tardy families will give up their space at Options. Please be in the gym, ready for attendance by 8:40 . Tardy marks are new this year, but have been put in place by necessity to allow for kids who will be here on time and consistently to enjoy the classes. We only have your kids 1 day a week. Each class only gets 1 hour. We must maximize that time without disruptions.

❖ Denver Options does not have the training or staffing to enroll children with special needs.

❖ We are unable to walk your tardy student to class, or pick them up for you if you need to leave early.

Please get a name tag from the main entrance, and drop your child off in the hallway OUTSIDE of the classroom so you don't disturb class. Pick them up with as little disruption as possible. They must be walked to class, not just sent on their own. Please do not go into the room with them. Class changes are a good time to pick up or drop off your children. Please sign them out if you leave early. Inconsistent attendance makes success and building relationships here difficult.

❖ Student activity fees are paid at orientation. \$20 per child covers the yearbook and parties, rewards, recognition and special events. Please let us know if this causes a problem for your family. We certainly don't want you to pay if it is a hardship.

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❖ We don't have snacks to offer here. If you don't pack snack in your child's backpack in addition to food in a lunchbox, they won't have snack. Send 2 per week.

*This is the year of REinvention.*

*We will REcycle, REkindle, REdiscover, REceive and REawaken our friendships and learning. We will learn to REtry if something doesn't work the first time, and REexplore our own ability to try something new. We will RENew our courage and REflect on our new experiences. We will REkindle old friendships and REstart the year by making new friends. Come join us for a whole new year of REinvention and new discoveries!*

So there you go. Now you know what the boundaries are. Let's get onto the FUN Stuff. What are we going to DO at Denver Options? Hold onto your hat, we are going to be BUSY, MESSY, learning and laughing!!

## Denver Options -Friday Class Catalog: 2017-2018

The classes at Denver Options are unit study based, hands on and messy. The subject areas below are a starting point but the classes may include any and all of the subject areas in the activities.

**Class title: Kindergarten**

**Teacher's name: Michelle Lee**

**Grade: Kindergarten**

**Homework: No**

Kindergarten is all about making friends, being creative, exploring in a hands on way. We will keep busy learning letters, and letter sounds, hands on messy art, science experiments, cooking, math games and lots of center time building peer relationship. I love incorporating music into the day as well as games. We will also have show and tell each day. The day ends with music and PE.

**Class Title: First Grade Contained Classroom**

**Teacher's Name: Kate Robert**

**Grades appropriate: K-1**

**Homework: Send show and tell and 2 snacks in a backpack every week in addition to a lunch box!**

**New Content? Yes!**

First grade fun with Math, Science, Reading and Writing. We will engage in games, songs, movement, art projects and more. Spanish will be a small part of our day - numbers, colors, and some phrases and words. This class will be exciting and will keep your children moving and learning all day.

At the end of the day students will go to music and P.E. and be dismissed at 3:30pm.

**First and Second grade "movers" class -**

**Teacher - various - 5 teachers for 5 classes**

**Grades Appropriate: 1,2**

**Homework: Send 2 snacks in the backpack each week in addition to lunch and water.**

**New content? Yes**

Our "Movers" are one group of kids who stay together all day, but change teachers each hour. These are older first graders, or second graders who would like to stay with the same kids all day. The 5 classes are: Art, Pe, Music, Fabulous Phonics, and Inventions

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## Art /Tech art Classes

**Class Title:** Art - using literature

**Teacher's Name:** Clea Edelblute

**Grades:** 1-3

**Homework - no**

**New Content:** Yes

Let's make lots of art using picture books as inspiration! We will study and practice different techniques using paint, chalk, collage, 3-D art, printmaking, and more based on each week's book. Sometimes our art will recreate the illustration style in the book, and sometimes we will use book themes such as creativity, patience, and innovation. Let's refine our art skills while we discover - or rediscover - some fabulous books!

**Class Title:** Elements of Art

**Teacher's Name:** Liz Allen

**Grades:** 2-8

**Homework - no**

**New Content:** yes

This class will explore the elements of art by looking at different artists throughout history, then putting what we learned to use through hands-on art projects! We will be experimenting with various mediums and techniques. The goal here is to allow students to explore as many types of art as we can, and hopefully have some pieces to hang up at home! This class is great for anyone who has the desire to exercise their creativity, and for those who aren't afraid to get a little messy!

**Class Title:** Photography and Design

**Teacher's Name:** Liz Allen

**Grades:** 4-8

**Homework - no**

**New Content:** yes

Photography and Graphic Design

In this class, we will learn about different photography techniques and spend time taking pictures of people, places, and things. We will learn how to upload pictures to a computer, and practice photo editing. We will also be using our computers to create images, advertisements, and design. There will be a unit on Scratch during second semester where students can learn how to make an animation using blocks of code, and we will be creating and importing our own images for the backgrounds and/or sprites. **This is a photography, graphic design, and tech art class all in one!**

## Home Economics Classes

**Class Title:** Home Economics /Cooking

**Teacher's name:** Michelle Lee

**Grade:** 2-3

**Homework:** no

Do you love to cook? Does the idea of learning traditional skills appeal to you? If so, this is the class for you! This year we will be exploring a variety of basic cooking skills, mastering the art of hospitality, taking care of self and exploring healthy living. We will end the year by learning how to plant and care for a garden. It's going to be fun and purposeful! This is not a good class for people with food allergies/ sensitivities because we will be eating our cooking each week. Thanks!

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**Class Title: Sewing 1 and 2**

**Teacher's Name: Ashley McCollum**

**Grades: 3-6**

**Homework - occasionally, see class description**

**New Content: Yes**

Let's get stitching! Whether you are just starting out or you are continuing to learn, there are plenty of projects awaiting! We will learn different types of stitches and then incorporate these skills into hand sewn projects such as pillows or small quilts. As the year progresses and our skills improve, there will be plenty of room for student input on projects they would like to undertake. Let's get creative! Materials will be provided, or students will be welcome to bring items from home if they have favorites they'd like to include in their projects. Please sign up for the appropriate skill level and come to class with a positive attitude and a willingness to learn! Some projects will require time spent at home to make progress (hand stitching is fun, but time consuming!).

**Skill Levels:**

Sewing 1: No experience necessary

Sewing 2 : Either you took Sewing with me last year or have prior experience at home. Must be able to knot and thread a needle independently and know some basic stitches.

**Class Title: Young Ameritowne/ Finance**

**Teacher's Name: Angelle Frilot**

**Grades appropriate: 4 - 5**

**Homework?: None**

**New Content? Some**

We will be using the Young Ameritowne curriculum to bring activities and lessons into the classroom designed to teach about the free enterprise system. We will cover seven main concepts, including basic economics, banking, money management, government, communications, philanthropy, and business preparation. This is a "hands-on" lesson in free enterprise. Students will culminate the class with a field trip on March 14 to the Young Americans Bank in Denver. Students are required to attend the field trip. Class cost \$25 for the field trip fee and materials.

## Language Arts Classes

**Lego Writing and Beyond**

**Class Title: Lego Story Starter & Beyond**

**Teacher's Name: Danielle Corriveau**

**Grades appropriate: 2-5**

**Homework?: Casual conversations with parents to prep for writing is encouraged but not required**

**New Content? Yes**

Get ready to "build" a story! Working solo and in small groups, students will "construct" the character, setting, timeframe and details for their tales using the Lego Story Starter and Lego Expansion Project kits. Following builds, students will practice presentation skills and read their writing or speak about their story. This is another year of exploration! Last year we went flying to space. This time students will write stories about exploring the oceans in their own individually designed submarine! Students will craft their stories in hardcover books. We also will engage in other artful, creative writing projects. Students will learn about the job of a writer, journalism, poetry and the elements of story. It's great fun and growth in writing, storytelling and presentation.

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**Class Title: Fabulous Phonics**

**Teacher's Name: Danielle Corriveau**

**Grades appropriate: 1-3**

**Homework?: no –practicing what's learned at home while reading & writing with child is encouraged**

**New Content? Yes**

This class is an invitation for your child to jump into meaningful play with letters, sounds and words! In this joyfully interactive class, your child will learn the entire alphabet in cursive, sounds and keywords for all the vowel teams, how to spot syllables, age-appropriate Sight Words, and key spelling rules all through the use of big muscle movement, games, story, songs and art. This class is ideal for any student seeking fun ways to work with spelling rules and letter sounds.

**Class Title: What's Your Story? Middle School Language Arts**

**Teacher's Name: Clea Edelblute**

**Grades: 6-8**

**Homework: Yes**

**New Content: Yes**

Central ideas in literature and writing are voice and story. In this class we will explore YOUR voice - what makes you YOU? Using lots of approaches, from speeches to visual arts to reading and writing in many genres, we will learn what it means to have your own voice and speak your own story. This will be a safe place to practice public speaking, write stories and poems, and learn how to research. We will write in our notebooks each time we meet as well as work on some longer pieces. We will also study writing from others, including poems, essays, books, and articles. First semester, students will learn about research, essays, stories and poetry, and create their own well-researched presentation on an area of interest. Second semester we will apply our research skills to genealogy and cultures. In spring each student will bring it all together into a Story Fair presentation, sharing their unique story with our community.

## Math and Logic Classes

**Class Title: Critical Thinking**

**Teacher's Name: Ashley McCollum**

**Grades: 2-5**

**Homework - no**

**New Content: Yes**

Are you ready to put on your thinking caps? Join us on a critical thinking adventure! We will work together to solve logic puzzles, play games, and ponder deep thoughts. We will learn and practice problem solving skills and have fun while doing so. We will practice deduction skills with Logic Links and Perplexors to "build logic skills, one story at a time, one clue at a time." We will start small and work our way up to more complex problems throughout the year. We will also work together on puzzles, play strategy-based board games, and even create our own games. Some reading and writing is required.

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## Music

**Class Title: Adventures in Music**

**Teacher's Name: Sarah Adams**

**Grades appropriate: K-3**

**Homework? No**

**New Content? Yes! 100% new**

I consider it a privilege to welcome students to the music program at Options...

students will be introduced to music foundation blocks such as tapping the steady beat, reading simple rhythms and identifying if the sounds in simple melodies are moving up, down or remaining on the same tone.... we will use a variety of instruments such as tone bells, handbells, orff instruments and percussion instruments to sharpen our music reading skills..

Familiar American Folk Songs such as "Frog went a Courting" will then be sung and performed on instruments...

In addition to music reading skills, students will be introduced to creating their own unique melodies...

Since we learn by doing, students will participate in a variety of movement activities such as folk dancing and music games...

Also students will listen to famous classical music pieces and identify the sounds of different instruments of the orchestra.

This is the kind of class that will leave you humming and loving music of all kinds. We sing, play, dance, pretend, and learn together. Come join me for a whole new musical adventure.

**Class Title: Introduction to Instruments and Choir**

**Teacher's Name: Sarah Adams**

**Grades appropriate: 4-8**

**Homework? No**

**New Content? Yes! 100% new**

Join me for a General Music Course designed for older students! We will start with simple chords and work our way up to complex chord combinations. This class includes playing many instruments, and will incorporate choir! No experience is necessary but previous music knowledge is fine.

At this level, students are now ready for 2 part music selections in which 1/2 of the class performs the melody while 1/2 of the class performs the harmony.

Students will learn to read and perform more complex melodies and performing basic chord progressions on handbells, keyboards, orff instruments and a variety of other instruments..

Students will also identify basic music form in famous Classical pieces of music.

Prior knowledge of music is fine. We will all dive in, tap our toes, and play and sing together each week. .

We will study a unit called The Science of Sound in music.. learning about sound waves and tone frequencies... using a set of tuning forks with the 7 pitches of the music alphabet.

After students understand what a melody is in music, we will begin to sing and perform 2 part songs... The simplest example of a 2 part song is singing in rounds.

From here students will move into learning about basic chord progressions such as the I chord the IV chord and the V chord...

Many country music, pop song and sacred music such as Amazing Grace all have 3 chords.

Students will have the opportunity to suggest appropriate music pieces and even begin to write some. Join me to sing, laugh, learn and create.

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## Physical Education

**Class Title:** P.E.

**Teacher's Name:** Robin Bodin

**Grades:** K-6

**Homework -** Exercise and move on your own

**New Content:** Some

Denver Options Physical Education class focuses on several wonderful things like.....skills, games, stretching, exercising and plain ole FUN! In our activities we will also reinforce character, honesty, and good sportsmanship (just to list a few). Most of our activities are non-traditional games so that everyone is involved and moving. We will make sure that everyone is included in all aspects possible in every game/activity we do. Get moving, smiling and laughing in PE with Mrs. Bodin. We will play a variety of games while working on basic physical education skills including balance, coordination, flexibility, throwing, catching, kicking and bouncing balls. This class is a fun opportunity to make friends while getting exercise.

## Science

**Class Title:** Ecology: Habitats Around the World

**Teacher's Name:** Clea Edelblute

**Grades:** 4-6

**Homework -** some optional to explore ideas further

**New Content:** Yes

In ecology we will explore nature's habitats and what plants and animals are perfectly adapted to live in each habitat. We begin at Options, exploring the habitat around the school, and expand our way out, till by the end of the year we will have gone on a great expedition around the world. Our keywords are habitat, adaptation, and interdependence. Through games, literature, art, and other hands-on activities, we will delve into habitats, animals, plants, and how it all works together to create our amazing Earth.

**Class Title:** Hands on Science

**Teacher's Name:** Mrs. Filot

**Grades:** 2-3

**Homework:** none

**New content:** Yes

Hands on Science is filled with lessons that encourage critical-thinking and science skills through group activities. Hands on Science uses a multi sensory approach. Visual setting performed by the teacher. Auditory setting in which students participate in group discussions with team members. Kinesthetic setting in which students use tactile interaction with activity materials.

Hands on Science will present opportunities for students to collaborate in fun ways to understand science concepts.

Test Tubes Adventures

States Of Matter

Dissection: snake, frog, and worm

Boats Afloat

After Dinner Science

The Case for Space

Rock'n Science

Engineering Challenges



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**Class Title: Engineering Challenges**

**Teacher's Name: Mrs. Frilot**

**Grades: 4-6**

**Homework: None**

**New Content: Yes**

We will focus on the design loop which encourages critical thinking and problem solving. Our engineering challenges will be broken into seasonal themes. Also we will take the Physics Quest Challenge which is a comic book adventure that exposes students to science experiments. We will design hot wheel tracks and an electrical game board.

Get ready to brainstorm solutions, pick a solution, create the solution and test the solution. This class involves working in groups and partners so we can work together to create, solve and discover new things in science.

**Class Title: Secondary Science**

**Including STEAM- Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math.**

**Teacher's Name: Nicole Scott**

**Grades: 6-8**

**Homework: NO**

**New content: Yes**

Science: The study of the natural world.

Technology: A product created to solve a problem.

Engineering: The design process used to solve a problem.

Math: The numbers, shapes, and quantities used to solve a problem.

STEM education emphasizes a new way of teaching and learning that focuses on hands on inquiry and open-ended exploration. This class will provide fun and meaningful integrated activities designed to cultivate an interest in the topics in the STEM fields. Each activity will ask students to solve a problem with focus on creativity, teamwork, communication, critical thinking, and self-evaluation. All while having fun. Bring your creativity, we'll throw some Art in there too. This is a lab based, hands on, class full of discovery and experiments.

**Class Title: Forensic Science & Anatomy and Physiology**

**Teacher's Name: Nicole Scott**

**Grades: 6-8**

**Homework: NO**

**New Content: No**

This class will be divided into semesters.

Semester 1 Forensics: Forensic science is the application of science to criminal and civil laws that are enforced and investigated by agencies in the justice system. A forensic scientist must be skilled in applying the principles and techniques of the physical and natural sciences to analyze evidence that may be recovered during an investigation. We will explore the history of forensic science, some basic chemistry, evidence collection and types, and some true crime stories. We will do all this and more without the gore of real life. Shhhhh, don't tell the kids about the last part.

Semester 2 Anatomy & Physiology: Understanding the Human Body.

The human body is the most complex and fascinating organisms in existence, and having a basic understanding of how it functions is valuable knowledge. This unit will cover cells, tissues, organs, and major body systems (Skeletal, muscular, circulatory, respiratory, lymphatic, digestive, excretory, nervous, and endocrine).

This class will include short lectures, activities, experiments and hands on learning.

# Denver Options - Friday Class Catalog 2017-2018

## Social Studies/ History

**Class Title: Hands on Geography/ Maps**

**Teacher's Name: Melodee Dettmers**

**Grades: 2-6**

**Homework - no**

**New Content: Yes**

Get ready to map and explore the world in new and exciting ways. In this interactive class, we will explore the world while learning fun facts and characteristics about the people and places on the globe. Get ready to dive into maps, globes, history, science and experience the world through hands on experiments and projects. Become a traveling tourist, travel time zones, cultures and much more. We are headed for an adventure. Hold on tight!

**Class Title: Inventions!!**

**Teacher's Name: Melodee Dettmers**

**Grades: 1-3**

**Homework - no**

**New Content: Yes**

Behind every invention, there was an individual who saw an opportunity or problem and created an invention or solution. In this class, students will travel back in time to discover the inventions of the centuries in a student-centered classroom. Students will learn the historical and geographical significance of an invention while exploring the science behind the inventions. Students will use a variety of manipulatives to create inventions of our own, while understanding the impact of the invention. During the second semester, we will integrate a variety of Robotic elements such as Simple Machines, Snap Circuits/electronics, and WeDo kits. Get ready to explore and create.