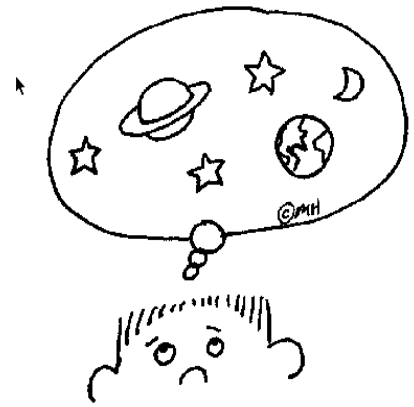


Enrichment Clusters

It's time for students to choose their enrichment clusters. We are excited to have so many terrific choices! The enrichment cluster program is one component of Joseph Renzulli's Schoolwide Enrichment Model. It offers students a time to explore an area of interest with an adult who shares that interest. All 2nd and 3rd graders will participate in clusters.



Please help your child to choose 3 clusters and circle the choices below. At least 3 choices are necessary because many clusters have size limitations. If your child has one clear first choice, we ask that he or she star that choice and we'll make every effort to honor the request.

Clusters will be held on the following dates from 2:15-3:00 pm: May 14, 21, and May 28th. Students will attend all four sessions of their cluster. The cluster choices are listed on the attached pages.

Your child should return the form by May 4. Students who do not return completed forms will make their choices in class. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me!

Mrs. Moran, Enrichment Coordinator
cmoran@ashfordct.org

Student's Name: _____

Classroom Teacher: _____

Please circle three or more choices. You will be assigned one.

Full descriptions are attached.

- | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. Lights, Camera, Action! | 8. Lego Engineers |
| 2. Time Capsules | 9. Dance & Jazz Club |
| 3. Electricity & Juggling | 10. Lunch Lady Appreciation Club |
| 4. Knitting | 11. Games, Inc. |
| 5. Wire Artists | 12. Beads, Beads, Beads |
| 6. Teddy Bears | 13. Animal Club |
| 7. Martial Arts with Villari's | |

Please return choices to the school

Ashford Enrichment Clusters- Spring 2009

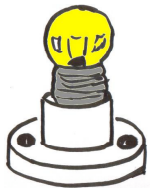
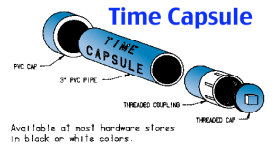


1. Lights, Camera, Action! Drama Club

Do you like to act? Would you like to practice for a small skit or play *What's Your Line?* We will learn some acting games, practice our ad lib skills and make movies with second grade teacher Mr. Busse.

2. Time Capsule

Do you like to think about the future? A time capsule is a collection of things or information, planned as a way to communicate with people in the future. Time capsules are sometimes created and buried during celebrations. In this cluster we will decide what to put in the capsule, where to store it, and when we will retrieve it. We will also learn about some real time capsules, such as one in space, and some scheduled to be opened in the years 6939 and 8113! Mrs. Klock will be the "archivist" for this cluster.



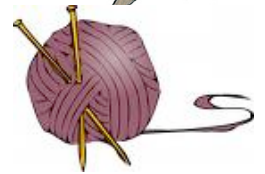
3. Electricity and Juggling!

Explore the sciences of both electricity and juggling with UConn professor Mr. Ayers. You will get to see some juggling tricks with four or five balls, rings, and clubs. You will then learn some basic patterns with balls or bean bags, such as the 3-ball cascade, 3-ball shower, and two in one hand. With practice you might learn

how to juggle three balls. For electricity, you will get to see and explore some cool electrical circuits. Mr. Ayers is a parent who knows lots about electricity and juggling and enjoys both.

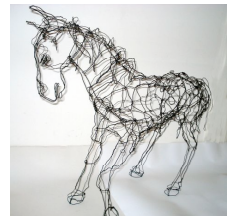
4. Knitting

Do you like to make fun things out of yarn? Learn a skill that will last a lifetime. Knitting is not only an enjoyable hobby but also helps improve motor coordination and problem solving abilities. You might work to make a group project or make your own simple project such as a scarf or doll. Parent Mrs. Bourke will lead this cluster.



5. Wire Sculpture

Create something totally new out of wire!! You will get to look at different wire sculptures by professional artists then work with different kinds of wire to make your own. Second grade teacher Mrs. Bernardini will lead this cluster.



6. Teddy Bears



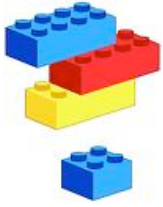
Did you know that the Teddy Bear was named for a U.S. president? In this cluster, you'll learn teddy bear history, different kinds of patterns for teddy bears, and the different kinds of teddy bears you can make.

You will learn about fur, joints, stuffing, eyes, thread, and how they all fit together. See the many bears that Parent Mrs. Rupert has made herself.

7. Martial Arts with Villari's

This cluster will be run by Master Ken Caputo, a 5th degree black belt in the art of Shaolin Kempo Karate. He will cover all the basics of martial arts stances, blocks, kicks, and strikes. Learn about the history of this ancient style, and discover the mental strength and discipline that martial artists enjoy. You will also work on fitness, flexibility, and coordination. Wear something comfortable. Our main focus is to have fun, so be prepared to play some martial arts related games.





8. Lego Engineers

Design and build some structures out of Legos in this cluster, such as a bridge, a vehicle, a simple machine, or an earthquake-resistant building. Third grade teacher Mr. Horn will lead this cluster.

9. Dance & Jazz Club

We will stretch, learn dance steps and practice dancing each week to a popular song. We will work towards a performance with the group and maybe make a quick movie. School Nurse Mrs. Cheverier and her daughter Chelsea are dancers and choreographers from the Willington dance studio, *Leaps & Dreams Performing Arts*.



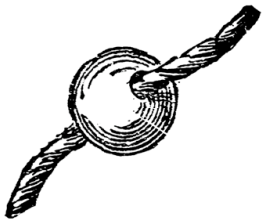
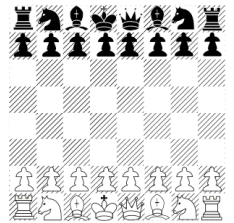
10. The Lunch Lady Appreciation Club

We want to show some appreciation for our awesome lunch ladies, Mrs. Kauffman, Mrs. Sampieri and Mrs. Leblanc. We might make a poster, write letters, make potholders, trivets, recipes, frames, desk weights, or a nice craft as a way to say “thanks.” Third grader Ariana Montalban will lead this cluster with the help of Mrs. Metsack.



11. Games, Inc.

Everybody loves playing games. Learn strategies of some fun indoor games, outdoor games, Early American games, and even games from different countries! You might get to make your own word puzzle, board game, or boomerang to take home and play. Parent Mrs. Mullady will lead this cluster.



12. Beads, Beads, Beads!

Do you enjoy making things out of beads? You might make a necklace, friendship bracelet, earrings, bead buddies, beaded critters, bead kits, beaded safety pin designs, or beaded key chains to give as a gift or wear yourself. Mrs. Leedie will lead this cluster.

13. Animal Club

Do you love animals? You will learn about animals and their unique behaviors in this cluster. You might get to assemble some bones from a white tailed deer, observe skulls from many different local animals, learn about animal tracks, habitats and diets. Parent Mrs. Schillinger will lead this cluster.

