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Our Curriculum

At Areté Summer Academy, we design our own unique curriculum that draws upon lessons from the Summer Bridge Books series. Our teachers gather prior to the program to meet and create their own lesson plans. These lesson plans include foundational principles from the different subjects that we teach, that is, in English, math, science, and art. In addition to these principles, the teachers include an interactive activity. Whether that includes a fast-paced math game, a planetary model, or the opportunity to write and illustrate one's own book, we think that part of the lesson is important because it teaches your kids that what they learn in the classroom actually has a real life application—and that it can be fun, too!

An important part of our curriculum is our virtue classes. These include virtues such as friendship, honesty, loyalty, and kindness. Areté Summer Academy is founded upon human virtues such as these and we think that they are an integral part of what it means to be an excellent human being. Our goal is that each student who leaves Areté is emboldened in the pursuit of excellence in that regard, no matter what their background is. Our virtue classes include a short instruction on what the virtue is and are centered around how that particular virtue can be practiced in the children's everyday situations at home, at school, or with their friends.

Our teachers work hard to ensure that the children understand what they are learning. In fact, we believe that this individual attention is so important that we have decided to include the aspect of mentoring to our program. Each child will have their own mentor from among the staff of teachers and will meet with them on a regular basis throughout the course of the program. The purpose of this is to encourage the child on a personal level to incorporate the lessons that they learn—whether they apply to academics, virtue, or their friendships—to their everyday situation. We think that this individual attention is important to show your kids that we care about their growth, even after the program is finished for the summer.