

SPRING



2026



SPRING IS HERE!

Registration will open on Monday, March 2nd at 8:00am and will run through Monday, March 9th at 3:00pm. Our registration form allows you to rank your preference (1st-4th) for multiple classes, and everyone who registers by March 9th will have an equal chance of getting into a high preference class. Please rank only one class as a first choice, second choice, third choice, etc. Registration confirmations will be emailed on or before Saturday, March 21st. Late registrations will be offered only if spots remain.

REGISTER HERE:

<https://forms.gle/zWedWyAtd4PdPVXWA>

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"The quality of a public school is the mirror of the community: it affects the future of the community, the people it attracts, and the values of the community."

-Zenas Block, SOAR
Founder

For more information:

soarkids.org

Important Information

DATES/TIMES

Take note of dates and times of each workshop. They vary by workshop and are not consistent from class to class.

EXTRAS CREDIT

On the registration form, please indicate the days your child is attending EXTRAS. EXTRAS families will receive a one-time \$15 SOAR credit per child on their invoice. This credit applies only to children who are enrolled in both EXTRAS and a SOAR class on the same day. If your child is enrolled in EXTRAS and their SOAR class is on a different day, no credit will be applied.

SIBLING DISCOUNT

We offer a discount to families with multiple children enrolled in classes.

- 2 children - 5% off total bill
- 3 children - 10% off total bill
- 4+ children - 15% off total bill

WHAT TO BRING

Pack additional healthy snacks on the days your child attends SOAR. Food sharing is not allowed and we do not provide snacks (unless listed in workshop description).

CELL PHONE POLICY

Cell phones must remain in backpacks at all times. If a student has a cell phone out during SOAR, it will be collected and returned at the end of class. All communication can be made through a SOAR employee.

ABSENCES

We kindly ask that you notify the SCS office and the SOAR Executive Director if your child will be in school the day of their workshop but will not be attending their SOAR class.

PICK UP

Pick up your child promptly. Pickup is from the upper building circle, unless otherwise noted. If your child is going home with someone other than the individual listed on the registration form, please inform the Executive Director prior to dismissal.

CANCELLATIONS

SOAR workshops are automatically cancelled if SCS closes early or cancels after-school activities. Every effort will be made to make up SOAR classes, but this is not always possible.

PAYMENT

Invoices from SOAR will arrive in your inbox in October and must be paid within two weeks. Changes to registration must be made prior to the first day of the workshop. We are unable to offer a refund once workshops begin.

FINANCIAL AID

Financial aid is available thanks in part to Salisbury Family Services. To request confidential support, check the box on the registration form. Salisbury Family Services is here to help anyone in our community get through difficult times. Please visit salisburyfamilyservices.org to learn more.

SPRING WORKSHOPS

Register here:

<https://forms.gle/zWedWyAtd4PdPVXWA>

LITTLE INVENTORS: Grades K-2 (Thursday)

In this “inventive” program, students design and create solutions to problems, teaming up to identify the need for a new invention, and producing real structures and solutions. In one STEM challenge, students build bridges using a variety of materials and experiment with how much weight they can hold. Students will also learn about famous inventors and discuss how inventions improve our lives.

Class	Grades	Fee	Day/Time	Dates	Max	Instructor
Little Inventors	K-2	\$65	Thursday 3:15-4:15	4/2, 4/23, 4/30, 5/7, 5/14, 5/21	10	Spark Academy

HIGH FIVE HEROES: Grades K-2 (Tuesday)

Join the High-Five Heroes and play imaginative and collaborative games that also build important life skills such as cooperation and communication. Fly high on a runaway magic carpet that takes everyone working together in order to land! Cross a raging river to reach the treasure on the other side – and make sure that nobody falls in on the way! There will be plenty of fun, encouragement, and high-fives to go around.

Class	Grades	Fee	Day/Time	Dates	Max	Instructor
High Five Heroes	K-2	\$50	Tuesday 3:15-4:15	4/21, 4/28, 5/5, 5/12, 5/19, 5/26	12	Chris McCoy

LEGO SPRING INTO STEM: Grades K-2 (Monday)

Celebrate the coming of Spring with Play-Well and tens of thousands of LEGO® parts! Build chirping birds, design blossoming flowers, and take a ride on a paddle boat. Design and build as never before and explore your craziest ideas.

Class	Grades	Fee	Day/Time	Dates	Max	Instructor
Lego Spring into STEM	K-2	\$60	Monday 3:15-4:15	4/6, 4/20, 4/27, 5/4, 5/11, 5/18	12	Play-Well

LE PETIT RANCH: LEARNING WITH ANIMALS: Grades K-2 (Tuesday)

In this playful and heart-centered after-school class, students build emotional intelligence, literacy, mathematics and social skills through meaningful interactions with our animal partners. Guided by a certified Animal-Assisted Therapist, children will explore weekly themes through stories, movement, cooperative games, and hands-on time with our trained greyhounds, and occasionally, our joyful guinea pigs or friendly chickens! Please note the last class (5/26) will take place at the Ranch and families will be responsible for transportation to and from.

Class	Grades	Fee	Day/Time	Dates	Max	Instructor
Learning with Animals	K-2	\$60	Tuesday 3:15-4:30	4/7, 4/28, 5/5, 5/12, 5/19, 5/26	8	Marjorie Borreda

KITES FOR KIDS: Grades K-2 (Thursday)

Young artists will create different types and styles of kites, such as hand kites, diamond shaped kites and bird kites, just in time for spring with its warm and windy days. There is no better reason to run around outdoors than to test our designs and kite-making abilities.

Class	Grades	Fee	Day/Time	Dates	Max	Instructor
Kites for Kids	K-2	\$55	Thursday 3:15-4:15	4/2, 4/9, 4/23, 4/30, 5/7, 5/14	8	Vicki Hayes

WE CAN COOK!: Grades K-2 (Wednesday)

Ms. Freund and Noah Tencer will teach students that they are capable chefs. By the end of this SOAR class the students will be able to say "WE CAN COOK!" with confidence. Students will go home with their own cookbook of recipes that they can prepare at home (with permission and a little supervision from their adults)!

Class	Grades	Fee	Day/Time	Dates	Max	Instructor
We Can Cook!	K-2	\$60	Wednesday 3:15-4:15	4/22, 4/29, 5/6, 5/13, 5/27	10	Ms. Freund & Noah Tencer

CREATIVE MOVEMENT: Grades 2-4 (Friday)

This unique program combines yoga, creative movement, and storytelling to allow children to stretch their bodies and their imaginations! This class will improve flexibility, concentration, focus, balance, bodily awareness, and strength. Wear comfy clothes and get ready to feel inner peace.

Class	Grades	Fee	Day/Time	Dates	Max	Instructor
Creative Movement	2-4	\$45	Friday 3:15-4:15	4/10, 5/1, 5/8, 5/15, 5/29	12	Anna Mayta

ACRODANCE: Grades 2-4 (Friday)

Acrobatics is defined by athleticism and artistry while also featuring elements of gymnastics and dance. Students will learn the foundations necessary to perform acrobatic feats both in tumbling and stunting while in a safe and supportive environment. Ms. Erin is an experienced state certified dance instructor, safety certified by USA Gymnastics, and is First Aid & CPR/AED certified by the American Heart Association. Weekly acro-dance classes will follow nationally accredited best practices set forth by Acrobatic Arts for a safe and nourishing acrobatic education. Please have your child dress in clothes that they can freely move in.

Class	Grades	Fee	Day/Time	Dates	Max	Instructor
Acrodance	2-4	\$45	Friday 3:15-4:15	4/10, 5/1, 5/8, 5/15, 5/29	10	Erin Mahoney

FOOD, FARMING, & FUN: Grades 3-4 (Tuesday/Thursday)

SOAR's collaboration with Hotchkiss resumes with twice-weekly visits to Fairfield Farm. SCS students will be partnered with Hotchkiss students working side by side planting seeds, preparing the fields to plant spring crops, transplanting harvesting crops, and building/repairing farm structures. Transportation to the Farm is provided, but pick-up is at the Farm promptly at 5:15pm. Please note that because the class is so popular, priority will be given to students who have never taken the class.

Class	Grades	Fee	Day/Time	Dates	Max	Instructor
Food, Farming, & Fun	3-4	\$45	Tuesday/Thursday 3:15-5:15	4/30, 5/5, 5/7, 5/12, 5/14	8	Bridget Lawrence- Meigs

PAPER PROJECTS: Grades 3-5 (Wednesday)

What can you do with a piece of paper? You would be surprised. Paper is the source for many decorative and useful objects in our lives from wrapping paper to books. Using traditional skills and techniques, we will explore different ways to alter paper through stamping, folding and dyeing. Young artists will produce a handmade journal, paper flowers and a summer sun burst to welcome in spring.

Class	Grades	Fee	Day/Time	Dates	Max	Instructor
Paper Projects	3-5	\$55	Wednesday 3:15-4:30	4/1, 4/8, 4/22, 4/29, 5/6, 5/13	8	Vicki Hayes

IMPROV WITH STEPH: Grades 3-6 (Friday)

With an extensive background, interest and love for theater and drama, Steph Hahn will once again bring her many talents to SCS. Improvisation is the art of creating theater spontaneously without any preparation or planning. In this class, participants will learn to freely trust and embrace their creative impulses. Through the exploration of improv games and exercises, everyone will learn to say "Yes" to their ideas, their imagination and their inspirational sources to create full rich characters and scenes. Participants will foster their spontaneity and build confidence. Whether you are new to drama and theater arts or you have been passionate about them for a while, this class is perfect for anyone who wants to have fun.

Class	Grades	Fee	Day/Time	Dates	Max	Instructor
Improv with Steph	3-6	\$50	Friday 3:15-4:15	4/10, 4/24, 5/1, 5/8, 5/15, 5/29	12	Steph Hahn

LEGO ROBOTICS & CODING: Grades 3-6 (Thursday)

Build and program robots in this introductory Robotics class using the LEGO® Spike Prime® system. Learn basic programming skills using a simple and visual block coding system that will allow kids to grasp new and diverse coding challenges. Join us as we build a variety of different robots using motors, sensors and lights that will make for a fun experience that incorporates both building with LEGO® and coding. This is a great way to prepare young Robotics enthusiasts for our more advanced Robotics programs.

Class	Grades	Fee	Day/Time	Dates	Max	Instructor
LEGO Robotics	3-6	\$60	Thursday 3:15-4:30	4/2, 4/9, 4/23, 4/30, 5/7, 5/14, 5/21	12	Play-Well

GIRLS' SCIENCE CLUB: Grades 3-6 (Monday)

Join the Flying Cloud Girls Science Club! Welcome to the lab. Together we empower each other to explore all kinds of amazing science through dynamic hands-on experiments and projects. We dive into chemistry, physics, biology and engineering. We will also have the opportunity to meet and work with some incredible women STEM professionals. Monday afternoons in Girls' Science are full of inspiration, innovation, and so much FUN! Girls Science Club is open to female identified and non binary students who are comfortable in a space that centers around the female experience in STEM.

Class	Grades	Fee	Day/Time	Dates	Max	Instructor
Girls' Science Club	3-6	\$60	Monday 3:15-4:30	3/30, 4/6, 4/20, 4/27, 5/4, 5/11	12	Flying Cloud Institute

BEDAZZLING BOOKS & ADVANCED COLORING: Grades 3-8 (Tuesday)

Bedazzling Book Club is back for another season of mindful art. In this class, students will get to choose between bedazzling or advanced coloring. This class is for you if you like: art, calm conversation, and being in a supportive community with your peers.

Class	Grades	Fee	Day/Time	Dates	Max	Instructor
Bedazzling Books & Advanced Coloring	3-8	\$55	Tuesday 3:15-4:15	4/21, 4/28, 5/5, 5/12, 5/26	20	Taylor Hurley & Sarah Freund

COMIC STRIPS: Grades 4-6 (Wednesday)

Using a comic book format, students will tell stories through both pictures and words, drawing scenes and writing dialogue to bring their ideas to life. The class will focus on storytelling and dialogue while also teaching essential drawing techniques such as shading, perspective, value, and color. Students will be encouraged to develop their own narratives and original stories, building confidence in their creative voice as they explore visual storytelling.

Class	Grades	Fee	Day/Time	Dates	Max	Instructor
Comic Strips	4-6	\$55	Wednesday 3:15-4:15	4/22, 4/29, 5/6, 5/13, 5/20, 5/27	10	Suzanne Lacke

OPEN STUDIO PAINTING: Grades 4-8 (Friday)

Would you like to create art with no rules? In this class, children will be encouraged to use acrylic and watercolor to paint whatever they want. They can apply the paint with various utensils including paintbrushes, squeegees, and more. Whatever style their heart desires, children will be able to let go and follow their creative instincts.

Class	Grades	Fee	Day/Time	Dates	Max	Instructor
Open Studio Painting	4-8	\$55	Friday 3:15-4:30	5/8, 5/15, 5/29, 6/5	8	Nikko Sedgwick

WILDERNESS SURVIVAL SKILLS: Grades 4-8 (Monday)

In this workshop students will learn the basics of wilderness survival for an unexpected night in the woods. Classes will include: shelter building and knots, navigation, knife safety, rescue strategies, and first aid. Channel your inner survivalist and learn these important skills today.

Class	Grades	Fee	Day/Time	Dates	Max	Instructor
Wilderness Survival Skills	4-8	\$60	Monday 3:15-4:45	4/6, 4/20, 4/27, 5/4, 5/11, 5/18	8	Ed Thorney

PHOTOGRAMS: Grades 5-8 (Thursday)

A Photogram is the most basic form of photography. You don't need a camera and you don't need an enlarger. All you need is light sensitive paper (photo paper) and chemistry. Kids will be able to bring in a cherished object, their favorite toy, or just their hands to put on top of the photo paper which will be exposed to light. When you develop it, you'll have a perfect silhouette of that object. But there are many different ways to play and be creative such as multiple exposures, shining the light source at different angles, as well as putting the completed photo in a color bath to imbue the image with color. There are many ways to make the photos really interesting.

Class	Grades	Fee	Day/Time	Dates	Max	Instructor
Photograms	5-8	\$60	Thursday 3:15-4:30	5/7, 5/14, 5/21, 5/28, 6/4	6	Nikko Sedgwick

THE RADICAL LOVE SERIES: VISUAL STORYTELLING THROUGH MIXED MEDIA: Grades 5-8 (Wednesday)

Inspired by Valarie Kaur's Revolutionary Love Project, this collage-based workshop invites students to use mixed media to investigate how visual storytelling can deepen an understanding of themselves and others. Through guided prompts, reflective discussions, and collaborative projects, the class fosters an inclusive studio environment where students practice seeing things from multiple perspectives and will then translate their emotional insight into meaningful artwork.

Class	Grades	Fee	Day/Time	Dates	Max	Instructor
Radical Love Series	5-8	\$55	Wednesday 3:15-4:15	4/1, 4/8, 4/22, 4/29	10	Project Sage

ROCK N' ROLL LABORATORY: Grades 5-8 (Wednesday)

We are looking for eager students who love music! Students will learn the basics of music production, practice vocal and microphone technique, sample musical instruments, and together collaborate on a music track. Students who play instruments are encouraged to participate, but it's not required. Find your inner rockstar and join this class!

Class	Grades	Fee	Day/Time	Dates	Max	Instructor
Rock n' Roll Laboratory	5-8	\$55	Wednesday 3:15-4:15	4/1, 4/8, 4/22, 4/29, 5/6, 5/13	8	Michael Siktberg

THE ANCIENT ART OF HENNA: Grades 6-8 (Thursday)

Local henna artist Niharika Vialpando (Nicky) returns to SOAR after offering several successful henna SOAR classes in the past. This is a unique opportunity to work with a henna master to learn a beautiful and ancient art form. During the workshop, students will learn about the history of henna, the art of blending henna, various designs from the simple to more complex, techniques and styles to create professional quality designs, after care instructions and various tips and tricks and (dos and don'ts). This class is open to both new and returning students.

Class	Grades	Fee	Day/Time	Dates	Max	Instructor
The Ancient Art of Henna	6-8	\$55	Thursday 3:15-4:15	4/2, 4/9, 4/23, 4/30	10	Nicky Vialpando

Week at a Glance

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Lego (K-2)	High Five Heroes (K-2)	We Can Cook! (K-2)	Little Inventors (K-2)	Acrodance (2-4)
Girls' Science Club (3-6)	Learning with Animals (K-2)	Paper Projects (3-5)	Kites for Kids (K-2)	Creative Movement (2-4)
Wilderness Survival Skills (5-8)	Food, Farming, and Fun (3-4)	Comics (4-6)	Food, Farming, and Fun (3-4)	Improv (3-6)
	Bedazzling Books (3-8)	Rock n' Roll Laboratory (5-8)	Lego Robotics (3-6)	Open Studio Painting (4-8)
		Radical Love Collage (5-8)	Photograms (5-8)	
			Henna (6-8)	

BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS

All students attending Salisbury Central School are welcome and eligible to attend SOAR workshops. While attending these workshops, the same behavioral expectations that exist during the school day are also expected during all SOAR workshops, whether they take place at SCS or off-site. All students attending SOAR workshops are expected to: **Be Respectful**, **Be Responsible**, and **Be Safe**.

Be Respectful

- Stop, listen and pay attention when someone speaks to you
- Follow directions of instructor and/or other adults
- Use quiet voices as directed, especially when inside
- Use good manners
- Be kind with your actions and words
- Take care of school/SOAR property
- Tell the truth

Be Responsible

- Arrive for your workshop ready to learn
- Be an active participant in class
- Complete all activities/projects as assigned
- Leave no trace

Be Safe

- Walk inside classrooms and the school building
- Maintain personal space and body awareness
- Follow school safety procedures
- Be sure an instructor/adult knows where you are at all times

Most of the time SOAR instructors are able to handle minor infractions and no further action is required. However, there are times when a behavior is more serious or persistent and will require intervention by the SOAR Executive Director. Depending on the situation, the Director will determine the appropriate response. For more serious incidents, the parents of all children involved in the situation will be contacted and an incident report will be written. When appropriate, this report will be shared with SCS administration. SOAR and the school can then work together to determine the best course of action. **All students participating in SOAR workshops as well as their caregivers, will be required to acknowledge the behavior expectations during registration.** SOAR strives to create a positive experience for all students. If your child has any special needs (learning/behavior, etc), please inform the Executive Director. We will work together to provide appropriate support and guidance so your child and others can get the most of their SOAR experience.

Our History

For 25 years, SOAR, has been offering high quality enrichment programming to the children at Salisbury Central School (SCS) in Lakeville, CT through after school workshops, in-school programming, special events, and teacher mini-grants. The organization's mission is to augment the school's existing daily curriculum and to promote the self-discovery, talents, and learning of every child at SCS.

SOAR was founded in 2000 by Zenas Block, a chemist, entrepreneur, and business school professor who served on the Salisbury Central School Board of Finance for many years. Block envisioned an enrichment program that would bolster and augment the school's existing curriculum, and with the help of the school's principal at the time, C. Zbynek Gold, and SOAR's first program director, Karen Lundeen, he made that vision come to life.

Over his lifetime, Block built many businesses, was awarded nineteen patents, and developed some of the first research and graduate-level courses on entrepreneurship. SOAR was his final project and one he held very dear. Block's legacy lives on in every student who benefits from SOAR'S program. Each year, The Zenas Block Award for Excellence in Science is given to an 8th grader as a way to honor Zenas' legacy.

Our Team

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Lauren Brown

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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