

NATIONAL CLUBS & ACTIVITIES PROGRAM



School Year 2019-2020

Connections Academy is committed to offering our students a wide range of clubs and activities throughout the school year. From arts and crafts to literature and leadership clubs, we have something to spark every student's interest at all grade levels. Participation in these national, virtual clubs and activities enhances students' feeling of connectedness as well as improve academic achievement and school retention rates. All clubs and activities are optional, are non-credit and have no impact on student grades.

A description of each club is listed on the **following pages** in alphabetical order. There are also notations to indicate appropriate grade levels, days and times of LiveLesson® sessions.

How to Sign Up for Clubs

To sign up for any of the clubs we offer, the student's Caretaker should log into Connexus® and find the Clubs and Activities Sign-Up Data View under the student's blue "i" icon. Students need to be enrolled with Connections for 14 days before being eligible for enrollment in a club.

Other Exciting Offerings from Clubs & Activities

Pop Up Events

In addition to enrolling in a club, students are invited to participate in a variety of Pop Up Events. Pop Up Events are LiveLesson sessions that do not require sign ups or enrollment. These can be stand-alone sessions or a part of a short series. Students can simply click the link to the LiveLesson room at the correct time to join the fun!

Contests and Games

Throughout the year, there are many opportunities for students to participate in a variety of contests and games. Some examples are the Virtual BioBlitz, Yearbook Art Contest, Music Showcase, Summer Chess Gaming and Prodigy Games.

College and Career Programs

The Clubs & Activities team works closely with this program to help students prepare for their academic lives after high school. There are many events scheduled throughout the school year to help students prepare for the next step after high school.



Art Club is designed to spark student creativity by exploring two-dimensional and three-dimensional art, photography, and graphic design through techniques and styles associated with each medium. Students have the opportunity to create original designs and artwork, share their artwork with peers, learn about appropriate critique guidelines, and provide feedback to other club members.

Grades 6–12



Arts and Crafts Club encourages students to be imaginative and creative using basic materials found at home and in nature. LiveLessons guide students through the optional club course, with instruction on how to create theme-based crafts throughout the year. Students have the opportunity to create original crafts, share their artwork with peers, learn about appropriate critique guidelines, and provide feedback to other club members.

Grades: K–5



Authors Corner provides a virtual environment where students can work collaboratively and individually to write original stories and poetry in all genres of fiction and non-fiction.

Students can share their writing or favorite book/author during LiveLesson® sessions. Students can also collaborate on the Message Boards to give critiques of student writing, create collaborative stories, and discuss favorite book genres.

Grades: 6–12



Brainteasers Club members solve puzzles, including anagrams, riddles, and other problems delivered to them through the Brainteasers course. Students are also encouraged to create their own brainteasers and share them on Message Boards.

Grades: K–12



High School Career Community encourages members to explore their interests, research related careers along with any degrees or certificates required for employment. Students collaborate to identify and create plans that will help them complete the requirements necessary for entering the workforce or college upon graduation from high school.

Grades: 9–12

Middle School Career Community members learn to self-reflect, research possible careers of interest, and identify the degrees and/or certificates required for employment in those fields. Participation enables middle school students to collaborate and share with other members using Message Boards and presentations.

Grades: 6–8



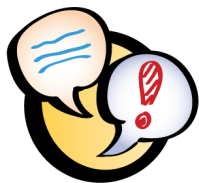
Chess Clubs- Introduction or Advanced- members have a unique opportunity to learn from chess experts and enjoy playing chess with other students in biweekly LiveLesson sessions. Additionally, club members are encouraged to enjoy friendly competition in the secure 24/7 Connexus® Chess Gaming System and to use the club's message board to schedule games and discuss strategies. All students in Chess Club are invited to participate in Match Madness an end-of-year online chess tournament.

Grades: K–12



College Planning Community is designed for ninth through twelfth grade students who are considering attending college. Lessons guide members through the college preparation and admissions process including: college planning, creating a student resume, identifying potential majors based upon career interests, researching colleges, completing applications and identifying financial aid and scholarship opportunities. Members are encouraged to develop a portfolio that focuses on elements sought by college admissions committees.

Grades: 9–12



Debate Club members learn internationally-recognized debate procedures and put them into practice during weekly LiveLesson® sessions. Members learn the art of public speaking and critical thinking while working in collaborative teams. Research, reasoning, and understanding opposing perspectives form the foundation for weekly moderated debates.

Grades: 6–12



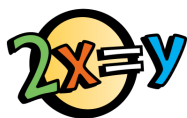
Gaming and Technology Club allows students who have an affinity for technology and gaming to explore and discuss gaming styles and genres, careers in the gaming and technology industry, and share their original work in LiveLesson® sessions.

Grades: 6–12



Leadership Club members learn valuable leadership skills through monthly LiveLesson sessions. They also put these new skills to good use through special opportunities as student leaders. Students who complete enough activities can earn a Leadership Certificate. This certificate will look impressive on college and job applications!

Grades: 6–12



Math Club I: First in Math® members take part in a math competition by playing interactive games on the First in Math® website. The online play reinforces a wide range of skills, from simple addition to solving for x- and y-variables. Students work at their own pace, and earn points as they master various concepts and practice test-prep exercises geared to appropriate grade levels.

Grades: K–8



The Monitor Blog is Connections Education's student-managed, student-staffed online news blog. The writers and editors use the club Message Board to work together to write and organize content for topics within the blog including news, entertainment, sports, and advice.

Grades: 6–12



Robotics Club members learn how robots are used in popular culture, scientific studies, and commercial enterprises. Students are encouraged to plan, design, and submit photos or drawings of robots and other gadgets or contraptions. No previous computer coding experience is required, and no materials are required for participation. **We do not provide robotics kits for this club.**

Grades: K–12



Science Sleuths: Weird Science Club focuses on investigating the weirder side of science by following along with fun, hands-on activities from the club course that will leave you scratching your head! Collaborate with other club members through discussions and sharing your results on the Message Boards. This club meets four times a year in LiveLesson sessions to take a look at everyone's results.

Grades: K–5



Science Sleuths: Wild Weather Club members put on their raincoats and investigate weather's wild side. Follow along with the fun by completing a hands-on activities in the club course that will leave you amazed! Collaborate with other club members through discussions and sharing your results on the Message Boards. This club meets four times a year in LiveLesson sessions to take a look at everyone's results.

Grades: K–5