



\$200 MONTESSORI K-6 PROGRAM EXTENSION

The Montessori K - 6 extension experience within San Tan Charter School offers the Makerspace and Outdoor Environment extension. Participation costs \$200 annually. This is not part of the required curriculum.

OUTDOOR ENVIRONMENT

Our Outdoor Environment space is an extension of our classrooms. Children experience the richness and beauty of earth with all of their senses, as we explore units on sustainable gardening, composting, care and raising of chickens, Earth science, water usage, desert life, and practical life skills for the outdoors. Since we are blessed with good weather for most of the school year, each week students are given time in the outdoor space to garden, do experiments, make art, take care of our pets and more.

With a focus on sustainability and desert permaculture, students come together to explore the wonder of a radish peeking up from the ground, or gather around our worm bins to see how much compost we have made. The Outdoor Environment cross-curricular experiences are shared, discussed, journaled, and remembered as our care for nature helps to strengthen the community.

MAKERSPACE

What started as a rolling cart in the Recker library has blossomed into a full hands-on, innovative and creative experience for Montessori students; different from what the rest of the Recker campus has offered to them. In the Makerspace, we focus on STREAMS projects in science, technology, reading/writing, engineering, art, math, and social studies. We are able to dive into long-term projects that can be differentiated for the various levels of learning and developed to enhance the wonderful curriculum that Montessori students already receive in their classrooms. During a typical class, students have the ability to work on a variety of projects, which gives them the power to find their own passions.

Our Makerspace is set up for free exploration- it is a workspace, made for building, creating, and tinkering. We focus on supplementing the Montessori curriculum with project-based learning. We take things that may otherwise end up as trash and make it all into something beautiful, and our open recycled art sessions are a particular favorite of the Montessori students.