

SAMPLE ACTIVITY COURSES

AP Calculus BC Study Group

AP & ACT Prep

Art 21

Bridge

Chamber Orchestra

Cheer Team

Chess

Current News

Dungeons & Dragons

Gospel Choir

Knitting

Life Skills

Mixed Media Portraiture

Mock Trial

Nerf Games

Repurpose & Design

Robotics

Science Toys

Stepping

Techies

V-Sauce

Yearbook

Yoga

KNITTING AND NERF GAMES: ACTIVITY HIGHLIGHTS STUDENT VOICES AND COLLABORATION



ON WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY AFTERNOONS, THE QUIET CONCENTRATION OF THE EVERYDAY ACADEMIC PROGRAM GIVES WAY TO THE CONVERSATION, CREATIVITY, AND COLLABORATION THAT IS UNMISTAKABLY ACTIVITY PERIOD.



Activity offers students a space to explore their interests while building relationships with peers across grades and faculty across Crossroads's academic program. Each semester, students choose between clubs and hobbies as varied as Mock Trial, Pit Orchestra, and Nerf Games.

As social studies department and curriculum chair Shadi Peterman notes, "The first year that I coached the Mock Trial team at Crossroads, I wanted to do it as an after-school activity, and it was impossible to find times after school where all of the team members were available," she said. "So many of our students are involved in athletics or outside pursuits, and we wanted to give them the opportunity to explore additional opportunities and build new skills and interests."

Underpinning the importance of Activity in the school week is the value of each student's voice and contributions—many Activity courses are devised and led by students.

For tenth grader Minori Kishi, Activity is a way for her to share a non-traditional skill with her peers. As a knitter since kindergarten, Minori leads Knitting with librarian Susan Kane. Wearing her own handmade cable knit sweaters, Minori has been able to teach knitting to her peers at varying levels—from beginning techniques to more advanced skills such as cabling and lace.

"Sometimes I think it's easier to learn from a peer," she says. "It's a lot more fun for students and there is no pressure. I really enjoy being able to share something I love with my peers and help them see how satisfying it is to complete a project. You can tell how proud they are and I'm really proud of them too."

Organizing her activity, pacing the group and their learning, and adjusting based on students' skill level builds leadership skills for Minori. And for Knitting and other Activities, students have an outlet outside of the rigors of their academic program.

