



Westridge Wildcat

October 23 - 27

Please call the Attendance Line for Absences and Tardies
303-982-3950 Option #1

Main Office Number 303-982-3975
Visit our Website!

<http://westridge.jeffcopublicschools.org/>

[Westridge Family Calendar 2023-2024](#)

[Westridge Community Events Calendar 2023-2024](#)

Monday, October 23	2:35 – 3:30 Choir – Music Room 2:35 – 3:20 Spanish 5:45 – 7:15 GT Parent Night Book Study - Library
Tuesday, October 24	2:35 – 3:35 Wize Robotics – C3 2:35 – 3:40 Taekwondo – Gym 5:00 – 8:00 PTA Fundraiser at Chick fil A 6:30 – 7:30 Destination Imagination Kick Off-Library 6:30 – 7:30 Watch D.O.G.S Launch - Cafeteria
Wednesday, October 25	2:35 – 3:35 Overtime Athletics - Gym
Thursday, October 26	2:35 – 3:35 Wize Robotics – Library 2:35 – 4:05 KidStage – Music Room
Friday, October 27	2:35 – 3:35 Imagine Arts – Art Room

WatchD.O.G.S

Join us for an informational night and pizza on October 24 at 6:30! [Click here](#) to sign up to volunteer as a WatchDOG.

WATCHDOGS NEEDED



SCAN THIS CODE TO SIGN UP TODAY!



**SUPPORT POSITIVE BEHAVIORS AND BE A ROLE MODEL
FOR STUDENTS! SUPPORT IN THE CLASSROOM,
CAFETERIA, PLAYGROUND, CROSSWALK, AND HALLWAYS!**

School Accountability Committee

Our next SAC meeting will be January 9, 2024 at 5:45 in the library. Please use [this form](#) to express topics you'd like to address. Our SAC co-chairs (parents of Westridge students) will inform Mrs. Thanos of submissions. We will either create an agenda for January 9 using those topics, or reach out sooner to the individual who submitted.

Community Conversation

Join Superintendent Tracy Dorland for a community conversation with the south area schools. November 14, 2023, 5:30-7:00 at Dakota Ridge High School.

Destination Imagination

Information night is October 24 at 5:30-6:30 in the Westridge Library. Kids come with and there are hands on activities!

Book Fair Volunteers – Thank You



Book Fair Volunteers – Thank You

I wanted to thank our amazing Westridge community for supporting our book fair! The money that you spent helped raise money for our school library to buy new books. We also raised over \$150 with our sucker pull and were able to buy several books to give to kids at Westridge.

I would also like to give a special thank you to the parent volunteers that helped at the fair. I could not have done it without them! Thank you to: Anne Spiessbach, Jenn Rockwell, Gail Barron, Kate Turner, Sonorah Hunter, Andrea Reno, Katie Davis, Jada Hobson, Janetter Haganan, Felicia Rounsborg, Amanda Krische and Amanda Hruza

Spirit Week

Dear teachers and families,

There is a Spirit Week coming up from Monday, October 23rd through Friday, October 27th. We are having Spirit Week with DRIVE and happiness in mind. We are hoping you and your class will join in with all the fun. Here is the list for each day.

Monday, October 23rd: Westridge Day! Bring your school spirit

Tuesday, October 24th: Hat Day! Wear your favorite or funniest hat

Wednesday, October 25th: Superhero/Comic Character Day! Bring your A game

Thursday, October 26th: Pajama Day!

Friday, October 27th: Stuffie Day! Get ready for a dance party

Can't wait to see you and your class spirit!

Sincerely,
Hadley Christie
Fifth Grader

Monday October 23	Tuesday October 24	Wednesday October 25	Thursday October 26	Friday October 27
Westridge Day	Hat Day	Comic Book Character Day	Pajama Day	Stuffie Day!
				



**DESTINATION
IMAGINATION**



At Destination Imagination (DI), we believe that when an educational experience is fun and hands-on, students are empowered and excited to take their learning to the next level. DI does this through project-based learning experiences that apply the creative process across seven Challenge types, helping students develop 21st century skills, including creative and critical thinking, collaboration, and project management.

DI is coming to Westridge!

★ Learn more about this amazing opportunity! ★

Westridge Parent Informational Session

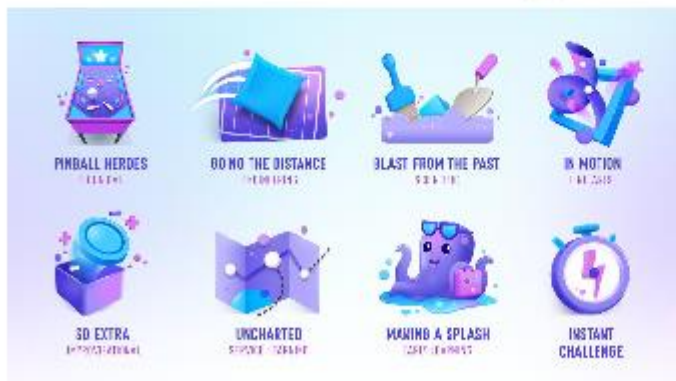
Date: Tuesday, October 24th

Time: 5:30 to 6:30 pm

Location: Westridge Library

RSVP: by texting "DI!" to (303)550-6998

2023-2024 Challenges



See DI in
Action!



If you are unable to attend but would like more information check out the DI website at www.destinationimagination.org and/or contact Tina, Regional Director for Jeffco Destination Imagination, at tinajeffcodi@gmail.com.



DESTINATION IMAGINATION COLORADO

OUR MISSION

To inspire and equip youth to imagine and innovate through the creative process. ^{at}

OUR VISION

Ignite the power of ALL youth to be the creative and collaborative innovators of tomorrow.

WHAT IS DI?



OUR STORY

Destination Imagination prepares Colorado's kids to be the innovators of the future by combining the arts, sciences, and technology with creativity, teamwork and problem-solving. Our goal is to create a different type of learner: a learner who asks questions, is in control of their learning and becomes a lifelong learner. We are an educational nonprofit organization that teaches pre-K through university level students the creative process through project-based STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics) challenges.



CONTACT: TINA MORGENTHALER | TINAJEFFCODI@GMAIL.COM | 303-550-6998



HOW
YOU
CAN
HELP

Become a Team Manager

Becoming a DI Team Manager can be one of the most rewarding experiences you will have as an adult volunteer. You get to witness the growth of your team and the exceptional solutions they develop firsthand. Along the way, you learn how to build teams, teach creative problem solving and form lasting relationships with your team members and other adult volunteers. You get a front row to supervise, provide resources and teach teamwork and problem-solving skills. The Team Members generate the ideas, execute the ideas, and plan a performance showcasing their ideas. The Team Manager guides them through this process and watches them become better team members, better problem solvers, and better learners.

DICO will be a partner in your journey by offering training, support and community.

DESTINATION
IMAGINATION
COLORADO

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2023-2024 CHALLENGE PREVIEWS



Technical Challenge



PINBALL HEROES
TECHNICAL

The Technical Challenge prompts students to complete tasks by using engineering, research, strategic planning, and related skills.

Action, adventure, challenges to overcome! See the lights flashing and listen to the buzzers and bells as your team brings a pinball game to life! Hone your pinball skills and aim for the high score when you try this year's Technical Challenge!

- Design and build a pinball system through which a pinball moves and interacts with 3 machine modules.
- During the Presentation, move the pinball through the pinball system for as long as possible.
- Create and present an action/adventure story about a hero who goes on an extraordinary mission.
- Create and present two Team Choice Elements that show off the team's interests, skills, areas of strength, and talents.

Engineering Challenge



GOING THE DISTANCE
ENGINEERING

Our Engineering Challenge asks students to explore and apply engineering skills and tools to design and build solutions to specific applications.

It's a bird, it's a plane...no...it's a beanbag! Who can predict how far the beanbag will fly or where it will come to rest? In this season's Engineering Challenge, you will test your accuracy as you launch beanbags using a launching device and tell a story about what happens when things do not go exactly as planned.

- Design and build a modular device that will be assembled and then tested in two different configurations during the Presentation.
- Complete launch tests to test how far and how accurately your modular device can launch a bean bag in each configuration.
- Transform the modular device from one configuration to the other.
- Create and present a story in which everything is going according to plan until a catalyst occurs.
- Create and present two Team Choice Elements that show off the team's interests, skills, areas of strength, and talents.

Scientific Challenge



BLAST FROM THE PAST
SCIENTIFIC

Our Scientific Challenge blends the curiosity of scientific research with the creative expression of performance art.

A broken jar, a bit of stone—the remains of the past are all around us. Have you ever wondered what those things might have been used for or what they meant to the people who made them? What archaeological mysteries will be revealed in this year's Scientific Challenge?

- Create and present a story about a character whose discovery of an artifact leads to a finding.
- Include an archaeological investigation that contributes to the finding.
- Design and create a puppet that will portray a character from the past.
- Create and present two Team Choice Elements that show off the team's interests, skills, areas of strength, and talents.

Fine Arts Challenge



Our Fine Arts Challenge helps students develop acting and creative skills through artistic media, theater arts, scriptwriting, and prop design.

Art has the power to move us or stop us in our tracks. In this year's Fine Arts Challenge, you will bring a work of visual art to life and create your very own piece of kinetic art. What work of art will inspire you?

- Create and present a story inspired by a work of visual art.
- Include a static character and a dynamic character in the story.
- Reimagine the work of visual art as performance art and include the reimagined art in the Presentation.
- Design and create one piece of kinetic art that uses technical methods to create movement.
- Create and present two Team Choice Elements that show off the team's interests, skills, areas of strength, and talents.

Improv Challenge



Our Improvisational Challenge is all about research, spontaneity, and storytelling. Teams receive topics and quickly produce skits.

Sometimes less is more, or more is less...Your team will use your improv skills to create a 2-act skit, complete with a costume created on the spot! An intensifier will tell your team whether you'll maximize or minimize elements of your skit in the second act. Find out how things will change with the toss of a coin in this year's Improvisational Challenge!

- Create and present a 2-act improvisational skit based on a scenario.
- Incorporate a stock character into the skit.
- Research costume design and use a costume design kit to create a costume.
- Use an intensifier to minimize or maximize the scenario, stock character, and costume.

Service Learning



Our Service Learning Challenge is designed to engage students in public service that addresses real-life community issues.

Your team will dive into a world of fantasy in this year's Service Learning Challenge. Use a map to guide you on your quest, but beware of the danger that awaits! What will you seek? Fame? Fortune? Or to make the world a better place? The quest is about to begin!

- Identify, design, carry out, and evaluate a project that addresses a need in a real community.
- Create and present a fantasy story about a character who goes on a quest.
- Design and create a fantasy map that uses technical methods to represent location information from the story.
- Create and present two Team Choice Elements that show off the team's interests, skills, areas of strength, and talents.

Early Learning



Inspired by United Nations Sustainable Development Goal #14: Life Below Water. [Click here to learn more.](#)

Our Rising Stars for Early Learners Challenge offers simple experiences with the creative process, and it gives young kids (preschool through 2nd grade) a place to work together and make new friends.

From the busy coral reef, to the inky depths of the midnight zone, to the shallows of a lake bed, there are lots of amazing underwater habitats to visit. Where might underwater creatures go for a vacation? Come explore life under the sea in this season's Early Learning Challenge!

- Research underwater habitats.
- Create and present a play about a group of underwater creatures who go on vacation to an underwater habitat.
- Design and build a model of a landmark the underwater creatures visit.
- Create scenery to show the underwater habitat.
- Create and present one Team Choice Element that shows off the team's interests, skills, areas of strength, and talents.

Our Impact



7
CHALLENGES: TECHNICAL, SCIENTIFIC, ENGINEERING, FINE ARTS, IMPROVISATIONAL, SERVICE LEARNING, EARLY LEARNING



38,000+
VOLUNTEERS



5
AGE LEVELS: PRE-K, ELEMENTARY, MIDDLE, SECONDARY, UNIVERSITY



1,000,000
PROGRAM REACH



40+ & 25+
42 STATES & 35 COUNTRIES



150,000
PARTICIPANTS ANNUALLY

OUR EXPERIENCES



Central Challenge

The Challenge Experience is our flagship creative program for pre-K, K-12 and university students. Teams develop solutions to project-based STEAM challenges and then present their solutions live at tournaments.



DI After Dark

DI After Dark is a fast-paced, fun-filled evening of problem-solving for middle school students. Teams create solutions for four challenges and participate in fun games that make this an educational and exciting DI event.



DICO Camps

Our week-long problem-solving camps for elementary and middle school students present challenges for teams to solve, culminating in a showcase performance. Participants learn new skills, improve teamwork, and make new friends all in a unique DI setting.



Teen Leadership

The DI Colorado Teen Leadership Committee provides an opportunity for our teens to exercise project management and leadership skills as they plan multiple events throughout the year.



What independent research and our participants say **ABOUT DI**



"Without the eight years of Destination Imagination that allowed me to conceptualize and build in a completely raw and creative environment, I don't believe I'd be accomplishing the things I am today."
- Yale Shaw, Industrial Designer

"The farther I go in my career, the more I understand how those countless hours spent brainstorming, plastering paper mache, painting and improvising have benefited me. Today, there's really no challenge in my job that intimidates me. In fact, the bigger the challenge, the bigger the rush I get. I owe that to my DI training."
- Kevin Hoban, Producer



UNIVERSITY OF
GEORGIA

86% of DI students agree that their teamwork skills improved



UNIVERSITY OF
VIRGINIA
CURRY SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

DI students SCORED 10% HIGHER in critical thinking



THE UNIVERSITY OF
TENNESSEE
KNOXVILLE

70% of students reported they "do better in school" because of DI

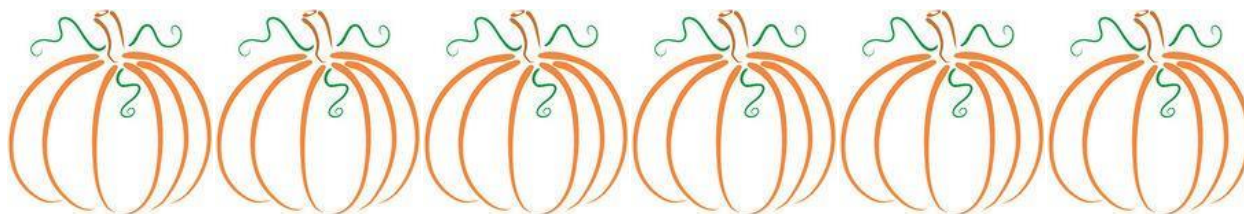
Why parents choose DI:



DI changes lives:



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1st Annual Great Pumpkin Extravaganza

Join us for our 1st Annual Great Pumpkin Extravaganza! The Westridge Library is getting into the fall spirit! Join our favorite book characters pumpkin/gourd decorating contest.

**Entries may be dropped off at the library on Monday, October 23rd
by 8am to be included in our voting.**

Contest Rules

You may use pumpkins or gourds to create your project. Fake pumpkins/gourds are okay.

Absolutely NO CARVED entries on ANY pumpkins. All pumpkins/gourds that have carved skin will be disqualified and sent home that day. Real pumpkins with punctured skin will also be disqualified and sent home. This decision will be up to the discretion of the judges.

Pumpkins should be no larger than 36 inches in circumference.

To decorate, you can use paper, glue, paint, or any other craft items on the pumpkin. Be creative!

Projects **must represent a character from a book** appropriate for elementary school students (no TV or movie characters that haven't been in a book!).

An entry form must be turned in with the pumpkin (see back page).

Participation is voluntary. The project can be done independently by the student or as a family project. Students choosing to participate must provide their own pumpkin and decorating materials. Don't have time to decorate a real or fake pumpkin? See our Pumpkin Character Drawing paper for more information!

Pumpkins will be displayed in the library from October 23 to October 31. **All pumpkins must be taken home by October 31.**

Students and staff will vote for their favorite pumpkin throughout the week.

[Pumpkin Entry Form- Same Form for Both Entries](#)

[Colored Pumpkin Template](#)

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SCAN YOUR RECEIPT

Use the Box Tops app to submit your receipt within 14 days of purchase.



EARN CASH FOR SCHOOLS

Box Tops products are identified and earnings are credited online.



ONLINE SHOPPERS CAN EARN WITH BOX TOPS, TOO!

Whether you order groceries for delivery or pickup, shop through your store's app, or request an email receipt at checkout, you can earn for your school no matter where you shop.

SEE PRODUCTS & LEARN MORE ABOUT THE BOX TOPS APP AT [BTFE.COM](https://www.btfecom.com)

DON'T HAVE THE BOX TOPS APP YET? DOWNLOAD IT NOW:

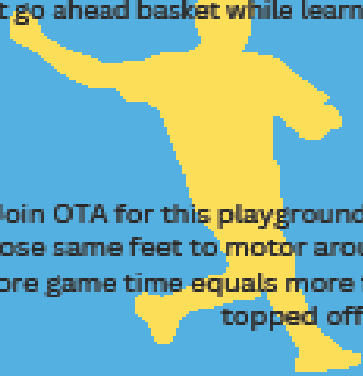




Overtime Athletics

Fast Break Basketball

3-2-1...Swish! Join us for Fast Break Basketball where we'll "cross-over" between GAME PLAY and skills stations. The games within the game are where we will expose players to HOOPS skills like dribbling, passing, shooting, rebounding, and defense. Test your abilities having fun scrimmaging or playing games like Dribble Scribble, King of the Court, Hot Shot Shooting, Knock Out, and MORE! Be ready to take that last second shot, make that extra pass, and block that go ahead basket while learning the fundamentals of Basketball and the concepts of team work.

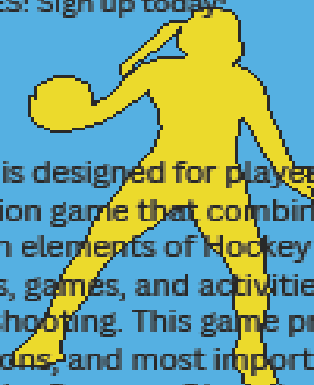


Kaboom Kickball

Join OTA for this playground favorite! Knock it out of the park with a big kick and use those same feet to motor around the bases. This program is all about playing the game. More game time equals more fun! The class will focus on teamwork and sportsmanship, topped off with some HIGH FIVES! Sign up today!

Handball

Let's play ultimate handball! This program is designed for players who want a fast paced, energetic, non-stop action game that combines the techniques of soccer and basketball, with elements of Hockey and Lacrosse. Coaches will lead players in drills, games, and activities that prioritize throwing, catching, dribbling, and shooting. This game promotes teamwork, varying skills for different positions, and most importantly - HIGH SCORING! Come be a part of one of the Summer Olympics most popular sports!



Start date: 25 October
End date: 13 December
Where: Westridge gym
Time: 2:35-3:35pm
Cost: \$119



andrew@otathletics.com
cell: (303) 810-8030
www.otathletics.com/castlerock



BEFORE/AFTER SCHOOL STEM Clubs

STEM (Science - Technology - Engineering - Math)

Enrichment Programs



Extreme Electricity: Zap! Electrify your interest as we build a working telegraph, experiment with conductors and insulators, build an electromagnet, and much more. This club takes electricity to the extreme! We'll charge up those electrons and send them spinning around the room. It's zapping science that will give your brain a charge!

Class dates: 11/7/23, 11/14/23, 11/28/23, 12/5/23, 12/12/23
Price: \$96



Mixology: Are you ready to mix things up a little! Join us in the lab as we experiment with some crazy chemical reactions! We'll heat things up and cool things down with the greatest mixing stuff in town. Mix up some Oobleck. Use chemistry to solve the Mixed Up Mystery. Mix things that bubble without trouble. This is fun chemistry that needs no apology...this is the science we call Mixology!

Class dates: 1/16/24, 1/23/24, 1/30/24, 2/6/24, 2/20/24
Price: \$96

Totally Toyrific: Science and Toys. What could be better? Become a Toy Technician as you learn the science behind many popular playthings. Explore science through the world of toys like the humming harmonica, gyroscopes, and tops. Build your own game and power an electric circuit with nothing more than the touch of your hand. Our science workshop is filled with toys that teach. Come and experience the power of play!

Class dates: 2/27/24, 3/5/24, 3/12/24, 3/26/24, 4/2/24
Price: \$96



Westridge Elementary

- Class meets on Tuesdays from 2:35 – 3:35 pm in the Art Room
- Grades K-6
- Registration deadline one week before club starts
- See website for additional offerings: www.sciencematters.tv



Register at:
www.ScienceMatters.tv



Find us on social media!
#ScienceMattersinAmerica

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1-866-KIDZ FUN (1-866-543-9386)



Villians vs. Superheroes

TRICK OR



TREAT STREET



Dakota Ridge Clubs & Activities invite you to a spooky night filled with candy, music, and games!



Free Entry

OCTOBER 30TH



5-7 PM

Dakota Ridge High School
13399 W Coal Mine Ave, Littleton, CO
80127





D'EV&LYN
TRICK OR
TREAT STREET

Oct. 28th

5pm to 7pm

All monetary donations
will benefit the Jeffco
Action Center

STAY FOR THE
IMPROV SHOW AT
7:30 PM!



Westridge PTA Happenings

October 18, 2023

Westridge PTA Mission Statement

Westridge PTA is to provide a collaborative resource for Westridge parents, teachers and staff to communicate, access services and information, which promote the education and well being of all Westridge students.

PTA Meeting Schedule:



November 14, 2023
December 12th, 2023
January 9, 2024
February 13, 2024
March 12, 2024
April 9, 2024
May 14, 2024

Meetings are held the second Tuesday of each month at 6:30pm in the library.

Dates to Know:

Tuesday, October 24th:
Chick-Fil-A Restaurant
Night 5-8pm

Spirit Night Fundraiser



Help support Westridge Elementary School
Tuesday, October 24, 2023 • 5:00-8:00pm
Donating proceeds of
Product sales*

Come support your local elementary school!

 Bellevue Shores FSU
5260 S Wedgworth Blvd, Littleton, CO 80123

*Proceeds of product sales are used to support the school. All other proceeds are donated to the school.

**WESTRIDGE
YEARBOOK**



**10%
OFF**

Through
October

Yearbook Sale!

Passcode: 1014092751221632

[Westridge PTA](#)

Click here to join the Westridge PTA:

<https://cowestridge.memberhub.com/store/items/104922>



It's not too late!
Please help the PTA support our incredible Westridge Staff during
Conference Nights! Click the link below to donate funds to buy
dinner for the teachers each night of conferences!
We appreciate your support!

<https://square.link/u/rVrJFWZo>