Since 2005, Michigan State University has welcomed young Spartans and their grandparents to campus for a unique inter-generational learning experience at Grandparents University.

This three-day summer camp is a truly unique, fun-filled experience that actively engages kids in Michigan State academics while creating lasting family memories.

Registration opens March 30. Prior to registering, please review all details on the registration page at alumni.msu.edu/grandparents.

Email GPU@msu.edu for more info.
SESSION 1: TUESDAY, JUNE 28

[100] A Glimpse of African Cultures Through Swahili Proverbs and Riddles
20 Participants
Consider the relationship between language and culture by showing the cultural content in Swahili proverbs and riddles. Swahili proverbs and riddles are full of metaphors and symbolism, which preserve and express the heritage of the Swahili people of East Africa.

[102] Basic Photography — With a Smartphone
25 Participants
Learn how to take better pictures with your smartphone. You will learn some basic skills to take your photos to WOW! You must have a smartphone to participate in this class.

[103] History of Beaumont Tower and Carillon
12 Participants
Gain fascinating information and real-life demonstrations on the bells, carillons and history of Beaumont Tower. The class will be conducted in and around Beaumont Tower.

[104] Build a Science Center
20 Participants
Imagine a science center where you can see an exhibit, touch it, play with it, experiment with it, break it (accidentally), repair it, rebuild it, improvise it, make a replica and take it home. Come and learn how you can build this!

[105] Building Your Dream Community
40 Participants
Look and consider how the availability of resources impact communities. In teams, participants will build their own communities with the materials or “resources” available to them, then communities will be compared and a discussion will take place.

[106] Care of the MSU Athlete
20 Participants
See where and how MSU athletes get treated for their injuries. This includes a tour of the training room and hands-on experience of some of the treatments used.

[107] Cash Conversations With MSU Federal Credit Union
50 Participants
Enjoy interactive lessons and games focused on saving, spending and sharing money. You’ll have the opportunity to work together with your family member(s) to practice ways to manage money, discuss future goals and have fun!

[108] Color Science and A Touch of Magic With WKAR’s Curious Crew
40 Participants
Join WKAR’s Curious Crew as they explore color science using prisms and pigments with a touch of magic.

[109] Crazy for Crêpes: Exploring a French Culinary Tradition
20 Participants
Crêpes are thin pancakes served as either snacks or meals, which are popular throughout the French-speaking world. In this course we will learn how to make them, enjoy the fruits of our labor and learn a little French culture, history and language along the way. All recipes will be included so you can enjoy these delicious Gallic goodies again at home.

[110] Diary of a Michigan Kid
50 Participants
In “Diary of a Wimpy Kid,” readers get to learn what life is like for Greg Heffley. Did you know that historians use diary entries as a way to “time travel,” in order to learn more about what life was like many years ago? In this session, you’ll get a chance to “time travel” by asking a kid from many years ago some questions about their life and by making your own audio diary that kids many years in the future might someday listen to!

[111] Disney Trivia
20 Participants
In this fun Jeopardy style trivia game, play games like “name that tune” with family teams!
[112] Geocaching in the MSU Horticulture Gardens  
25 Participants  
Learn the basics of the popular worldwide hobby of geocaching while touring the beautiful MSU Horticulture Gardens. You will learn what geocaching is all about and how to operate a basic GPS unit. We will then find up to five geocaches. Basic loaner Garmin GPS units will be provided, but if you have your own feel free to bring it. Please note this class requires a lot of walking and is designed for those who have never geocached before or are new to the activity. We will be out rain or shine (unless there is lightning). Bring rain gear, water and bug spray!

[113] Geography, Environment and Spatial Sciences  
15 Participants  
Enjoy hands-on activities related to weather, climate and geography. We will collect data with instruments and interpret maps.

[114] Go Green! Go Wild! Planting Campus Natively!  
15 Participants  
Walk and visit sites that are planted with native plants in the landscape. At the conclusion of our walking tour, we will end at the W. J. Beal Botanical Garden where we will plant native plants along the Red Cedar River.

[115] Go Green, Go Write! Poetry for Beginners  
20 Participants  
Let MSU's beautiful campus be your inspiration as we dive into a poetry writing workshop for beginners. Participants will learn about poetry forms and complete a series of poems, from haiku and acrostic styles to lists and longer pieces. Composition journals will be provided to continue the writing fun during your time at Grandparents University and beyond.

[116] Good Vibrations: The Circle of Sound  
30 Participants  
This STEM to STEAM workshop explores sound through the lens of a scientist who understands vibration as a scientific phenomenon, and that of a musician who understands the artistic side of vibrations – music. In this fast-moving and fun workshop, participants use the scientific process that of questioning, testing, analyzing, interpreting and recording, in a series of sound experiments to gain a greater understanding of vibrations and therefore music.

[117] Gotta Eat 'Em All: Predators vs. Prey  
30 Participants  
Masters of disguise, sharp weapons, impenetrable shields, nasty poisons and more! Join us for an immersive learning experience about fierce predators and wily prey. Through hands-on activities, we'll investigate the extreme tricks that animals use to navigate their way through everyday life. Meet some real-life predators and prey, and finish the class by designing your own fantastical creature to take home!

[118] Grass to Gas: Fermentation in a Bag  
30 Participants  
In this class, we will discuss why it is important to research biofuels and learn the basics of how biofuels are made. We will also conduct the fermentation in a bag hands-on experiment where we observe how biofuels are made.

[119] Haute Kid Cuisine  
20 Participants  
Chefs Rob and Matt will demonstrate preparation and cooking techniques for a simple two course meal. Hands-on preparation will be done in the School of Hospitality Business' Teaching Lab. At the conclusion of the session, participants will be able to enjoy their efforts in the dining room.

[120] History of Sparty  
75 Participants  
You have seen him at athletic events, in parades, around campus on game day, in ESPN commercials, at weddings, birthday parties, alumni club events and promoting literacy to children in schools. He is everywhere; he is loved and he is an embodiment of what it means to be a Michigan State Spartan. Have you ever wondered how our beloved Sparty became the MSU icon he is today? In this session you will learn the origins of Sparty, the Sparty Mascot Program and get a rare inside look at what it is like to portray Sparty. There are many exciting aspects of the program that most Spartans do not have the opportunity to witness. Join us for an in-depth look of Sparty, the gentle giant.

[121] Intrument Explorers  
20 Participants  
Do you know how to make a sound on the saxophone? Why the bassoon has many keys but the trumpet only has a few? Are your arms long enough to play the trombone? Find out as we explore woodwind, brass and percussion instruments in this hands-on workshop.
[122] Physical Therapy: The Power of Movement
40 Participants
Discover how physical therapists help people improve their ability to move, perform daily activities, recover from injury and live a healthy, active lifestyle. Get up and get active! Learn and perform treatments commonly used in physical therapy for a variety of medical conditions.

[123] Journal Making With The Writing Center at MSU
25 Participants
Create your own creative journal to write your story in! During the class sessions, participants will be provided with a journal of their choice and decorating materials (i.e. markers, stickers, scrapbooking material, scissors, glue, etc.) to construct their journal. The Writing Center will also provide various prompts to include in the journals to think, reflect and write about!

[124] Learning to Love Writing and Words
60 Participants
Hear from Joseph Kimble, author of award-winning children's picture book, “Mr. Mouthful Learns His Lesson” and study the steps that go into making a book — including choices that a writer must make. From words to wordplay and important features of language, discover the love of writing. All children who attend will receive a free copy of the book.

[125] Let’s Get Cooking: Sustainable Food at MSU
20 Participants
Learn all about MSU's sustainable food systems and how you can prepare sustainable meals at home. Enjoy a food demonstration using sustainable ingredients grown right here at MSU.

[126] Let’s Make Music! How Do Instruments Work?
20 Participants
In this session, we will explore the different kinds of musical instruments and how they make sound. We will hit drums, buzz on kazoos and learn about reeds, mouthpieces and strings that vibrate.

[127] Magic and Balloon Twisting
16 Participants
Learn simple magic tricks using household objects to try on your friends and family. Also, learn how to twist balloon animals in this fun session.

[128] Make Your Own Book!
16 Participants
Make and decorate your own book with Special Collections librarians! We'll also look at some amazing artist's books using the very same book structures you learn in class.

[129] Microscope Guessing Game
16 Participants
Have you wondered how everyday objects look really, really close up? Ever wonder how Velcro works, why wool sweaters are so itchy or why some leaves feel fuzzy? In the Microscope Guessing Game, these questions might be answered as you try to identify objects in a Scanning Electron Microscope at high magnification. Do you think you are up to the challenge?

[131] Pizza 101
30 Participants
Learn the basics of pizza making from scratch! Participants of this session will see a demonstration on how to prepare and handle pizza dough and different methods of baking. Then they will get to prepare their own pizza!

[132] Plants Through Geological History
30 Participants
Since plants first colonized the land near the start of the age of fishes, there have been a number of landmark developments. We will explore the early land plants through the time after the dinosaur extinction. This class is hosted at the W.J. Beal Botanical Garden.

[134] Spartan Nursing 101: Simulation, Stethoscopes and Syringe Water Fights!
42 Participants
Experience being a Spartan nurse in the simulation lab and learn how to take vital signs, listen to lung sounds and insert a NG tube. Race against participants in a scavenger hunt of the lab, meeting some of our skills task trainers including Trach Jake, Surgical Sally, Chester Chest and of course, our favorite patient, HAL — a simulation manikin that breathes, blinks and even talks as you provide nursing care! Learn fast or you might be the most unfortunate victim of the syringe water fight! These are just a few of the activities you may experience while working as a Spartan nurse-in-training in an environment that looks and feels like a hospital!
75 Participants
Help the environment while creating your own wacky instrument using recycled materials! There will be samples of instruments that can inspire or invent your own instrument! Cardboard, pipe cleaners, plastic eggs, jars, beads, feathers and more that will make your instrument fun to look at as well as to hear! This is an open workshop; drop in anytime and make an instrument, but you must register. Limited availability to make a rainstick or frame drum.

[136] Tour de MSU by Bike!
20 Participants
Come along for a bike ride around the lovely MSU campus to see what makes it a gold-level bike friendly university! We’ll ride about six to eight miles if the weather allows. If we have bad weather we’ll go indoors for a presentation called, “The Amazing Bicycle: The World’s Most Efficient Human Powered Machine!”

[137] Traveling Technology Free
30 Participants
Have you ever wondered how people traveled without GPS? Do you think you could find your way around using just a map? In this class you will learn how to read an atlas, reach destinations using maps, use tools to plan a road trip and receive take home material to use on your next adventure.

[138] What’s Buzzing in the Garden?
20 Participants
Come learn about the importance of pollinators in the garden and to our food sources. Learn the difference between honey bees, native bees and other pollinators. Participants will learn how they can support them in your backyard, neighborhood and communities.

[139] What’s in the Woods?
20 Participants
Join us as we take a walk through one of MSU’s natural areas. Together we will discover how the different trees and other plants combine with the land and water to form a special forest community.

[141] Where Does Milk Come From?
25 Participants
Meet the dairy cows at MSU and learn about how they produce top quality and nutritious milk! We will tour the farm, see what the animals eat and where they live. Everyone will get a chance to milk a cow and see how a digestive system works. Great for those who love animals, want to be a veterinarian or learn more about farming and where our food comes from.

[142] Ninety-Nine Years of Michigan State Swimming and Diving
15 Participants
A brief history of the MSU Swimming and Diving program followed by swim lessons.

[143] Crafting with Nature
20 Participants
The State Motto of Michigan is “If you seek a pleasant peninsula, look about you.” In this class, we will explore ways of appreciating Michigan’s outdoor natural beauty by capturing it in various arts and crafts projects for both the home and outdoors.

[144] How to Change the World in 30 Days
30 Participants
How often have you watched the news and thought, “If I ruled the world, I would...”? This 90-minute class is your chance to identify a law or government policy that you want to change; be a key policy maker who has influence and the tools to make it happen. Participants will leave with an action plan and/or a letter to a policy maker. You are welcome to bring a tablet or laptop to the class to help with letter writing, but phones aren’t useful for the writing exercise. Those who don’t bring a laptop or tablet will engage in the time-honored tradition of writing a postcard by hand.

[145] Calming and Relaxing: Tools to Stay Cool When Things Get Hot
25 Participants
Your days can get stressful if you have too much to do. Wouldn’t it be nice to know some ways to keep calm when you get overwhelmed? In this class we will discuss different ways of relaxing, including breathing techniques and even some laughter, to help you through those tough moments. We will use examples from nature to help you build new ways of coping with stress. We will also make calming jars that you can take with you for those times when you just need to unwind. We will end our class with time for muscle relaxation, to help you feel refreshed and ready for the rest of your day.
SESSION 2:
WEDNESDAY MORNING, JUNE 29

[200] A Smashing Time With Nuclei at FRIB
24 Participants
See inside MSU’s Facility for Rare Isotope Beams, a world-leading nuclear research laboratory. Get hands-on with a model “nucleus” to learn how and why we smash nuclei at half the speed of light, then tour the lab and find out what exciting discoveries await the new linear accelerator!

[201] Build a Barn
15 Participants
Members of the Michigan Barn Preservation Network will guide participants in the assembly of a one-quarter scale post and beam barn. You will learn about our agricultural heritage while visiting with barn contractors and learn about mortise and tenon construction of our heritage farm buildings. This is a hands-on session with lumber. Gloves are suggested.

[202] Basic Photography — With a Smartphone
25 Participants
Learn how to take better pictures with your smartphone. You will learn some basic skills to take your photos to WOW! You must have a smartphone to participate in this class.

[203] History of Beaumont Tower and Carillon
12 Participants
Gain fascinating information and real-life demonstrations on the bells, carillons and history of Beaumont Tower. The class will be conducted in and around Beaumont Tower.

[204] Beginning Sushi
25 Participants
Learn hands-on how to prepare and roll sushi. Prepare to be creative and have fun with food! No raw fish will be used.

[205] Being Healthy at Home: Enhancing Wellness the Osteopathic Way
25 Participants
We will explore how families can work together to enhance wellness through healthy activity and play. There will be fun tips on nutrition, and discussing the importance of sleep and rest. Participants will discover the history and philosophy of Osteopathic medicine and how this can contribute to all members of the family engaging in their own health. Be prepared for fun, some gentle movement and sharing of ideas! Participants should wear comfortable clothing that allows for movement.
[206] Build a Science Center
20 Participants
Imagine a science center where you can see an exhibit, touch it, play with it, experiment with it, break it (accidentally), repair it, rebuild it, improvise it, make a replica and take it home. Come and learn how you can build this!

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20 Participants
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[209] Crazy for Crêpes: Exploring a French Culinary Tradition
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[213] The Amazing Geode!
75 Participants
Geodes: What are they? How are they formed? Where are they found? You will learn all about these amazing rocks in this fun session.

[214] Good Vibrations: The Circle of Sound
30 Participants
This STEM to STEAM workshop explores sound through the lens of a scientist who understands vibration as a scientific phenomenon, and that of a musician who understands the artistic side of vibrations – music. In this fast-moving and fun workshop, participants use the scientific process that of questioning, testing, analyzing, interpreting and recording, in a series of sound experiments to gain a greater understanding of vibrations and therefore music.

[215] What’s Lurking in the Water: Exploring the Red Cedar River
30 Participants
Participants will learn about water quality by observing the types of insects and other invertebrates that live in the Red Cedar River. They will handle live river critters and mammal furs. They will also learn how to fillet a fish.

[216] Harry Potter and the Secrets of British English
50 Participants
Harry Potter is a young wizard whose adventures have been enjoyed by people across the globe. But Harry was brought to life by a British author, and his world is full of prefects, sticky toffee puddings and getting sorted into school houses. Learn about some of Harry’s culture and vocabulary, and the reasons why American English and British English have become different over time.
[217] History of Sparty
75 Participants
You have seen him at athletic events, in parades, around campus on game day, in ESPN commercials, at weddings, birthday parties, alumni club events and promoting literacy to children in schools. He is everywhere; he is loved and he is an embodiment of what it means to be a Michigan State Spartan. Have you ever wondered how our beloved Sparty became the MSU icon he is today? In this session you will learn the origins of Sparty, the Sparty Mascot Program and get a rare inside look at what it is like to portray Sparty. There are many exciting aspects of the program that most Spartans do not have the opportunity to witness. Join us for an in-depth look of Sparty, the gentle giant.

[218] How Do People Form Teams?
25 Participants
Interested in how people form teams? We will conduct an experiment to see how this happens. Then we'll talk about economists’ and game theorists’ applications of these simple settings to worker-firm matching, marriages and team formation.

[220] How Plant Breeders Help Feed the World
50 Participants
MSU has an excellent Plant Breeding, Genetics and Biotechnology program. This session will discuss the efforts we have to help build the next generation of plant breeders as hunger fighters.

[221] Humor and Laughter: Always the Best Medicine at Any Age!
40 Participants
Genuine and spontaneous humor and laughter are the best ways to promote self-care every day! But, what are the positive health effects of humor and laughter on the mind-body-spirit? This fun, interactive class will brighten your day, cause you to smile and be a foundation for bringing joy and laughter to your life every day!

[222] Intro to 3D Printing
36 Participants
Curious how 3D printing works? Come learn about 3D printing and how you can make your own 3D models. We will discuss the history of 3D printing, the basics of hardware and software and what resources are available at the library’s Hollander Makerspace for 3D printing. A valid email address is required to create an account to use the 3D modeling software.

[223] Introduction to Bioenergy: How to Make Biofuel Out of Soybeans
15 Participants
Bioenergy is energy produced from biofuels. Overall, bioenergy covers approximately 10% of the total world energy demand. Agriculture both supplies and uses energy, so agriculture and energy markets are closely linked.

[224] Learning to Love Writing and Words
20 Participants
Hear from Joseph Kimble, author of award-winning children’s picture book, “Mr. Mouthful Learns His Lesson” and study the steps that go into making a book — including choices that a writer must make. From words to wordplay and important features of language, discover the love of writing. All children who attend will receive a free copy of the book.

[225] Magic and Balloon Twisting
16 Participants
Learn simple magic tricks using household objects to try on your friends and family. Also, learn how to twist balloon animals in this fun session.

[226] Make Your Own Book!
16 Participants
Make and decorate your own book with Special Collections librarians! We'll also look at some amazing artist's books using the very same book structures you learn in class.

[227] Managing the Campus Arboretum
30 Participants
Learn what goes into maintaining the trees on MSU’s campus and see some of the equipment used by the arborist crew. This class is outside and participants will need to have comfortable walking shoes. Each participant will receive a free tree to take home and plant.

[228] Microscope Guessing Game
16 Participants
Have you wondered how everyday objects look really, really close up? Ever wonder how Velcro works, why wool sweaters are so itchy or why some leaves feel fuzzy? In the Microscope Guessing Game, these questions might be answered as you try to identify objects in a Scanning Electron Microscope at high magnification. Do you think you are up to the challenge?
[229] Migratory Birds, Poo and You!
20 Participants
Thousands of migratory birds move through Michigan every spring and fall! Learn about how MSU scientists study these amazing creatures and ways that you can help support birds from your backyard!

[230] NinjAnatomy
50 Participants
Get ready to move! Join us for a dynamic blend between the martial arts and anatomical sciences. Basic kicking and punching techniques set the scene for discussing a variety of anatomical topics, including the cardiovascular, respiratory and nervous systems. Show off your newly gained skills by breaking a real wood board!

[231] Packaging Science Put to the Test!
50 Participants
In this hour, we will talk about the shocks, vibrations and drops that could damage your product so you will have to put your skills to the test and create a package that will survive the shipping environment.

[232] Pizza 101
30 Participants
Learn the basics of pizza making from scratch! Participants of this session will see a demonstration on how to prepare and handle pizza dough and different methods of baking. Then they will get to prepare their own pizza!

[233] Plants Through Geological History
30 Participants
Since plants first colonized the land near the start of the age of fishes, there have been a number of landmark developments. We will explore the early land plants through the time after the dinosaur extinction. This class is hosted at the WJ Beal Botanical Garden.

[234] Spartans Talk Dollars and Cents
30 Participants
Let’s talk money! Being ready for the future and knowing how to manage your money is an important life skill. Join MSU Extension staff as you explore the world of finances and increase your money smart knowledge through fun, hands-on activities.

[235] Swallowing Trust — Enjoying Safer Food
50 Participants
Most of us swallow food trusting it is safe. Most food in supermarkets and restaurants has come a long way from “farm to fork.” We thank the many people in the long food chain who keep it safe so we can “swallow trust” knowing our food is healthy and safe.

[237] Traveling Technology Free
30 Participants
Have you ever wondered how people traveled without GPS? Do you think you could find your way around using just a map? In this class you will learn how to read an atlas, reach destinations using maps, use tools to plan a road trip and receive take home material to use on your next adventure.

[238] Ready, Set, Mush!
30 Participants
Welcome to the world of sled dogs! Participants will learn about dog sled training, racing and get to meet a real sled dog.

[239] How to Change the World in 30 Days
30 Participants
How often have you watched the news and thought, “If I ruled the world, I would...”? This 90-minute class is your chance to identify a law or government policy that you want to change; be a key policy maker who has influence and the tools to make it happen. Participants will leave with an action plan and/or a letter to a policy maker. You are welcome to bring a tablet or laptop to the class to help with letter writing, but phones aren't useful for the writing exercise. Those who don't bring a laptop or tablet will engage in the time-honored tradition of writing a postcard by hand.

[240] North Star and Meteors
75 Participants | Grades Three & Up
Listen to stories of the stars at the Planetarium told by Native American Master Storytellers. In this show, you will hear two stories: “Why the North Star Stands Still” retold by Lynn Moroney (Chickasaw) and “Coyote and the Dancing Stars” retold by Lynn Moroney (Chickasaw).

[241] Campus Police K9 Demo
50 Participants
Observe MSU’s working dogs! The MSU Department of Public Safety will bring their K9s for you to meet while observing part of their training day.

[242] Vermicomposting: Fun with Worms
20 Participants
Vermicomposting is composting but with the addition of helper worms! Participants in this class will learn how to build a worm bin, how to take care of worms and how to use vermicompost, and can even take a worm bin home with them!
[243] Zeke the Wonderdog!
75 Participants
Zeke the Wonderdog and friends will be putting on a fun event with group participation. Learn how to teach a dog a new trick and a few will be lucky enough to teach a trick to Zeke!

[244] STEM Teaching and Learning Facility Tour
15 Participants
This session will provide participants a tour of the STEM Teaching and Learning Facility. Individuals will be given a short history of the former Shaw Lane power plant and how the building was adaptively reused. Tours will include a presentation on mass timber at MSU and walking tour of building.

SESSION 3:
WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON, JUNE 29

[301] A Smashing Time With Nuclei at FRIB
24 Participants
See inside MSU’s Facility for Rare Isotope Beams, a world-leading nuclear research laboratory. Get hands-on with a model “nucleus” to learn how and why we smash nuclei at half the speed of light, then tour the lab and find out what exciting discoveries await the new linear accelerator!

[302] Animal Disease Detectives
50 Participants
Animals can’t tell you when they’re sick or point to where it hurts. Learn how veterinarians and laboratory technologists help to diagnose disease and protect both animal and human health. Participants will investigate and diagnose cases on their own.

[303] Build a Barn
15 Participants
Members of the Michigan Barn Preservation Network will guide participants in the assembly of a one-quarter scale post and beam barn. You will learn about our agricultural heritage while visiting with barn contractors and learn about mortise and tenon construction of our heritage farm buildings. This is a hands-on session with lumber. Gloves are suggested.

[304] Basic Photography — With a Smartphone
25 Participants
Learn how to take better pictures with your smartphone. You will learn some basic skills to take your photos to WOW! You must have a smartphone to participate in this class.

[305] Be an Ancestry Detective
40 Participants
Generate a family tree together and learn how to use a free edition of Ancestry.com, as well as other free online sites or resources available through local libraries. Attendees will learn how to conduct family interviews and record multi-generational family traditions and memories.

[306] History of Beaumont Tower and Carillon
12 Participants
Gain fascinating information and real-life demonstrations on the bells, carillons and history of Beaumont Tower. The class will be conducted in and around Beaumont Tower.

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75 Participants
Geodes: What are they? How are they formed? Where are they found? You will learn all about these amazing rocks in this fun session.

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15 Participants
This session will include hands-on activities related to weather, climate and geography. We will collect data with instruments and will interpret maps.

[316] Got Violin?! It’s a Cool Tool!
12 Participants
Eager to learn the violin? In this course everyone will have an opportunity to learn this beautiful musical instrument. You may even be able to learn an entire song!

[317] Gotta Eat ‘Em All: Predators vs. Prey
30 Participants
Masters of disguise, sharp weapons, impenetrable shields, nasty poisons and more! Join us for an immersive learning experience about fierce predators and wily prey. Through hands-on activities, we’ll investigate the extreme tricks that animals use to navigate their way through everyday life. Meet some real-life predators and prey, and finish the class by designing your own fantastical creature to take home!

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Harry Potter is a young wizard whose adventures have been enjoyed by people across the globe. But Harry was brought to life by a British author, and his world is full of prefects, sticky toffee puddings and getting sorted into school houses. Learn about some of Harry’s culture and vocabulary, and the reasons why American English and British English have become different over time.

[319] History of Sparty
75 Participants
You have seen him at athletic events, in parades, around campus on game day, in ESPN commercials, at weddings, birthday parties, alumni club events and promoting literacy to children in schools. He is everywhere; he is loved and he is an embodiment of what it means to be a Michigan State Spartan. Have you ever wondered how our beloved Sparty became the MSU icon he is today? In this session you will learn the origins of Sparty, the Sparty Mascot Program and get a rare inside look at what it is like to portray Sparty. There are many exciting aspects of the program that most Spartans do not have the opportunity to witness. Join us for an in-depth look of Sparty, the gentle giant.

[320] What’s Lurking in the Water: Exploring the Red Cedar River
30 Participants
Participants will learn about water quality by observing the types of insects and other invertebrates that live in the Red Cedar river. They will handle live river critters and mammal furs. They will also learn how to fillet a fish.
[321] Humor and Laughter: Always the Best Medicine at Any Age!
40 Participants
Genuine and spontaneous humor and laughter are the best ways to promote self-care every day! But, what are the positive health effects of humor and laughter on the mind-body-spirit? This fun, interactive class will brighten your day, cause you to smile and be a foundation for bringing joy and laughter to your life every day!

[322] Immersive Visualization in the MSU Libraries
20 Participants
Visitors to the MSU Libraries Digital Scholarship Lab will have the opportunity to experience any or all of multiple visualization types, including: group immersive experiences in our 360-degree visualization room, trying on a VR headset, experiencing an educational game and participating in a workshop to create 3D content.

[323] Indigenous People’s Gifts to Our Diet
30 Participants
A sizable portion of the foods we eat worldwide are descended from plants originally tamed by the Indigenous First Nations People of the Americas. It is not just corn we owe to their agronomic skills. This class is hosted at the W.J. Beal Botanical Garden.

[324] Journal Making With the Writing Center at MSU
25 Participants
Create your own creative journal to write your story in! During the class sessions, participants will be provided with a journal of their choice and decorating materials (i.e. markers, stickers, scrapbooking material, scissors, glue, etc.) to construct their journal. The Writing Center will also provide various prompts to include in the journals to think, reflect and write about!

[325] Learning to Love Writing and Words
40 Participants
Hear from Joseph Kimble, author of award-winning children’s picture book, “Mr. Mouthful Learns His Lesson” and study the steps that go into making a book — including choices that a writer must make. From words to wordplay and important features of language, discover the love of writing. All children who attend will receive a free copy of the book.

[326] Let’s Get Cooking: Sustainable Food at MSU
20 Participants
Learn all about MSU’s sustainable food systems and how you can prepare sustainable meals at home. Enjoy a food demonstration using sustainable ingredients grown right here at MSU.

[327] Let’s Make Music! How Do Instruments Work?
20 Participants
In this session, we will explore the different kinds of musical instruments and how they make sound. We will hit drums, buzz on kazoos and learn about reeds, mouthpieces and strings that vibrate.

[328] Magic and Balloon Twisting
16 Participants
Learn simple magic tricks using household objects to try on your friends and family. Also, learn how to twist balloon animals in this fun session.

[329] Make Your Own Book!
16 Participants
Make and decorate your own book with Special Collections librarians! We’ll also look at some amazing artist’s books using the very same book structures you learn in class.

[330] Microscope Guessing Game
16 Participants
Have you wondered how everyday objects look really, really close up? Ever wonder how Velcro works, why wool sweaters are so itchy or why some leaves feel fuzzy? In the Microscope Guessing Game, these questions might be answered as you try to identify objects in a Scanning Electron Microscope at high magnification. Do you think you are up to the challenge?

[331] Migratory Birds, Poo and You!
20 Participants
Thousands of migratory birds move through Michigan every spring and fall! Learn about how MSU scientists study these amazing creatures and ways that you can help support birds from your backyard!
[334] Pizza 101
30 Participants
Learn the basics of pizza making from scratch! Participants of this session will see a demonstration on how to prepare and handle pizza dough and different methods of baking. Then they will get to prepare their own pizza!

[335] Ready, Set, Mush!
30 Participants
Welcome to the world of sled dogs! Participants will learn about dog sled training, racing and get to meet a real sled dog!

[336] Spartans Talk Dollars and Cents
30 Participants
Let's talk money! Being ready for the future and knowing how to manage your money is an important life skill. Join MSU Extension staff as you explore the world of finances and increase your money smart knowledge through fun, hands-on activities.

[337] Tour de MSU by Bike!
20 Participants
Come along for a bike ride around the lovely MSU campus to see what makes it a gold-level Bike Friendly University! Ride six to eight miles if the weather allows. If not, an indoor presentation called, “The Amazing Bicycle: The World's Most Efficient Human Powered Machine!” will take place.

[338] Traveling Technology Free
30 Participants
Have you ever wondered how people traveled without GPS? Do you think you could find your way around using just a map? In this class you will learn how to read an atlas, reach destinations using maps, use tools to plan a road trip and receive take home material to use on your next adventure.

[339] What's Buzzing in the Garden
20 Participants
Come learn about the importance of pollinators in the garden and to our food sources. Learn the difference between honey bees, native bees and other pollinators. Participants will learn how they can support them in your backyard, neighborhood and communities.

[340] Where Does Milk Come From?
25 Participants
Meet the dairy cows at MSU and learn about how they produce top quality and nutritious milk! We will tour the farm, see what the animals eat and where they live. Everyone will get a chance to milk a cow and see how a digestive system works. Great for those who love animals, want to be a veterinarian or learn more about farming and where our food comes from.

[341] Crafting with Nature
20 Participants
The State Motto of Michigan is “If you seek a pleasant peninsula, look about you.” In this class, we will explore ways of appreciating Michigan’s outdoor natural beauty by capturing it in various arts and crafts projects for both the home and outdoors.

[342] Words That Change the World: The Superpower of Writing
16 Participants
Have you ever been told to “use your words?” Here’s how to use your words to really make your point. We’ll consider what makes some words more effective than others and how people have used words to change the world. Then you’ll write an effective message to someone who can, in fact, help you change the world. You are welcome to bring a tablet or laptop to the class to help with letter writing, but phones aren’t useful for the writing exercise. Those who don’t bring a laptop or tablet will engage in the time-honored tradition of writing a postcard by hand. This class expands on the advocacy learned in “How to Change the World in 30 Days.”

[343] Calming and Relaxing: Tools to Stay Cool When Things Get Hot
25 Participants
Your days can get stressful if you have too much to do. Wouldn’t it be nice to know some ways to keep calm when you get overwhelmed? In this class we will discuss different ways of relaxing, including breathing techniques and even some laughter, to help you through those tough moments. We will use examples from nature to help you build new ways of coping with stress. We will also make calming jars that you can take with you for those times when you just need to unwind. We will end our class with time for muscle relaxation, to help you feel refreshed and ready for the rest of your day.
Imagine the Moon
75 Participants | Grades Five & Up
Explore how the Moon has inspired human creativity, learning and exploration ever since we have looked to the sky. Each discovery has brought new opportunities to contemplate and imagine, until, driven by dreams, we left Earth and went there in the amazing journeys that culminated in astronauts walking on the Moon. People have imagined the Moon as a glowing disk in the sky, a destination in space and a world that shares its origin with the Earth. The power of human imagination continues to inspire our relationship with the moon as our partner in space and companion in our sky. Planetarium show suitable for grades five and up.

Campus Police K9 Demo
50 Participants
Observe MSU’s working dogs! The MSU Department of Public Safety will bring their K9s for you to meet while observing part of their training day.

Bug House
30 Participants
Come to the Bug House to see displays of insects from around the world as well as have the opportunity to see, touch and hold live insects, tarantulas and scorpions.

Vermicomposting: Fun With Worms
20 Participants
Vermicomposting is composting but with the addition of helper worms! Participants in this class will learn how to build a worm bin, how to take care of worms and how to use vermicompost, and can even take a worm bin home with them!

Zeke the Wonderdog!
50 Participants
Zeke the Wonderdog and friends will be putting on a fun event with group participation. Learn how to teach a dog a new trick and a few will be lucky enough to teach a trick to Zeke!

STEM Teaching and Learning Facility Tour
15 Participants
This session will provide participants a tour of the STEM Teaching and Learning Facility. Individuals will be given a short history of the former Shaw Lane power plant and how the building was adaptively reused. Tours will include a presentation on mass timber at MSU and a walking tour of building.

Fourteen Billion Years of Nuclei
48 Participants
Learn how the elements have been formed over the entire history of the universe, what we still don’t know and how MSU’s Facility for Rare Isotope Beams will help reveal the origins of heavy nuclei!

Basic Movement 101
20 Participants
This session will cover basic movement, stretching and balance exercises. Possibly includes chair yoga.

Basic Photography — With a Smartphone
25 Participants
Learn how to take better pictures with your smartphone. You will learn some basic skills to take your photos to WOW! You must have a smartphone to participate in this class.

Be an Ancestry Detective
40 Participants
Generate a family tree together and learn how to use a free edition of Ancestry.com, as well as other free online sites or resources available through local libraries. Attendees will learn how to conduct family interviews and record multi-generational family traditions and memories.

History of Beaumont Tower and Carillon
12 Participants
Gain fascinating information and real-life demonstrations on the bells, carillons and history of Beaumont Tower. The class will be conducted in and around Beaumont Tower.

Beef Cattle Awesomeness: A Crash Course in Modern Beef Production
30 Participants
Get an insider’s look at the MSU Beef Center cow/calf and feedlot units, while learning about the management of a modern beef cattle operation. Learn why beef cattle farmers need to be concerned with forage production, growth and development, genetics, breeding, nutrition, health, beef quality and so much more. See why cows are so cool — and why modern beef cattle production is both an art and a science. Walking required.
[407] Beginning Sushi
25 Participants
Learn hands-on how to prepare and roll sushi. Prepare to be creative and have fun with food! No raw fish will be used.

[408] Being Healthy at Home: Enhancing Wellness the Osteopathic Way
25 Participants
We will explore how families can work together to enhance wellness through healthy activity and play. There will be fun tips on nutrition, and discussing the importance of sleep and rest. Participants will discover the history and philosophy of Osteopathic medicine and how this can contribute to all members of the family engaging in their own health. Be prepared for fun, some gentle movement, and sharing of ideas! Participants should wear comfortable clothing that allows for movement.

[409] Build a Science Center
20 Participants
Imagine a science center where you can see an exhibit, touch it, play with it, experiment with it, break it (accidentally), repair it, rebuild it, improvise it, make a replica and take it home. Come and learn how you can build this!

[410] Building Your Dream Community
40 Participants
This activity-based session will look at how the availability of resources impact communities. In teams, participants will build their own communities with the materials or “resources” available to them, then communities will be compared and a discussion will take place.

[411] Care of the MSU Athlete
20 Participants
See where and how MSU athletes get treated for their injuries. This includes a tour of the training room and hands-on experience of some of the treatments used.

[412] Cash Conversations With MSU Federal Credit Union
50 Participants
Interactive lessons and games focused on saving, spending and sharing money. You’ll have the opportunity to work together with your family member(s) to practice ways to manage money, discuss future goals and have fun!

[413] Color Science And A Touch of Magic With WKAR's Curious Crew
40 Participants
Join WKAR's Curious Crew as they explore color science using prisms and pigments with a touch of magic.

[414] Diary of a Michigan Kid
50 Participants
In “Diary of a Wimpy Kid,” readers get to learn what life is like for Greg Heffley. Did you know that historians use diary entries as a way to “time travel,” in order to learn more about what life was like many years ago? In this session, you’ll get a chance to “time travel” by asking a kid from many years ago some questions about their life and by making your own audio diary that kids many years in the future might someday listen to!

[415] Disney Trivia
20 Participants
In this fun Jeopardy style trivia game, play games like “name that tune” with family teams!

[416] Geocaching in the MSU Horticulture Gardens
25 Participants
Learn the basics of the popular worldwide hobby of geocaching while touring the beautiful MSU Horticulture Gardens. You will learn what geocaching is all about and how to operate a basic GPS unit. We will then find up to five geocaches. Basic loaner Garmin GPS units will be provided, but if you have your own feel free to bring it. Please note this class requires a lot of and is designed for those who have never geocached before or are new to the activity. We will be out rain or shine (unless there is lightning). Bring rain gear, water and bug spray!

[417] The Amazing Geode!
75 Participants
Geodes: What are they? How are they formed? Where are they found? You will learn all about these amazing rocks in this fun session.

[418] Geography, Environment and Spatial Sciences
15 Participants
This session will include hands-on activities related to weather, climate and geography. We will collect data with instruments and will interpret maps.
[419] Grass to Gas: Fermentation in a Bag  
30 Participants
In this class, we will discuss why it is important to research biofuels and learn the basics of how biofuels are made. We will also conduct the fermentation in a bag hands-on experiment where we observe how biofuels are made.

[420] History of Sparty  
75 Participants
You have seen him at athletic events, in parades, around campus on game day, in ESPN commercials, at weddings, birthday parties, alumni club events and promoting literacy to children in schools. He is everywhere; he is loved and he is an embodiment of what it means to be a Michigan State Spartan. Have you ever wondered how our beloved Sparty became the MSU icon he is today? In this session you will learn the origins of Sparty, the Sparty Mascot Program and get a rare inside look at what it is like to portray Sparty. There are many exciting aspects of the program that most Spartans do not have the opportunity to witness. Join us for an in-depth look of Sparty, the gentle giant.

[421] How Do People Form Teams?  
25 Participants
Interested in how people form teams? We will conduct an experiment to see how this happens. Then we’ll talk about economists’ and game theorists’ applications of these simple settings to worker-firm matching, marriages and team formation.

[422] How Plant Breeders Help Feed the World  
50 Participants
MSU has an excellent Plant Breeding, Genetics and Biotechnology program. This session will discuss the efforts we have to help build the next generation of plant breeders as hunger fighters.

[423] Humor And Laughter: Always the Best Medicine at Any Age!  
40 Participants
Genuine and spontaneous humor and laughter are the best ways to promote self-care every day! But, what are the positive health effects of humor and laughter on the mind-body-spirit? This fun, interactive class will brighten your day, cause you to smile and be a foundation for bringing joy and laughter to your life every day!

[424] Indigenous People’s Gifts to Our Diet  
30 Participants
A sizable portion of the foods we eat worldwide are descended from plants originally tamed by the Indigenous First Nations People of the Americas. It is not just corn we owe to their agronomic skills. This class is hosted at the W.J. Beal Botanical Garden.

[425] Learning to Love Writing and Words  
60 Participants
Hear from Joseph Kimble, author of award-winning children’s picture book, “Mr. Mouthful Learns His Lesson” and study the steps that go into making a book — including choices that a writer must make. From words to wordplay and important features of language, discover the love of writing. All children who attend will receive a free copy of the book.

[426] Magic and Balloon Twisting  
16 Participants
Learn simple magic tricks using household objects to try on your friends and family. Also, learn how to twist balloon animals in this fun session.

[427] Managing the Campus Arboretum  
30 Participants
Learn what goes into maintaining the trees on MSU’s campus and see some of the equipment used by the arborist crew. This class is outside and participants will need to have comfortable walking shoes. Each participant will receive a free tree to take home and plant.

[428] NinjAnatomy  
50 Participants
Get ready to move! Join us for a dynamic blend between the martial arts and anatomical sciences. Basic kicking and punching techniques set the scene for discussing a variety of anatomical topics, including the cardiovascular, respiratory and nervous systems. Show off your newly gained skills by breaking a real wood board!

[429] Packaging Science Put to the Test!  
50 Participants
In this hour, we will talk about the shocks, vibrations and drops that could damage your product so you will have to put your skills to the test and create a package that will survive the shipping environment.
[431] Pizza 101
30 Participants
Learn the basics of pizza making from scratch! Participants of this session will see a demonstration on how to prepare and handle pizza dough and different methods of baking. Then they will get to prepare their own pizza!

[432] Science and Culture: Exploration at the MSU Museum
40 Participants
Get ready for some fun at the MSU Museum! Explore the place on campus where science and culture meet. Attend a “Science On a Sphere” demonstration, experience the exhibits (including the dinosaurs) and participate in hands-on activities.

[433] The Historical Student Experiences at MSU
20 Participants
Explore life at Michigan State University through historical photographs and documents. Use your history detective skills to discover what students did for fun, the rules they were expected to follow and what it was like to live in the dormitories. Join the university archivists, who care for over 165 years of MSU history, for this interactive class.

[434] Traveling Technology Free
30 Participants
Have you ever wondered how people traveled without GPS? Do you think you could find your way around using just a map? In this class you will learn how to read an atlas, reach destinations using maps, use tools to plan a road trip and receive take home material to use on your next adventure.

[436] Microscope Guessing Game
16 Participants
Have you wondered how everyday objects look really, really close up? Ever wonder how Velcro works, why wool sweaters are so itchy or why some leaves feel fuzzy? In the Microscope Guessing Game, these questions might be answered as you try to identify objects in a Scanning Electron Microscope at high magnification. Do you think you are up to the challenge?

[437] Words That Change the World: The Superpower of Writing
16 Participants
Have you ever been told to “use your words?” Here’s how to use your words to really make your point. We’ll consider what makes some words more effective than others and how people have used words to change the world. Then you’ll write an effective message to someone who can, in fact, help you change the world. You are welcome to bring a tablet or laptop to the class to help with letter writing, but phones aren’t useful for the writing exercise. Those who don’t bring a laptop or tablet will engage in the time-honored tradition of writing a postcard by hand. This class expands on the advocacy learned in “How to Change the World in 30 Days.”

[438] Big Astronomy
125 Participants | Grades Five & Up
It takes many people with diverse backgrounds, talents and skills to run a world-class observatory. Meet a few of these people as they share the wonder of the sky — and the excitement of discovery. Explore the observatories nestled in northern Chile’s mountains and learn why Chile is an ideal environment for studying the cosmos. The planetarium show is suitable for grades five and up.

[439] Pickleball for Families
20 Participants
Participants will learn the fundamental rules and strategies for Pickleball, while playing during this session. Please make sure to wear appropriate footwear and clothing to participate.

[440] STEM Teaching and Learning Facility Tour
15 Participants
This session will provide participants a tour of the STEM Teaching and Learning Facility. Individuals will be given a short history of the former Shaw Lane power plant and how the building was adaptively reused. Tours will include a presentation on mass timber at MSU and a walking tour of building.
EVENING ACTIVITIES
TUESDAY, JUNE 28

Sweets, Treats and Games
250 Participants
Spend time playing board games, cards and building puzzles while enjoying the provided snacks and drinks.

Tour the Facility for Rare Isotope Beams (FRIB)
50 Participants
Explore a world-class rare isotope laboratory where nuclei are smashed into a target at half the speed of light! Our tour includes demonstrations, an introduction to the goals and methods of nuclear science and a walk through the research vaults. The secrets we learn could help explain what happens in supernovae and the origins of elements that make up the human body.

Birding on the MSU Campus
20 Participants
Take a stroll around the MSU Campus to see the birds that call MSU home. Learn how to start identifying birds on your own and helpful tips to get started birding!

Movie and Snacks
200 Participants
Relax and unwind with a family movie this evening. Snacks are provided.

The Amazing Geodes!
100 Participants
Geodes: What are they? How are they formed? Where are they found? You will learn all about these amazing rocks in this fun session.

DNA Has Never Been Sweeter (Two Sessions)
15 Participants
In this activity, you will learn what DNA is, how it codes for traits and what it looks like. We will demonstrate the structure by making models out of candy!

Color Science and a Touch of Magic With WKAR’s Curious Crew
30 Participants
Join WKAR’s Curious Crew as they explore color science using prisms and pigments with a touch of magic.

Go Green, Go Write! Poetry and Performance
16 Participants
Participants will have the opportunity to write poems based on a series of prompts. We will conclude the evening activity with a poetry reading.

From Campus to Compound: MSU During World War I
20 Participants
Discover the transformation of the West Circle area from a small college campus into a military training camp during World War I. Learn about the impact of the Spanish Influenza pandemic at Michigan State. The tour will be led by archivists from the University Archives and Historical Collections.

Drum Circle: No Experience Needed!
100 Participants
A drum circle is more than playing an instrument; it builds community, trust, empathy and friendship! There will be plenty of instruments including those you can make in the afternoon workshop. If you have a drum or other instrument at home, bring it to GPU.

Open Gym: Basketball
150 Participants
Have fun playing basketball with other participants in this non-structured evening activity. Bring your ball or use one of ours and play some basketball!

Build a Science Center
30 Participants
Imagine a science center where you can see an exhibit, touch it, play with it, experiment with it, break it (accidentally), repair it, rebuild it, improvise it, make a replica and take it home. Come and learn how you can build this!

Pulling Together
200 Participants
This is an interactive assembly type presentation where the participants will get to learn about the world of sled dogs and also meet Enzo, a superstar canine of Nature’s Kennel.

Lighting Up The Sensor Through Air
12 Participants
Join this demonstration on how to transmit sensing information by radio frequency waves. Students will be taught how to evaluate the energy transfer efficiency by parameter optimization.
**EVENING ACTIVITIES (CONT.)**

**Art Party at the MSU Broad**
*150 Participants*

Children and grandparents are invited to MSU’s contemporary art museum for a night of curiosity and creativity! There is something for everyone, including self-guided gallery tours, hands-on activities and artmaking. Don’t miss this evening of creative fun!

**Words That Change the World: The Superpower of Writing**
*20 Participants*

Have you ever been told to “use your words?” Here’s how to use your words to really make your point. We’ll consider what makes some words more effective than others and how people have used words to change the world. Then you’ll write an effective message to someone who can, in fact, help you change the world. You are welcome to bring a tablet or laptop to the class to help with letter writing, but phones aren’t useful for the writing exercise. Those who don’t bring a laptop or tablet will engage in the time-honored tradition of writing a postcard by hand. This class expands on the advocacy learned in “How to Change the World in 30 Days.”

**We Are Stars**
*125 Participants | Grades Four & Up*

What are we made of? Where did it all come from? Explore the secrets of our cosmic chemistry and our explosive origins. Connect life on Earth to the evolution of the universe by following the formation of hydrogen atoms to the synthesis of carbon, and the molecules for life. Enjoy a planetarium show narrated by Andy Serkis.

**Bug House**
*30 Participants*

Come to the Bug House to see displays of insects from around the world as well as have the opportunity to see, touch and hold live insects, tarantulas and scorpions.

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 29**

**Green and White Night Scavenger Hunt**
*presented by MET*

Explore campus using the scavenger hunt in your 2022 Grandparents University bag. Follow the instructions and return it for a prize!
THANK YOU

Grandparents University would not be possible without the dedication and hard work of the following sponsors:

Residential and Hospitality Services, Ag and Natural Resources, College of Natural Science, MSU Alumni Office, College of Nursing, College of Engineering, MSU Facility for Rare Isotope Beams, Great Lakes Bioenergy Research Center, College of Human Medicine, College of Arts and Letters, College of Music, College of Osteopathic Medicine, Office of Sustainability, Infrastructure Planning and Facilities, College of Social Science, MSU Athletics, Office of the Provost, College of Veterinary Medicine, College of Communication Arts and Sciences, Archives, Libraries, College of Education, College of Law, Lyman Briggs