



Welcome to Odyssey!

2023-2024

Welcome and Introductions

- Kathryn Martinez, *Executive Director*
- Katie Shenk, *K-4 Asst Director*
- Colin Hynes, *5-8 Asst Director*
- Elki Neiberger, *Director of Operations*
- Levi Dixel, *Director of Adventure*



Mission Statement

Odyssey School of Denver is a diverse, public, K-8 Expeditionary Learning school. We teach students how to learn through a focus on academic achievement, critical thinking and social responsibility, preparing them for high school and beyond.



Fast Facts about Odyssey

- DPS charter school since 1998; 5 year renewal
- Managed by Odyssey Board of Directors
- K-8 school, class sizes range 20 - 26
- Participant School in DPS School Choice Process
- 31% students qualify for free and reduced lunch
- 48% students of color
- Crew Lead Teachers & Specials: Studio Art, PE and Music
- Three Special Education teachers, MS Interventionist, K-5 Reading Interventionist and K&1 teaching assistants, Psychologist
- DPS Support - Nurse, OT/PT, Speech
- Currently expanding our Elementary program by 50% - 318 students in 2024-2025



Odyssey's Calendar and School Day

- Start mid-August , end last week of May/first week of June
- Mondays – Thursdays 8:20 – 3:30 PM
- Fridays 8:20– 1:30 PM
- Kindergarten has a staggered start, beginning a week later than 1st-8th grade. First week of school is half days.
- After School Childcare & Enrichment -
 - TammyTyme - childcare until 6pm
 - Enrichments - change every 8-12 weeks: Karate, Legos, Drama, Soccer, Piano, Cooking & more!



A Credentialed EL Education School



- One of 41 credentialed schools across the country
- Odyssey is credentialed in all 3 areas of student achievement
- Continued commitment to the EL model

**Odyssey's Mastery of Knowledge and Skills &
High Quality Work Bring Learning to Life**

A Day in the Life at Odyssey

Sample K-2 Schedule	
30 min	Crew
60 min	Literacy Skill Block
60 min	Expedition
40 min	Lunch/Recess
45 min	Specials
90 min	Math
20 min	Snack/Recess
30 min	Labs & Writing
15 min	Closing Circle

Sample 3-5 Schedule	
30 min	Crew
90 min	Literacy/Math
90 min	Literacy/Math
40 min	Lunch/Recess
60 min	Specials
75 min	Expedition
20 min	Snack Recess
15 min	Closing Circle

Sample 6-8 Schedule	
45 min	Crew & SEL
65 min	Language Arts
65 min	Humanities
65 min	Math
40 min	Lunch & Recess
65 min	Science
60 mins	Specials
30 min	Closing Crew

Expedition Scope and Sequence: K-5

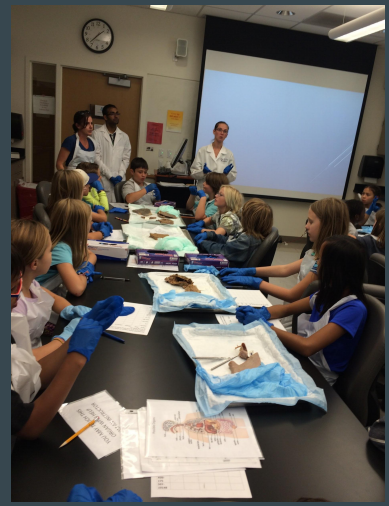
<u>Grade Level</u>	<u>Fall</u>	<u>Spring</u>
Kindergarten	Weather	Trees
1st	Stories of Family	Birds
2nd	Fossils	Pollinators
3rd	Learning Challenges Near & Far	Water
4th	Animal Defense Mechanisms	What's Worth Fighting For
5th	Human Rights	Natural Disasters

Expedition Scope and Sequence: 6-8

<u>Grade Level</u>	<u>Fall</u>	<u>Spring</u>
6th	American Indian Boarding Schools	Remarkable Accomplishments in Space Science
7th/8th Humanities	Y1: Folklore of Latin America Y2: Lost Children of Sudan	Y1: Harlem Renaissance Y2: Lessons from Japanese American Internment
7th/8th Science	Y1: Epidemics Y2: Food Choices	Y1: Plastic Pollution Y2: Climate Change

Fieldwork, Expert and Presentation

- Example Guest Speakers:
 - Kindergarten (Toys): Lisa Hidalgo, Denver7 Meteorologist
 - Fifth Grade (Leaders of Change): Darrell Watson, Denver City Council
 - 7th & 8th grade (Epidemics): Dr. Laurel Lenz, CU Anschutz
- Example Field Work:
 - Dinosaur Ridge (Fossils)
 - Tohaali Community School (N.A. Boarding Schools)
 - Marshall Fire Zone (Natural Disasters)



Work Products and Projects

- Children's Books
- Field Guides
- Podcasts
- Scientific Journals





Additional Examples of High Quality Work

WRITE DOWN THE NAME AND THE PHONE NUMBER FOR EACH BLANK:

POINT OF CONTACT: _____

ADULT/PARENT: _____

ADULT/PARENT: _____

SIBLINGS: _____

SIBLINGS: _____

Family/friend that you can trust: _____

WHERE D _____

REMEMBER IT IS BEST TO LIVE THREA _____

Family Con

EMERGENCY SUPPLY LIST

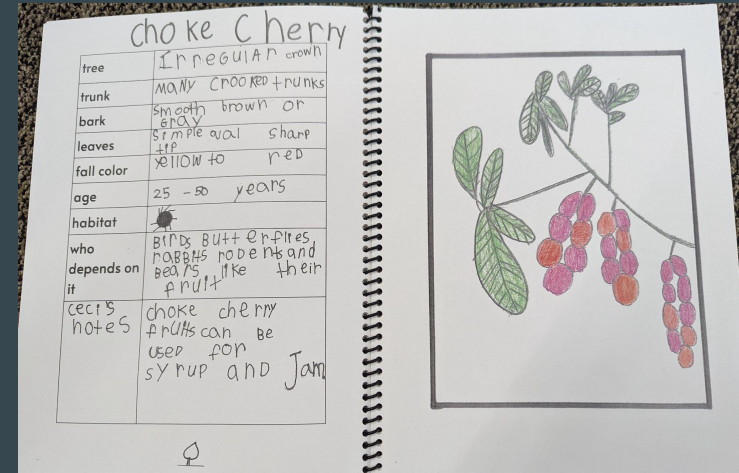
ELECTRICITY LIGHTS UP OUR WORLD. THINK OF ALL THE WAYS THAT WE USE ELECTRICITY. IT KEEPS US COOL IN THE SUMMER AND WARM IN THE WINTER. WHEN EMERGENCY STRIKES ARE YOU READY TO SPEND TIME WITHOUT ELECTRICITY? HERE YOU WILL FIND THE MOST IMPORTANT ITEMS TO HAVE IN YOUR EMERGENCY KIT

1. Flashlight and Batteries
2. Water (enough for 3 days)
3. Canned/Nonperishable Food
4. Sleeping Bags
5. First Aid Kit
6. Important Documents
7. Solar Charger
8. Pet supplies
9. Matches
10. Medication

Where will you store your kit: _____



2nd Grade
Puccoon - Fiber Arts



Kindergarten
Colorado Trees Field
Guide

5th Grade
Natural Disasters Planning

School-Wide Practices at Odyssey

Student-Engaged Assessment - Learning targets, checks for understanding, models, critique and feedback, and using data with students

Portfolios - Student work collected over time that demonstrates achievement in subject areas and Habits of learning. Often used during passage presentations and conferences

Student-Led Conferences - Twice a year, Kindergarten through 8th grade students present learning to teachers and families

Exhibition Nights - Presentations of learning, often showcasing student products or projects that reflect real-world connections

Odyssey's Character Education



Crew: A Structure and a Mindset

Social, emotional and physical wellness.

Cultivating relationships using cultural and trauma responsive practices.

Designing crew and classroom activities that support safety, relationship building, joy, creativity, agency and hope.

Habits of a Learner.

Self-reflection, goal setting, and presentation.

Adventure experiences.



Odyssey's Habits of a Learner

Self-Awareness	Responsibility	Revision
<p>I can recognize my own emotions and how they influence behavior.</p> <p>I can assess my strengths and limitations and use a growth mindset to learn.</p>	<p>I can manage my thoughts and actions in different situations to work towards personal and academic goals.</p>	<p>I can reflect on my actions, identify areas of growth, evaluate best next steps, set a goal, and try again.</p>
Social Awareness	Collaboration	Service and Stewardship
<p>I can listen critically to the diverse perspectives of others, analyze the viewpoints alongside my own, evaluate my thinking, and respond with empathy.</p>	<p>I can establish and maintain healthy relationships while working toward a common goal.</p>	<p>I can identify a need in the environment or community and take action to make a positive impact.</p>

Odyssey's Adventure Programming: Safety First

Risk management is a top priority - We rely on protocols, highly trained staff, minimum ratios to teach/support ALL students in safely participating and leading while:

- Multi-Night Camping
- Rock Climbing
- Hiking
- Snowshoeing
- Rafting
- Biking







Passages at Odyssey

As a school we believe that Passages should be:

- ***Rooted in Evidence***: Students use their work from subject area portfolios/binders to describe growth and learning or evidence from an experience, while contributing to a schoolwide culture of evidence.
- ***Meaningful***: The process of preparing and presenting inspires deep engagement and pride for each student.
- ***A Rite of Passage***: This process asks students to meet a significant challenge in a public way.



Our Expectations for Families

Parents/families engaging and supporting school by reading and responding to teacher and school communication, attending parent/family events and following basic norms for communication (staying student-focused, active listening, kind/respectful, etc.)

100% student participation in student-led conferences, passages and preparation

100% student participation in adventure experiences

Parent volunteering and fundraising support as needed:

- Adventure Campaign
- Annual Campaign
- Dining Out Nights
- Spring Auction

School Choice Process

- Families will research DPS schools via a printed enrollment guide, online resources and school visits.
- All students in pre-K and 8th grades (as well students in 5th grade going to new middle schools) will list their school preferences online through SchoolChoice.
- Students who are new to the district or who are interested in choosing a different school than the one they currently attend should also fill out a SchoolChoice form.
- Online SchoolChoice forms will be OPEN AT 10AM ON JAN 11. Round One closes at 4PM on Feb 12.

Questions That Benefit the Whole Group

What are you wondering?

Classroom Tour Expectations:

- Led by a Student Ambassador
- We have arranged for you to visit a kindergarten, two third grade, and a 6th grade classroom
 - Please stay with your group
 - Only interact with students or the teacher if invited to do so
 - Please save conversation for the hallways

Thank you for coming!



Odyssey's Vision...

Odyssey School of Denver students will:

- Take risks and innovate;
- Lead with integrity and compassion;
- Be civically and socially engaged;
- Push themselves to exceed expectations; and
- Embrace learning as a life-long adventure.



Questions That Benefit the Whole Group

What are you wondering?



Our Special Sauce - What Sets Us Apart?

#1 - How we learn is as important as what we learn.

#2 - We insist on high expectations for learners.

#3 - We live by our commitment to crew and community.

Odyssey Expansion Plan

In Spring 2021, Odyssey received a 5 year charter renewal from the DPS Board. This charter includes maintaining our K-8 model and growing our elementary program by 50%.

- 2020-2021 - 40 Kindergarten seats and 40 1st grade seats, maintain 26 students in grades 2-8
- 2021-2022 - 40 K seats, 40 1st grade seats, 40 2nd grade seats, maintain 26 students in grades 3-8
- **2022-2023 - 40 seats in K, 1, 2, and 3; 26 students in grades 4-5**
- 2023-2024 - 40 seats in K, 1, 2, 3, and 4; 26 students in grade 5
- 2024-2025 - Full build out; 318 students