

SOCO PULSE

Sonoma County Pop-Up Learning Space *Edventures*

Hello Homeschool Families!

We are offering a thoughtfully designed **homeschool pod** run by Molly Hill and Melissa Kang, two experienced **credentialed teachers** with more than 40 years of combined experience. Our goal is to deliver a meaningful academic enrichment program that is **Integrated, Interdisciplinary, and Collaborative** (we call it IIC) in a small, nurturing, and stimulating environment. We strive for a deep, connected understanding of academic content across core subjects **Science, History/Social Studies, Literature, and Art** through compelling themes we call “arcs.” Each arc is a deep dive for five weeks and provides engaging projects, generative experiences, and intellectual conversations. Student learning can be continued on throughout each child’s week through extended or supplemental activities.

What will my child gain?

- Foundational knowledge and deep, connected understanding of academic content integrated across disciplines
- Critical thinking and problem-solving skills through project-based learning that can deepen with their individual curiosity and interests
- A stronger sense of their unique creativity and self-expression through art, writing, and design
- Skills to learn how to effectively collaborate and communicate with peers.
- Confidence in their ability to ask questions and find answers as curious, capable learners
- A sense of community, stability, and belonging

Who is SOCO PULSE Homeschool Pod for?

The SOCO PULSE Homeschool Pod is for families who are looking for meaningful academic enrichment to supplement their current homeschool plan. We are looking for students in grades 2-5 who work best in small groups, who love asking big questions, diving deep with curiosity, and who want to bring their creative ideas to fruition. We aim to serve children who can already read and write on their own (though they can be at a beginner level) and who want to learn! We offer a balance of structure and free play, and are looking for students who would thrive in that type of learning environment. We are looking for families who are excited about a community for their kids with the potential to grow into something bigger.

SOCO PULSE Philosophy

SOCO PULSE is a local non-profit organization offering educational enrichment programs. We believe that curiosity is the engine of learning. SOCO PULSE brings together small groups of creative, motivated students for hands-on project-based exploration. Students don't just read about the world; they build, create, investigate, and discuss their way through it. We believe children learn best when they are engaged, challenged, and given space to wonder. SOCO PULSE is intentionally low-tech and experiential. At the same time, our program is academically grounded. Each offering is designed to correspond with academic standards in science, history/social studies, literature, and art.

Program Details

Day & Hours	TBD
Location	TBD
Grades	2nd through 5th grade
Class Size	8–12 students
Structure	Five 5-week arcs across the school year (November–May); optional virtual component available (September-October)
Commitment	Families enroll in as many or as few arcs as they like - no full year commitment required
Tuition	\$525 per 5-week arc* *Some arcs may have additional fees

Who Are We?

Molly Hill has 30 years of teaching experience, teaching all grades K-5. She was a Lower School Director for five years and held many other leadership roles during her 27 years at Sonoma Country Day School (SCDS) in Santa Rosa. She spent her last three full-time teaching years at the Spring Hill School in Petaluma where she brought her expertise and her enthusiasm for integrated, interdisciplinary, and collaborative teaching and learning. She initiated this model at SCDS to great success in both 1st and 3rd grades with her colleague Melissa Kang. Molly studied English at Mills College with an emphasis in creative writing; she loves that reading and writing has come full circle for her by teaching students how to read and write. Molly has also taken countless art classes and loves to introduce new art projects, artists, and media to students. Molly is a life-long learner and brings curiosity and creativity to whatever she does. Outside of teaching, Molly likes to be outside - at the beach, on the trail, walking about the neighborhoods in Petaluma...or elsewhere in the world! Of course, she loves reading too, and brings that passion to life at Wild Book Company, the seasonal bookstore she owns in Newfane, Vermont.

Melissa Kang brings 12 years of teaching experience working with students in grades 1 through 8, as well as a Master's in Curriculum and Instruction, to SOCO PULSE. Her early years at Da Vinci Connect, a pioneering project-based learning school in Southern California, instilled in her a deep commitment to hands-on, inquiry-driven education and ignited her desire to support homeschooling families. After moving to Sonoma County, Melissa taught alongside Molly in first and third grade at Sonoma Country Day School (SCDS) and at Spring Hill School. At SCDS she became passionate about collaborating with colleagues and community members to bring her units of study to life. Melissa's love of the natural world has since led her to a new path as an ISA certified arborist, because for her, learning never stops. She approaches teaching and learning the same way she approaches everything: with curiosity, whether that's experimenting in her garden, rebuilding the chicken coop, or learning piano alongside her children.

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2026–2027 Sample Overview

Arc 1	Light & Color Photography & pinhole cameras · Color wheels & pigments · Prisms, rainbows & kaleidoscopes · Synesthesia & Kandinsky · Sun prints · Circuits & electrical light · Shadow puppets · Optical illusions · pH experiments · Natural dyes · Solar energy · Poetry · History of colors · Field trip: SF Exploratorium
Arc 2	Motion & Movement Simple machines & Rube Goldberg machines · Soapbox cars & zucchini cars · Roller coasters · Bikes & bike maintenance · Kinetic sculptures · The wheel through history · How animals move · Celestial movement · Immigration & human migration · Earth's movement and earth science (i.e. erosion, earthquakes) · All forms of transportation · Field trip: SMART train, SF Ferry
Arc 3	Ancient Egypt Hieroglyphics & Egyptian art · Gods & goddesses · Pyramids, tombs & architecture · Mummification · Pharaohs & rulers · Beliefs about the afterlife · Archaeology & studying the past · The Nile River & African geography · Papyrus — the world's first paper · Field trip: de Young Museum
Arc 4	Ancient Greece & Rome Greek & Roman gods and myths · The Trojan Horse & famous battles · The Olympics · The spread of the Roman Empire · Philosophy · Government & democracy · Art & architecture · The Roman calendar · Introduction to Latin · Maps & geography of the ancient Mediterranean · Field trip: Legion of Honor Museum
Arc 5	Choose Your Own Adventure! Students choose a topic they're passionate about, dive deep, and teach it to their peers. This culminating unit celebrates student voice, curiosity-driven learning, and the joy of becoming an expert in something you love.