

CHALLENGE CHARTER SCHOOL KIDS LEARNING THE FUTURE...

CCS is Arizona's FIRST TechSmart Kids School integrating the Global Language of Computer Science Coding directly into our Core Knowledge® content-rich curriculum!



Challenge Charter School is proud to announce our partnership with TechSmart Kids! We are leading the way as the first school in Arizona to bring this unique and fun opportunity to our kids.

TechSmart kids will add value to, not replace, other important content. We have worked diligently this summer to integrate coding instruction and skill development directly into the content-rich Core Knowledge® curriculum that our kids love and that is already proven successful!

This partnership will take math instruction to the next level as well as problem solving, logic, sequencing/order of operations, and computer science.

Computer science is a primary driver of the U.S. economy, yet it does not (yet) play a significant role in K-12 education.” -EdSurgeNews

Research shows that computer science’s role in the economy continues to grow exponentially, but the limited K-12 programs only expose kids to the concepts, not immerse them. We have found the perfect curriculum to immerse them years before most will even be exposed giving CCS kids yet another early advantage!

This fun, unique, and integrated curriculum has interchangeable views of SkyLark block and Python code and can be differentiated for any ability level. All CCS kids will become proficient Python coders (an employable skill) by the end of 6th grade! Talk about *Leading the Class* as they begin middle school!

“Wow. This code provides a visual learning opportunity that exposes kids to my 4th grade math standards two years early.”

– Mrs. Anderson, CCS 4th Grade Teacher and Certified Coding Instructor.

The CCS team has devoted significant time and consideration to the research behind coding instruction benefits and to finding just the right fit and best available program to align with the school’s consistent mission and emphasis in science and technology integrated with the content-rich Core Knowledge® curriculum.

Using a custom schedule, instruction will be delivered two times a week as recommended for any foreign language and provide strong foundations through group instruction, guided exercises, independent and team based projects in 2nd grade and above. Kindergarten and 1st grade will continue to be exposed to coding basics and activities as part of their computer science foundation classes with CCS Technology Teacher and Certified Coding Instructor, Mrs. Dismukes.

TechSmart Kids is engaging and incredibly FUN! CCS kids' imagination will be ignited and they are going to LOVE getting to know and developing the animated cast of characters as they progress and code their way through the engaging "Land of Aetherial."

"Aetherial is addicting and I cannot believe I am learning while I am having this much fun!" – Principal Miller and Certified Coding Instructor

Principal Miller and 10 other CCS team members became Certified Coding Instructors during an intensive training program this summer and are ready to *challenge* and excite our kids with this new opportunity. Watch for continued and frequent communication about the TechSmart Kids implementation at CCS. We can't wait to see our Eagles soon and we know they are UP to the TechSmart Kids CHALLENGE!

"I cannot believe how many correlations there are to teach and strengthen reading fundamentals within this curriculum and coding instruction."

– Mrs. Mertler, CCS Reading Specialist & Certified Coding Instructor

"The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics predicts that by the year 2020, there will be one million more computer science jobs than graduates prepared for these jobs."-EdSurge

"It's been shown that learning to code can help you do better in other subjects that you're studying or learning. Within programming, you learn how to break down a problem into individual steps and to use a language that the computer understands to logically create a working program." – Careerfoundry.com

Everybody in this country should learn to program a computer... because it teaches you how to think

Steve Jobs, co-founder and CEO of Apple Inc. (1955 - 2011)

