

Engelmann Mountain School



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By Sarah Cookler

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Our first year! So far, a great success!

Career Week

Local community members and parents shared their interests with the next generation!

Continued Support

Thank you for all your support past, present, and future!

We opened the doors of the Wasatch Mountain Lodge in September for the inaugural class of EMS. The first class of seven excited, curious, and active little students is thriving in this place-based mountain school.

News from Engelmann



Inside the Wasatch Mountain Lodge, two students enjoy creating in the natural light. The easel is illuminated by the light streaming in through the early season snow and around the Engelmann Spruce.

At EMS we strive to help our students learn through experiences in nature - an unbeatable teacher of life. Our students start each day with an uphill hike to the lodge, which is already covered in snow! Our 3–5-year-old students don't bat an eye as they trek up the mountain, stopping along the way to investigate new animal tracks, identify fallen leaves, or to discuss some curiosity that has been sparked.

Each week offers a new theme as a framework for an inquiry-based exploration. For example, a renewable energy week led to exciting projects and new efforts to partner with SLC Utilities to further our understanding of the BCC Watershed. The students are encouraged to ask questions, understand the process, and apply it to the world around them. We are all thrilled!

Upcoming Programs

Winter Ski School Engelmann Mountain School is excited to partner with the Brighton Ski School for a 12-week ski program for our students. The students will put their boots on in the classroom and ski out the doors for their weekly ski lesson. Brighton Ski School has developed a custom ski program that will continue the place-based learning curriculum on the hill with lessons in history of the mountain, snow safety, and ecology, all while learning to ski.

Friday Ornithology

Emily Ford, MEd in Environmental Education, will be teaching an ongoing ornithology curriculum each Friday morning as a wonderful addition to our teaching team!



Continued Support

We thank you all for your initial support of EMS. It is with your help that we got this project off the ground and into the first academic year.

We have had ongoing community interest and recognition from other place-based organizations, such as the Teton Science School for what we are doing.

It is with this continued positive feedback that we know we are on the right track: providing an education to our young students that is unique and valued.

This endeavor benefits greatly from continued financial support allowing us to provide this unique educational experience to our current students and to those to come.

We have 2 current fundraising efforts:

1. We are currently raising money for our winter curriculum; specifically, science-based lessons focused on water cycles, snow science, and winter travel.
2. Ongoing fundraising for tuition reduction and scholarship funds, helps us bring this type of learning to all those who are interested in it.

If you would like to be a sustaining supporter of EMS there is a link on our web site to donate on a monthly or yearly basis, or a one-time basis. www.engelmannmountainschool.org

Career Week

The students at EMS had a wonderful week of learning about different careers from our local community members. The BCC community has a wealth of knowledge, experience, and great teachers amongst us, and it was wonderful to learn about different paths in life. The students engaged with each presenter to learn what they specialize in and then completed great interactive activities. The kids wrote a short story after learning about becoming an author from Sam Wittke. They practiced mathematics with Cynthia Din, PhD in pharmacy, and even perfected their 360's with professional skier Grete Eliassen. One of the highlights was visiting the local Silverfork Construction site where Dave and Holly Carlson had stations for measuring, cutting, and building. We offer deep gratitude to the community members for their time spent with the EMS students! (Kathryn Carpenter, John Carpenter, Josh Skogan, Grete Eliassen, Cynthia Din, Kirstin Lindstrom, Sam Wittke, Sarah Cookler, Logan Cookler, Dave and Holly Carlson).



*Thank you from the
Engelmann Mountain
School Team!!!*