

Desert Garden Montessori

Middle Years & High School

DESIGN PROGRAM

Design is one of our most unique and exciting subject areas at Desert Garden. As an IB program, Design is one of our 8 core subject areas.

The study of Design is to encourage and enable students to:

- enjoy the design process
- develop knowledge, understanding and skills from different disciplines to design and create solutions to problems using the design cycle
- use and apply technology effectively as a means to access, process and communicate information
- model and create solutions and to solve problems
- develop an appreciation of the impact of design innovations for life, global society and environments develop respect for others' viewpoints and appreciate alternative solutions to problems

The IB design cycle consists of 4 main skills and several sub-skills that are taught and assessed on each Design project.



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Students complete at least two Design projects each year through 10th grade. Design becomes an elective in 11th and 12th grade.

Example Design Projects Pictured Here:

Mercado - Our annual entrepreneurship market, students design businesses and products to sell during the first quarter of the year. This group of students designed and crafted hand sewn bows and headbands. They sold over \$400 worth of items! Proceeds from Mercado help to pay for the annual Field Study Trip!

Design Cycle Wheel - Each winter, students design and showcase a project at the end of the first semester. Students built a blown up version of the design cycle to showcase one year!

Dream Event - Each year our students design and create a piece to auction off at our annual school fundraiser. In the past, our Design students have made giant Jenga sets, beautiful planter boxes, and hand painted ceramic dish sets!

