Happy New Year Families!
Since school is a bit different this year, we wanted to kick off 2022 with an insightful student perspective of life at Desert Mirage Elementary.

An 8th Grade Student Perspective:
I am a new 8th grade student at Desert Mirage Elementary School. I have recently relocated to Glendale. Transitioning to a new school was not easy. I had to leave my old school, friends and teachers behind and would have to face new challenges in a new environment. At first, I was unsure on what to expect, whether Desert Mirage Elementary School would be able to meet my academic needs or the quality of education.

From the moment I stepped foot on Desert Mirage Elementary School, I felt welcomed and the staff were ready to assist. I have to acknowledge the excellent staff who work hard to give us the best experience every day. Whenever I had any questions, I would e-mail my teachers or Mr. Williams, principal, and I would get a response as soon as possible. The teachers are able to adjust with mixed classrooms including both online and in-person students. The teachers gave their attention and time to both online and in-person students.

Desert Mirage Elementary School provides academics that correspond with each student’s academic level. Classes were paced fast enough for students to be able to grasp the concept being taught and ask questions, and each student’s doubts were answered. There are classes for students who need to be taught with time and patience. Gifted classes were also provided for students who think abstractly and like a challenge. This class is designed so that students can keep making progress at school, it is a hands-on course where we have long discussions. In my gifted class, we are currently designing roller coasters and learning more about the concept, Physics. For students who like to work extra and are fast thinkers, Desert Mirage Elementary School has ASU Prep classes, where students can take high school and middle school classes earlier than required. We have many competitions like the Spelling Bee and Geography Bee, to name a few. No matter where each student’s academics stand, Desert Mirage Elementary School proves to be a place for everyone and treats each and every student with utmost importance.

One of the things that stands out to me the most is Academy Wednesdays. Due to the pandemic, every Wednesday, we go by an Early Release schedule. Most schools don’t teach anything on this day and treat it as a “free day” but, Desert Mirage Elementary School knows how to take advantage of the situation. Every Wednesday, 8th grade students make menus for the children’s hospital. We learned about nutrition and a healthy diet. We are working hard to make a meal that not only has nutritional value, but a meal that children would actually eat. The students here at Desert Mirage Elementary School give back to the community and that’s what makes Desert Mirage Elementary School truly special.
Desert Mirage is proud to provide rigorous learning through Project Based Learning (PBL) opportunities in each grade level. STEAM education provides learning opportunities that engage learners in Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics. Please speak with your child’s teacher about how they are incorporating PBL into their instruction.

Desert Mirage STEAM Academies

- Kindergarten– S.P.A.R.K
- Sensory, Patterns, Analytics, Rhythms, and Kinetics
- 1st Grade– Bobcats on Broadway
- 2nd Grade– Amazon Future Engineers
- 3rd Grade– Amazon Future Engineers
- 4th Grade– Energy, Conservation, & Efficiency
- 5th Grade– Leadership and Arts
- 6th Grade– Architecture Planning & Construction
- 7th Grade– Next Level Leadership– Innovation, Design, & Entrepreneurship
- 8th Grade– Health, Medical, & Forensic Sciences