

Middle school is a great place to learn what interests you. If it's difficult to figure out which activities you enjoy, try joining a club. Whether you're into cooking, reading, playing the cello, working with computers, singing, acting, wrestling, writing for a school newspaper, doing art, or any other after-school activity you can think of, joining a club will help you make friendships that will last throughout middle school, and maybe even beyond. Meeting someone unknown to you in your club who shares your interests could lead to an eventual friendship. All you have to do is say hello, and see if anyone is friend material! Although joining a club is tons of fun, try and only join two or three of them. Overloaded schedules can cause a lot of stress, the main enemy of a middle school student. If your schedule is stuffed with clubs, time management is crucial. Figure out what needs to be done at what time, and how many minutes or hours each activity takes up. If you're in six or seven clubs at the same time, consider picking the three that are best for you, and stick with them. A club can really help you figure out which activities you enjoy, and meet some new friends that may last for a lifetime.

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Extracurriculars are so much fun! There are many clubs and sports to choose from. If you don't have classes with any of your good friends then join a club together. Extracurricular activities will make you new friends, and also make you a well-rounded person. By doing extracurricular activities you will have a lot of fun and it will make your middle school experience a great one.

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After classes end, there are plenty of after-school activities open to all students. For athletic kids, there is a wide variety of team sports such as football, basketball, volleyball, soccer, tennis, lacrosse, and more! For kids interested in music, there is the a cappella singing group, jazz band, and chamber orchestra. For those who enjoy drama, each year the school puts on a fabulous production. If you enjoy politics, sit in on a student council meeting. If you enjoy art, there is a club for that. If you enjoy arithmetic, there is a math club. If you love animals, join PAWS. If you like to write, join literary magazine! Join as many clubs as possible, and stick to them. You won't regret it. These clubs are fun and focus on the things that you care about and want to do. They are a place to make friends, and have a good time. Also, they are a great way to release your stress and take a load off after a hard day of school.

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Though to an eighth grader school clubs are one of the easier aspects of middle school to deal with, they can be almost as confusing as honors classes to new seventh graders. The truth about clubs is they actually are created for your enjoyment. One tip to make sure that you do enjoy them is finding a club that interests you. On the first day of a club there will be an introductory meeting to tell you about what the club does and what they are for. So attend a few of these meetings and see if that club interests you. After all, clubs can be a great way to meet friends with common interests, or spend time with ones you already have. Another good piece of advice for clubs is don't be afraid to quit one that you don't like. As previously stated there will be an introductory meeting for each club at the beginning

of the year. If you go to one and for whatever reason you don't like it, you're not obligated to return the next time. Actually the purpose for the clubs being designed the way they are is to be easy for you. In fact you can switch in and out of one whenever you want. Of course there are a few exceptions to that, such as Art Club, and Drama Club. All in all clubs are made to be easy and enjoyable, so take advantage of them.

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To have the full MAMS experience you absolutely have to do extracurriculars. There are clubs of all sorts and every sports team you can imagine. For example, by joining a club or sport you are opening yourself up to new friendships. When you join a club or sport you meet people you otherwise wouldn't have talked to. You meet people who share your likes and dislikes. Also, you have to play a sport or join a club to be able to join honors society. Honors society is a club that only takes members who meet the grade point average, have enough community service hours and are involved in any sort of extracurricular. If you meet the two other standards, joining a club or sport is easy. Also being involved in after-school activities looks great on a college application. Clubs and sports complete the MAMS experience better than anything else.

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Although you work so hard during school hours, there is a lot of time to let loose and have fun after-school because MAMS offers so many extracurricular activities. There are at least 20 clubs you can join in seventh grade. Art Club, Drama Club, Math Club, and Jazz Band are only a few of the clubs offered. There is a club to suit any student's interests at MAMS. Sports are also taking place throughout the year. All clubs and sports meet after-school and after extra-help. So, most of them start at around three in the afternoon, and could end anywhere between three-thirty P.M. to six P.M., depending on the activity. After-school activities are a great way to get involved in school, show your MAMS pride, and meet tons of people with mutual interests.