



Sora Media Kit



Sora is the virtual private middle and high school turning today's students into tomorrow's change-makers.

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+400

Relevant and real-world
learning experiences



What is Sora

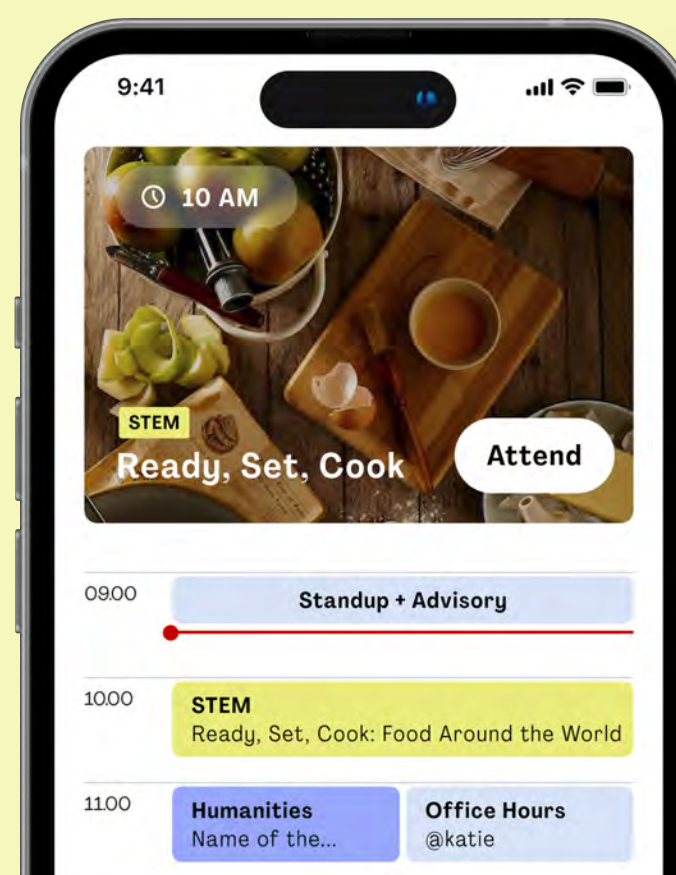
Sora is an innovative, online, private middle and high school that flips the script on the traditional one-size-fits-all education system. At Sora, our mission is to empower students to thrive through an education as unique as they are. Sora revolves around a student-led curriculum where students choose their own path based on their interests and goals, all the while gaining a valuable education that better prepares them for college, a career, or wherever their future may take them.

Sora's middle and high school is accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges, which allows us to meet the requirements of all 50 states and colleges and universities. The high school has a secondary accreditation with Cognia, which is widely recognized both within the U.S. and internationally. Additionally, our program is approved by the NCAA which provides students the ability to play collegiate sports.

You can learn more about Sora on our website, or in the additional facts and figures below.

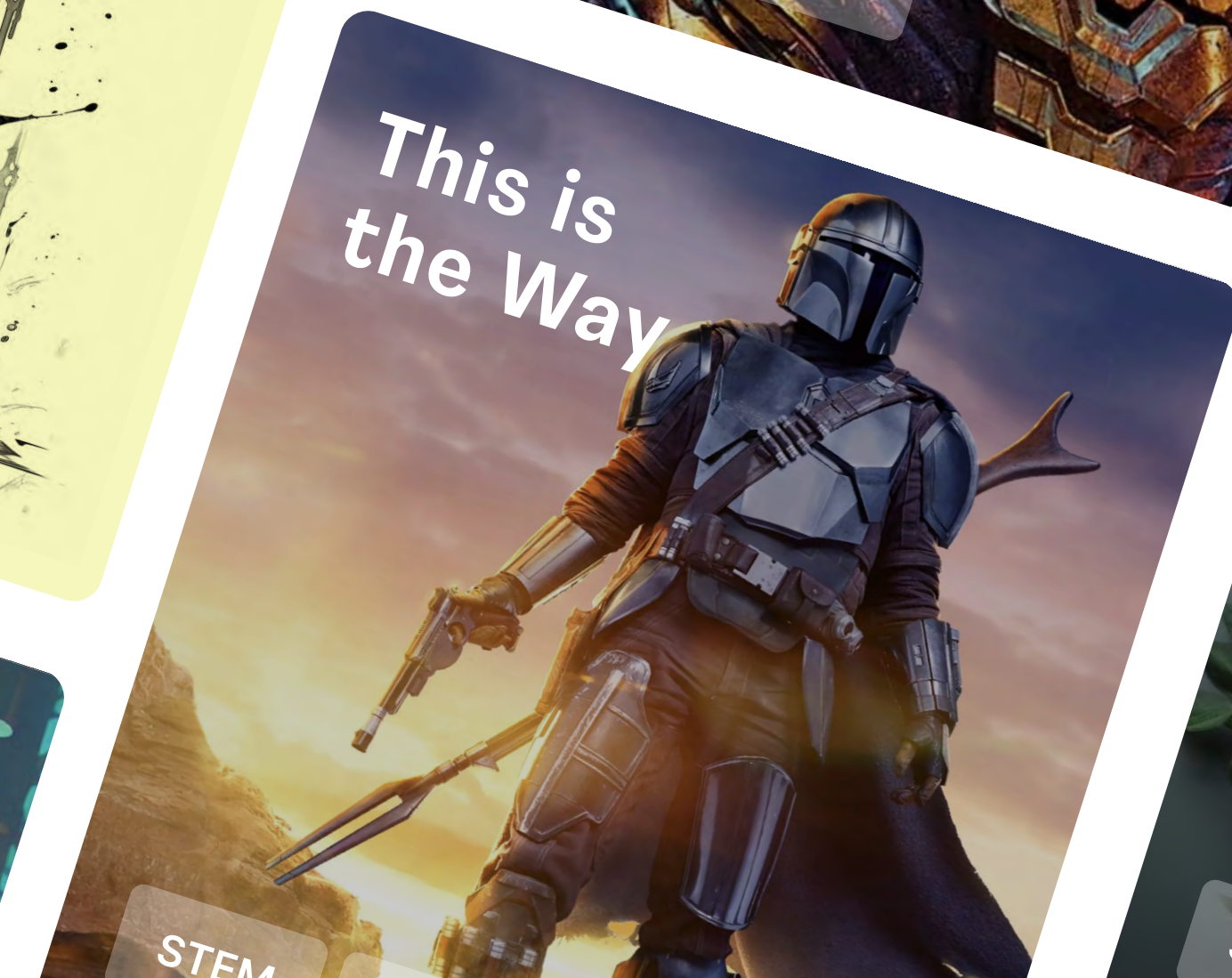
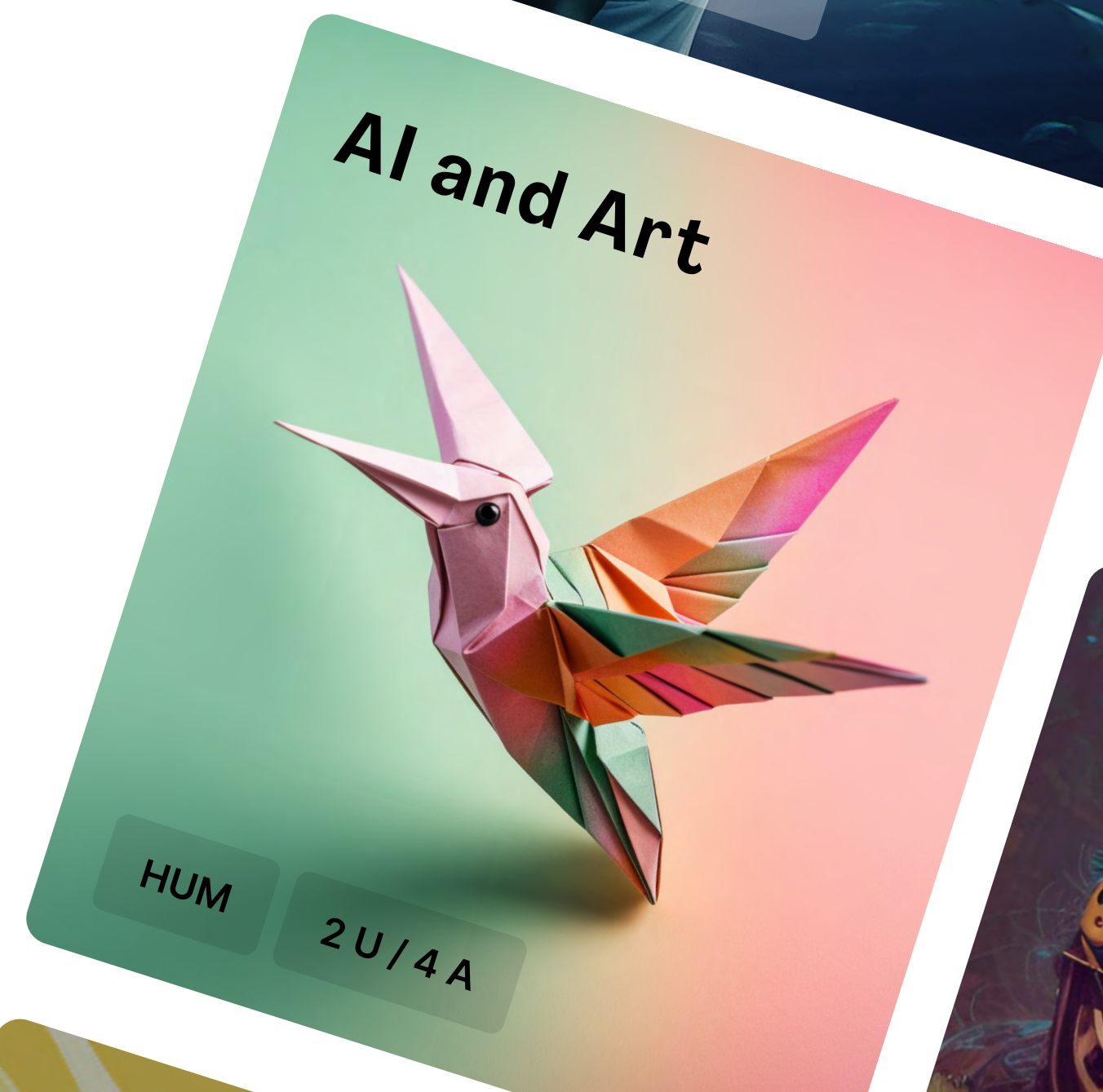
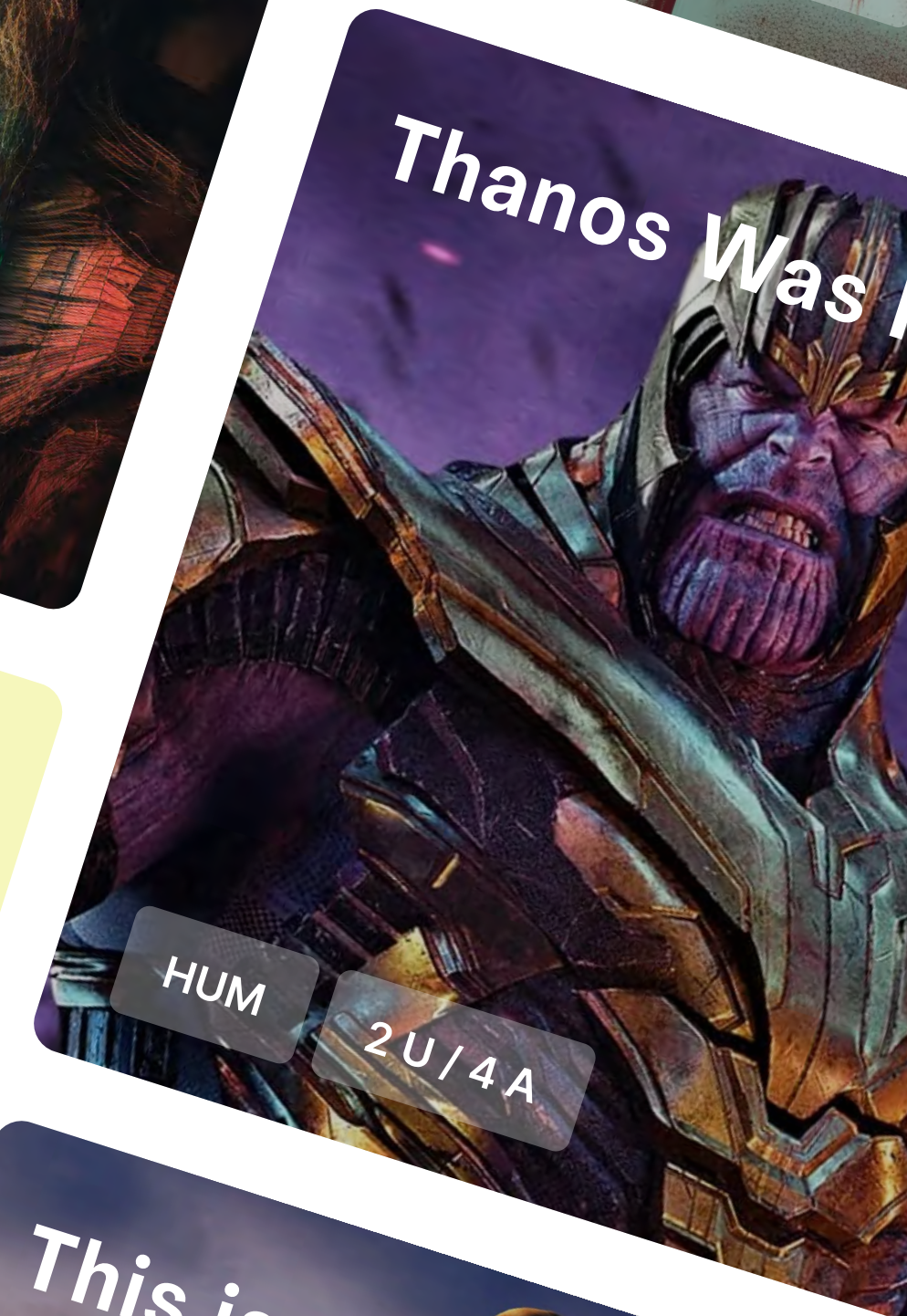
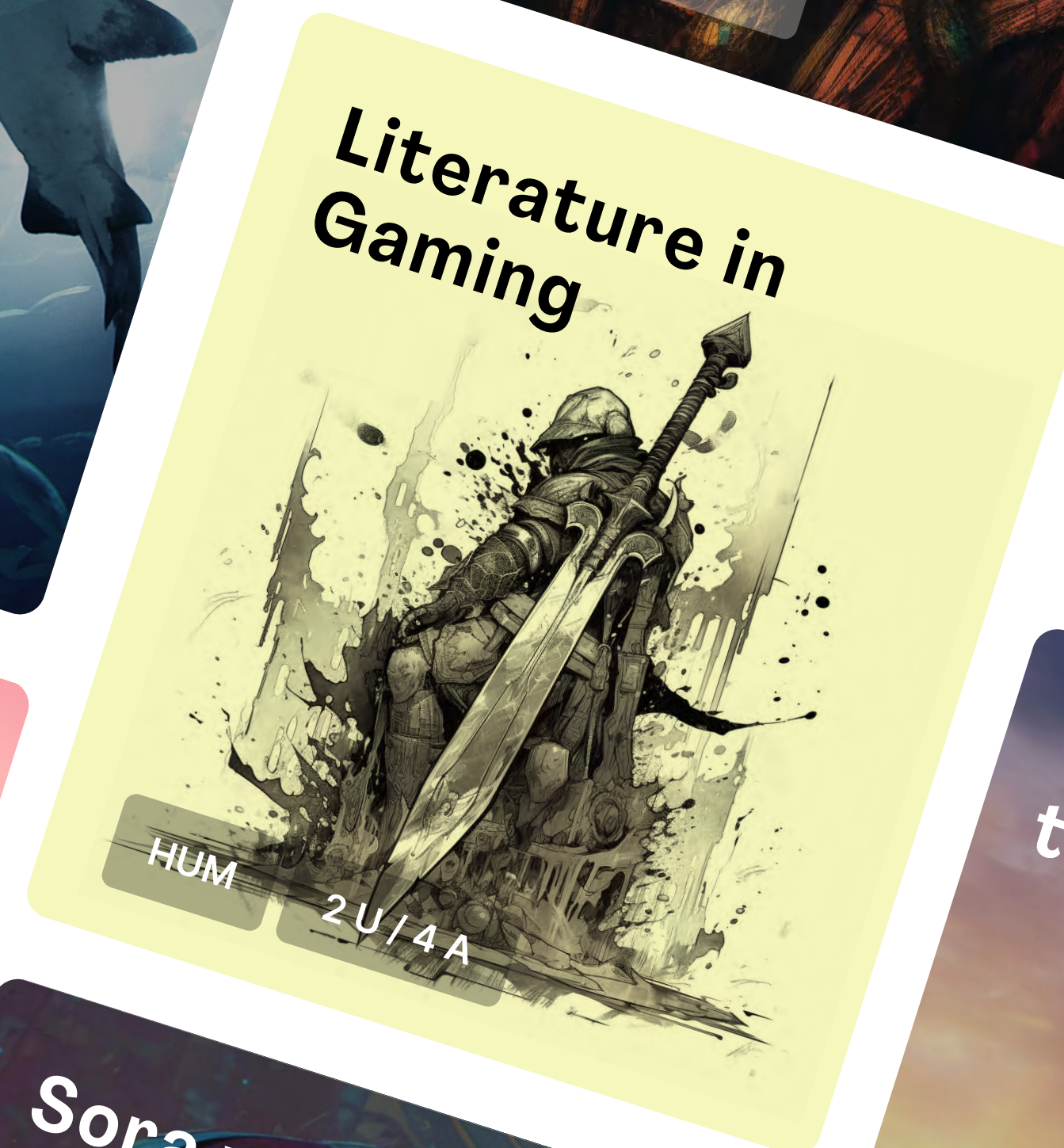
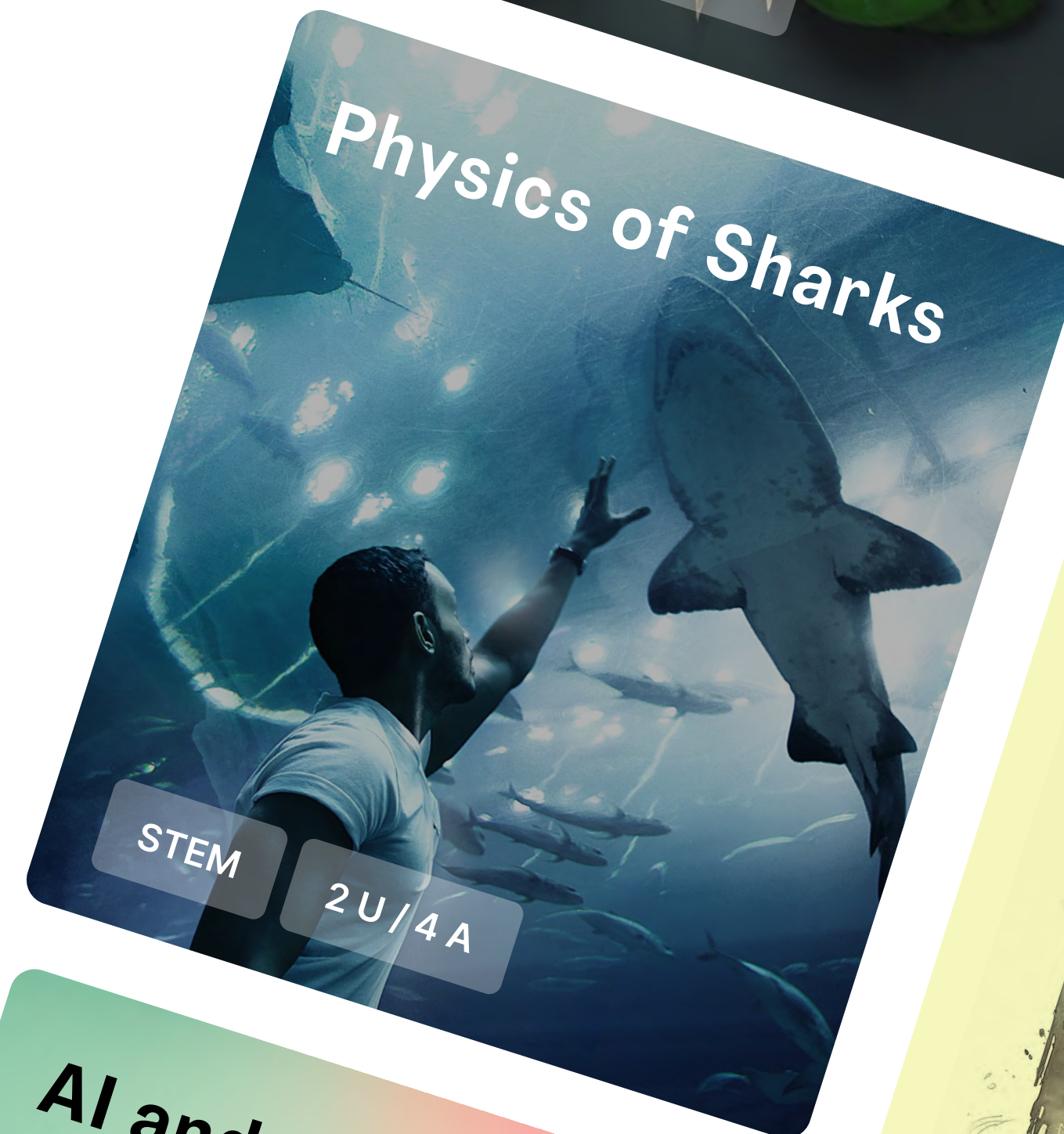
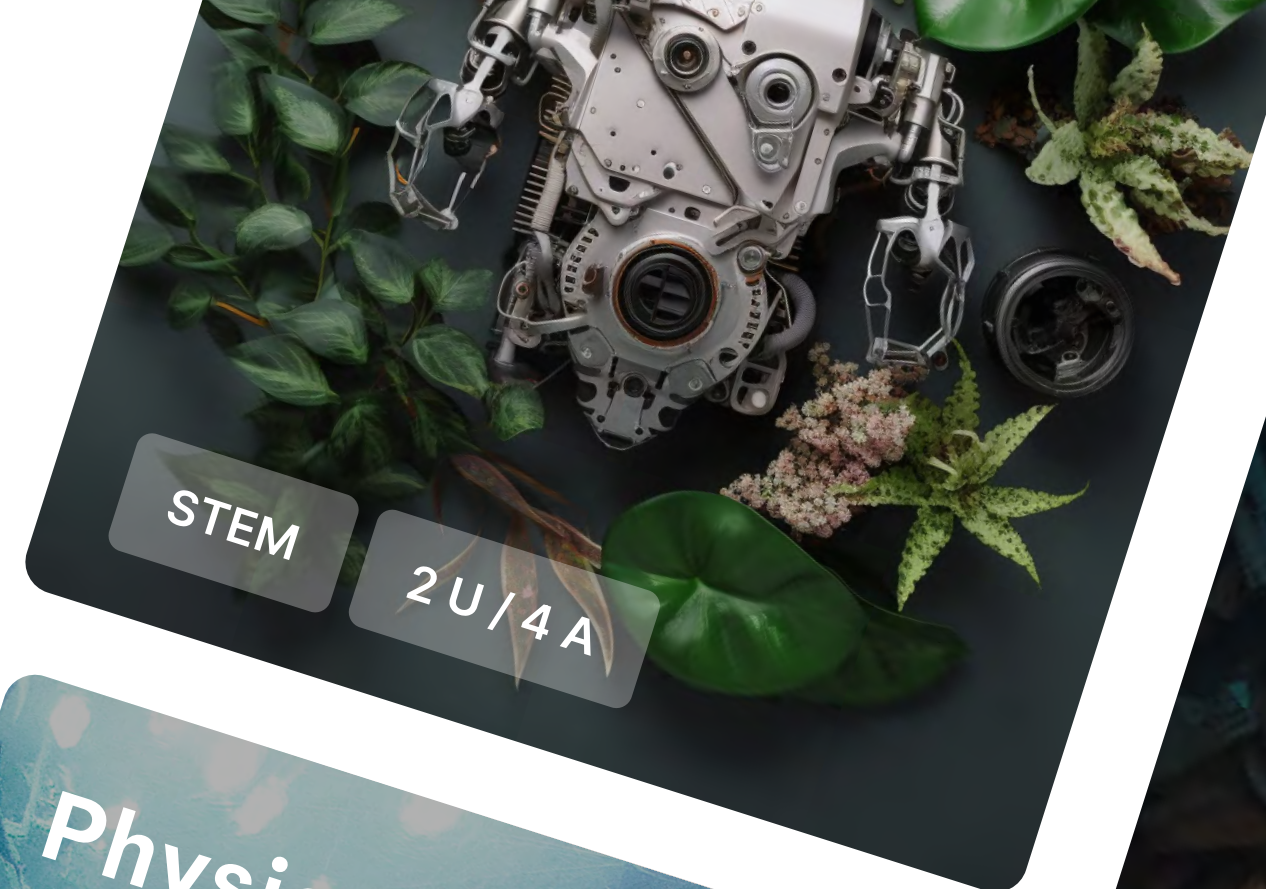


Modern tools for
learning



What makes Sora different?

Our unparalleled curriculum puts students in charge of their education. Utilizing our proprietary software with over 400 interest-based classes and a mastery-based assessment system that rewards trial and error, our students fall in love with the world we share while developing essential 21st-century skills. Our software ensures parents are always in the loop, supporting their students as they progress toward their dreams. There is no school like Sora.



Sora's Key Concepts

Here are **four key concepts** that are the foundation of Sora's unique learning model:

1. Inquiry-Based Learning

Inquiry-based learning empowers students to ask questions and investigate real-world problems. At Sora, we believe education should inspire students to be curious about the world we share, so we prioritize curriculum content that is more practical and applicable to our students' lives and futures. Inquiry-based learning directly answers the most common question in any school: "Why do I need to learn this?"



2. Student-Led Learning Path

Students are happier and more engaged in school when they own their journey and choose how they demonstrate their learning, but that isn't how most traditional schools work. So, at Sora, we do it differently. We've created a curriculum that allows for each student to have a much more significant say in what and how they learn.

We still teach all the "must-have" lessons at Sora, but students get to choose from an extremely diverse and creative selection of course content, and there are a number of ways to achieve their learning goals. We work with our students as they build independence, motivation, and autonomy and progressively introduce more responsibility as they move through our program.

Sora’s Key Concepts

3. Teachers as Guides

Our faculty work side by side with students like performance coaches, helping them to grow and deepen their understanding and mastery. From daily standups (Sora’s version of “homeroom”) and coaching sessions, to community-wide learning roundtables, Sora elegantly couples freedom with just-in-time support from faculty.



4. Mindset Over Memorization

At Sora, we believe the attitudes and thought patterns that students hold matter just as much as the content they encounter. So, we've designed Sora to cultivate seven “Mindsets”: Growth Mindset, Meaning Making, Agency, Curiosity, Positive-sum Thinking, Metacognition, and Connection Seeking.



Sora's Curriculum Explained

Sora students learn through three different types of experiences that teach students integral and relevant lessons based on their interests and goals.

1. Expeditions

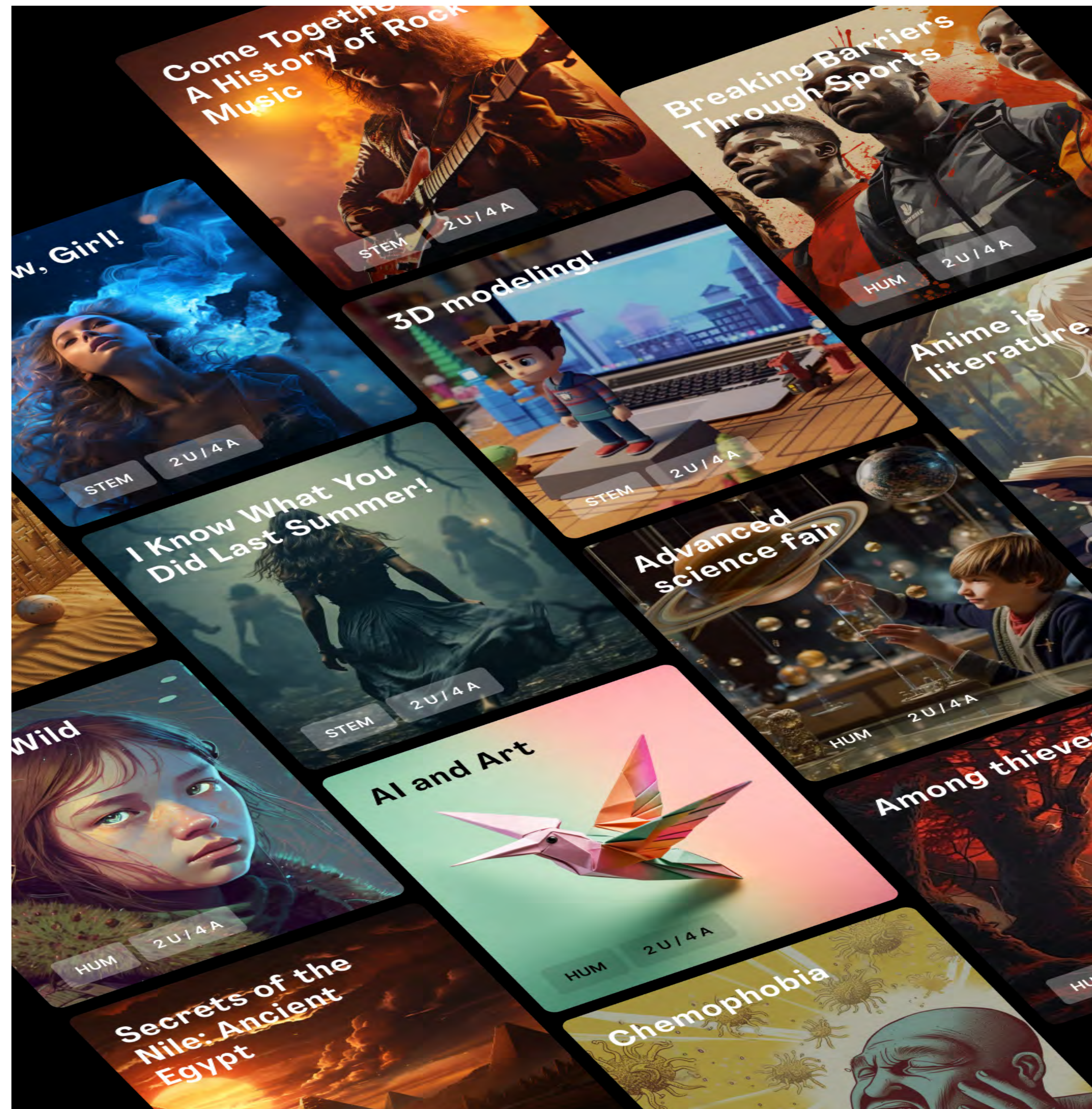
Expeditions are Sora's version of "classes" at traditional schools. Expeditions are group learning experiences focused on students' topics of interest, where they apply their knowledge and skills to real-world questions and problems.

2. Activities

Activities are individual, asynchronous learning experiences that allow students to deepen their mastery of concepts and abilities and earn credit toward graduation.

3. Independent Study Projects

Independent Study Projects (ISPs) are student-designed learning experiences developed in partnership with faculty and undertaken independently.



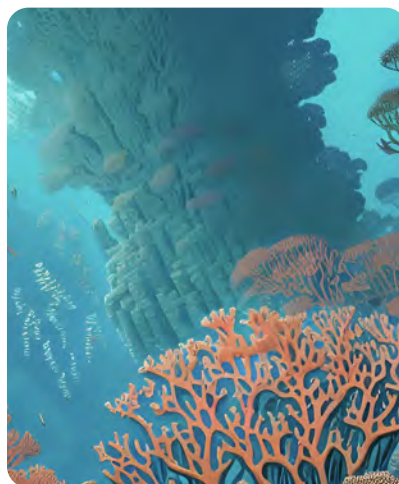
Sora’s Curriculum Explained

Examples of “Expeditions” at Sora:



Culinary Globe Trotters

Dive into the geographic, historical, and cultural influences that shape the world's most delectable dishes.



Commotion in the Ocean

The chemistry of our ocean is changing, but why is this happening?



History of Fashion

Explore hallmark American fashion moments from flapper dresses to the Met Gala.

Examples of “Activities” at Sora:



Purple Hibiscus

How do childhood experiences shape who we are? — Who will we be when we grow up? Read the novel Purple Hibiscus and then reflect on several questions.



You’ve got a great idea! But who’s going to buy it?

Learn marketing strategies, conduct a focus group, and build a startup marketing strategy.



What Makes You, You?

Learn the history of the atom and evolution of the atomic model. Complete a guided laboratory investigation.

Examples of “ISPs” at Sora:



The Rise of Superheros

Examine the history and growth of superhero fiction genre and role in society.



Chemistry for Cooks

Linking chemistry and cooking: understand essential chemical processes and experience cooking as an enjoyable application of science.



Soar to New Heights: Science of Air Resistance

Explore how an object interacts with air resistance lift via a wind tunnel.

The Sora Way

Sora students aren't evaluated through traditional tests or quizzes and they don't get letter grades. Instead, at the end of a learning experience, Sora students are awarded a zero to four score on each "Unit" and "Ability" based on their demonstrated mastery of the material. Crucially, scores are not final until graduation, so students can always try again. This way, students can "overwrite" poor performances and practice a growth mindset. Each student determines their own path through the curriculum, in partnership with their advisor. Using our cutting edge technology, students maximize their opportunity to follow their interests and passions, while deepening mastery and building a diverse and holistic portfolio of learning. By graduation, students proudly share an accredited Sora transcript with a mastery GPA with college and employers. Students also have dual-enrollment opportunities while in Sora High School.



Sora by the Numbers

152

Middle School students

167

High School students

400+

Learning Experiences

A+

Overall Niche Grade

100%

College acceptance rate

30

Graduates by June 2024

College acceptions include:



Why Sora

The vast majority of families choose Sora because of its innovative curriculum and model. Sora provides the opportunity to learn in a student-centered school and engage in topics that are relevant and interesting.

Connection and community are at the heart of our school culture. Our remote learning environment feels human and authentic, not distant and isolated - a place where students can connect, support and inspire one another, dream big, and make meaningful friendships. Sora students and parents benefit from membership in a school community that offers many opportunities to engage and connect with other students, parents, faculty, and school leaders.



Our families across the Americas



Sora Thought Leaders

Leadership

Garrett Smiley - Co-Founder & CEO

Christopher Wilson - Head of Schools

Anthony Gault - Director of Enrollment Management

Elizabeth Davis - Director of School Operations

School Directors

Jonathan Oglesbee / High School

Emily Smith / Middle School

Experts

Zach Boboth - STEM Expert / High School

Briney Burley - Curriculum Designer



Sora Mailing Address:

3343 Peachtree Rd NE Ste 145-606,
Atlanta, Georgia, 30326, United States
Admissions Office: [+1 \(470\) 517-3619](tel:+14705173619)
School Office: [+1 \(678\) 935-0660](tel:+16789350660)

