

CASE STUDY



R1SE to the Challenge

R1SE has been on an incredible journey. What began with locations in Freeland and Midland, Michigan, quickly grew into a proven model for before- and after-school care, pairing certified teachers with an environment where learning, support, and fun go hand in hand. As the concept continued to grow, R1SE leadership turned to FUNchitecture to bring their vision to life in Frankenmuth, Michigan, with a purpose-built facility designed from the ground up.

The building takes its inspiration from the metaphorical mountains children climb every day – and the idea that they can R1SE to conquer every challenge along the way. A dramatic triple-peaked entry creates a memorable first impression and leads into a welcoming lobby featuring a custom-crafted check-in station. That same attention to detail continues throughout the main study hall, where custom STEAM and study tables create dedicated spaces for learning, collaboration, and discovery.

[Continued on back...](#)

CASE STUDY



Continued from front...

Beyond the study hall, the building is designed to keep young minds engaged and active. A gymnasium is flanked by a flexible multi-purpose room, while cozy reading nooks tuck beneath the stairs and into a lofted space above. Triangular windows bring abundant natural daylight into these areas, reinforcing the mountain-inspired architectural language while creating bright, uplifting spaces for students.

On the front of the building, a series of triangular windows is creatively integrated into a wall of custom-designed murals, creating an energetic backdrop for tutoring and study. Above, the mezzanine adds even more opportunities for fun, with a movie

theater, gaming room, and multi-purpose craft and “crash” room overlooking the main study hall. Below the mezzanine, a more intimate ceiling height defines the lockers, bathrooms, and Snack Shack – a convenient source of healthy fuel to help students power through an afternoon of learning.

R1SE’s proven impact on student engagement and test scores, combined with its wild and FUNky environment, has fueled remarkable growth, including a “Shark Tank” appearance and partnership with Barbara Corcoran’s team to explore franchising.

With new opportunities on the horizon, R1SE is poised to reach new heights. And FUNchitecture is thrilled to be along for the climb.