



“Creating an Educated Community
To Serve Christ and One Another
With Integrity and Respect”

Dear Rising 6th graders,

The following are opportunities for summer exploration. The items below ARE NOT required. Social studies ideas ARE NOT extra credit assignments. Science ideas ARE extra credit assignments.

Social Studies (this is NOT for extra credit)

Out and About

Try and get to some of the wonderful activities and events that are a part of Washington, DC: National Geographic Society; Sackler Gallery of Asian Art; Smithsonian Museum of African Art; Smithsonian Folk Life Festival; Smithsonian Museum of Natural History has an exhibit, Hall of Human Origins, which would be a very interesting introduction to our 6th grade social studies-- pre-history and ancient civilizations. Also there is an exhibit on Eternal Life in Ancient Egypt at the Museum of Natural History. Even if you cannot get to the museum, there is quite a bit of interest online. You might also be interested in the Smithsonian's first mobile app, MEanderthal; it is free! Another favorite museum is the National Building Museum. A very inventive mini-golf experience awaits you.

Reading

You can't do too much. Our Social Studies next year will be about ancient civilizations. Any nonfiction reading you do in this area will make your school study more interesting and meaningful. Historical fiction is also a great window. Consider Battle of the Books!

Ask Questions

Curiosity is one of your most formidable learning tools. Cultivate it this summer by noticing what you know and what you don't know and asking questions—ask someone or do some quick research on the internet.

Have a wonderful summer. See you August 27th.





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Science (this IS for extra credit)

Option 1 – Science in the Summer

Visit a science or discovery museum, a nature center, a National Park, or an outdoor museum such as a botanical garden or zoo. Spend some time investigating the exhibits and/or speaking with the park ranger or docent. Write a one-page (maximum) report and include:

- Your name, “6th Optional Summer Science Work,” name of museum or park visited, and date of visit;
- Two paragraphs describing what you saw and something new you learned; and
- A list of five things you (1) wondered about and/or (2) found most fascinating.

Drawings or photos always welcome in addition to what you write!

Option 2 – Reading and Writing about Real Scientists

Read a biography or autobiography about a scientist or inventor. Write a five-paragraph essay that includes:

- Your name, “6th Optional Summer Science Work”, name of scientist;
- Introductory paragraph including when and where the scientist lived and why he/she is significant (why there are books about him/her);
- One paragraph that summarizes highlights from his/her life, including scientific work and achievements;
- One paragraph describing any particular challenges the scientist faced (personally or in the work);
- One paragraph about how his/her life is similar to and/or different from your own;
- A closing paragraph that tells what you found most interesting about that scientist; and
- Bibliographic citation: title, author, publisher, and publishing date of book.

Summer Science work should be turned in to your science teacher on the first day of science class.

Option 1: You will receive extra credit toward your first trimester science grade.

Option 2: You will receive extra credit toward your first trimester science grade.

