

*Department of Middle School Education*

***Summer 2015***  
***Curriculum Resource Packet***



*Teaching and Learning*

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# English Language Arts and Reading Resources for Summer Practice

*There are several resources on the PCSB webpage*

- Log into pcsb.org
- Go to the students tab
- Go to online learning tools
- Go to beyond the classroom
- Here you will find:
- Typing web.com- This site enables students to practice keyboarding skills
- Brain Pop- This is a collection of short animated movies together with quizzes, supplemental information and related materials about all sorts of educational topics
- Scholastic Summer Reading Challenge- Read great books and earn great rewards

*Other great website to check out this summer:*

- <http://www.tampabay.com/nie/raysreading/>- An interactive site with information about the Rays and information and reading logs for the Rays Summer Reading Challenge. The more you read the more cool stuff you can win!
- <http://school.discoveryeducation.com/homeworkhelp> -Click on the English link for great videos on a variety of subjects and tutorials to review writing strategies.
- [www.bookadventure.com](http://www.bookadventure.com) – Students can register to take quizzes on books as they finish reading and have the opportunity to receive prizes.
- <https://newsela.com/> - This site has articles and videos with the most up-to-date and high interest news articles. It also has writing prompts to go along with the articles for extra writing practice.
- [http://c.ymcdn.com/sites/www.floridamedia.org/resource/resmgr/SSYRA\\_2015-2016/2015-16\\_SSYRA\\_List\\_Grades\\_6-.pdf](http://c.ymcdn.com/sites/www.floridamedia.org/resource/resmgr/SSYRA_2015-2016/2015-16_SSYRA_List_Grades_6-.pdf) - A list of the 2014-15 Sunshine State Reader Books. These are great for summer reading.
- <http://splibraries.org/teens.html> - Check out all the cool happenings and events at your local St. Petersburg libraries.
- <http://cityofsafetyharbor.com/documentcenter/view/5773> - See all the teen summer programs happening at the Safety Harbor Library.

# Middle School Mathematics Resources

## **Learn Zillion** ([www.learnzillion.com](http://www.learnzillion.com))

- Free accounts can be created. Provides digital lessons that allow students to work on a variety of content areas and at different grade levels.

## **Moby Max** ([www.mobymax.com](http://www.mobymax.com))

- Free accounts can be created. Moby Max is a digital K-8 Curriculum that allows students to work on a variety of content areas and at different grade levels.

## **Kahn Academy** ([www.kahnacademy.org](http://www.kahnacademy.org))

- Provides lessons on K-12 content across many content areas.

## **PBS Learning Media** ([www.pbslearningmedia.com](http://www.pbslearningmedia.com))

- Provides interactive lessons, videos, etc. that can be searched by grade level and subject.

## **Discovery Education** ([www.discoveryeducation.com](http://www.discoveryeducation.com) or [www.webmath.com](http://www.webmath.com))

- Provides brief examples on a searchable mathematics topics ranging K-12.

## **eMathematics** ([www.emathematics.net](http://www.emathematics.net))

- Provides opportunities for students to practice K-12 mathematics and language arts problems. Grade level and content focus can be chosen to practice.

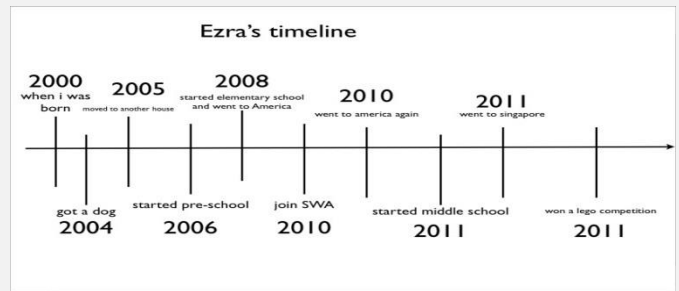
## **Think Through Math** ([www.thinkthroughmath.com](http://www.thinkthroughmath.com)) **Only for students enrolled in Intensive Math during the 2014-2015 school year!**

- Students can continue to work on the individualized pathway from the current school year. Access will be available until the end of July/beginning of August.

# Social Studies Summer Challenge

## Rising 6<sup>th</sup> Grade

**Week 1:** Make a timeline of your life. Start at the year of your birth and finish with this year (2015). Include 3 important events that happened in your lifetime and place them at the correct place on the timeline.



**Week 2:** Think about three pieces of technology that have changed during your lifetime. Write three “then ... but now ...” sentences. *Example: “Then when I was little cell phones were just phones but now cell phones are like computers”*

**Week 3:** Learning to understand maps takes different skills. Learn about using map symbols at [http://education.nationalgeographic.com/education/multimedia/interactive/maps-tools-adventure-island/?ar\\_a=1](http://education.nationalgeographic.com/education/multimedia/interactive/maps-tools-adventure-island/?ar_a=1) Write down 3-4 sentences to say how the game went and what you learned.

**Week 4:** People who study the past (called historians) look at *old things left behind* to find out about the people who lived a long time ago. Take a look under a bed, behind a door, in the bottom of a closet, or under a couch cushion. List two things you find and what those things might tell some hundreds of years in the future about the people who lived there in 2015. *Example: I found a soda bottle cap. That tells me that the people who lived there drank soda.*

**Week 5:** How well do you know the seven continents and four oceans in our world? Test your knowledge at [http://www.sheppardsoftware.com/World\\_Continents.htm](http://www.sheppardsoftware.com/World_Continents.htm) See if you can master *at least* level 2. Write down all 7 continents and 4 oceans and circle the name of continent that you live on and the name of the ocean you live closest to.

**Week 6:** Using a home or library computer, play the Pyramid Challenge. <http://tinyurl.com/yd4kyh4> Write down two or three sentences to say how you did – if you won or lost, and what you did wrong or right.

**Week 7:** Learn about the one of the most famous archeological sites – Catal Hoyuk, in modern-day Turkey. Explore the Mysteries of Catal Hoyuk at <http://www.smm.org/catal/> and spend a few minutes checking out the “mysteries”, “activities”, or “artifacts” on that site. Write down 3-4 sentences to say how the game went and what you learned.

**Week 8:** Let’s analyze some artifacts! Go to the website and follow the directions. Look at the artifacts and examine what we can learn about who created those artifacts and what they were used for based on evidence <http://www.learner.org/courses/amerhistory/interactives/artifacts/index.html> Write down 3-4 sentences to say how the game went and what you learned.

**Week 9:** Learn about cardinal directions at and practice until you “get it”. In what direction is Tampa you’re your house? What about the beach? In what direction is your school from your house? Write all three down and draw a compass. [http://www.bbc.co.uk/scotland/education/sysm/landscapes/highlands\\_islands/flash/land\\_ms\\_compass.swf](http://www.bbc.co.uk/scotland/education/sysm/landscapes/highlands_islands/flash/land_ms_compass.swf)

**Week 10:** Be a Roman Emperor! Check out the game where you get to be a Roman Emperor and rule the Empire! (PS – an empire is a nation that is made up of a bunch of different kinds of peoples.) Write down what you did and how it went for you. [http://www.pbs.org/empires/romans/special/emperor\\_game.html](http://www.pbs.org/empires/romans/special/emperor_game.html)

# Social Studies Summer Challenge

## Rising 7<sup>th</sup> Grade

**Week 1:** Where do you live? Using a map or the internet, find out the name of the city or town where you live, the county, the state, and the country. Write down the name of each.

**Week 2:** Who represents you in the *national government*? Go to the website for the Pinellas County Supervisor of Elections <http://www.votepinellas.com/Election-Information/Elections/Find-Your-Precinct-Polling-Place> . Type in your current address and click “office holders”. See if you can find out the names of your national President and Vice President, your two US Senators for the state of Florida, your US Representative for your district, and one Supreme Court Justice.

**Week 3:** Who represents you in the *state government*? Go to the website for the Pinellas County Supervisor of Elections <http://www.votepinellas.com/Election-Information/Elections/Find-Your-Precinct-Polling-Place> . Type in your current address and click “office holders”. See if you can find the names of your Governor and Lieutenant Governor, State Senator, Florida House of Representative for your district, and the Chief Justice for the Florida Supreme Court.

**Week 4:** Did you know that what is now the USA used to be part of England? The Declaration of Independence is when our country “broke up with” England. Read it and put it back together at [http://texasregames.org/games\\_web\\_eng/declaration\\_clarification/index.htm](http://texasregames.org/games_web_eng/declaration_clarification/index.htm) Then, sign it! [http://www.archives.gov/exhibits/charters/declaration\\_join\\_the\\_signers.html](http://www.archives.gov/exhibits/charters/declaration_join_the_signers.html) Write down 3-4 sentences to say how what you learned about the Declaration of Independence.

**Week 5:** What’s in the US Constitution? Play this game and learn about what’s in the US Constitution [http://teacher.scholastic.com/scholasticnews/indepth/constitution\\_day/](http://teacher.scholastic.com/scholasticnews/indepth/constitution_day/) Write down 3-4 sentences to say how the game went and what you learned.

**Week 6:** Three branches! Our government has three different branches – each branch has a different job. Go play this game and learn which branch of government is responsible for which parts of government. [http://www.sheppardsoftware.com/usa\\_game/government/branches\\_government.htm](http://www.sheppardsoftware.com/usa_game/government/branches_government.htm) Write down 3-4 sentences to say how the game went and what you learned.

**Week 7:** The three branches have a lot of jobs! Go play another game to make sure you *really, really* know this well! <http://bensguide.gpo.gov/games> Write down 3-4 sentences to say how the game went and what you learned that was *different* from the previous game.

**Week 8:** The News! Find a newspaper (in paper or online) and find an article about the President. See if you can figure out what he DOES -- and what he does NOT do as part of his job responsibilities (not as part of your opinion of him)

**Week 9:** Find a map of the world. There are seven continents and four oceans. List the name of all seven continents and all 4 oceans. Circle the name of continent that you live on and the name of the ocean you live closest to.

**Week 10:** Americans have certain rights guaranteed by the Constitution, in the part of the Constitution called the Bill of Rights. Play this game to learn about several in the Bill of Rights! <http://constitutioncenter.org/billofrightsgame/> Write down 3-4 sentences to say how the game went and what you learned.



# Social Studies Summer Challenge

## Rising 8<sup>th</sup> Grade

**Week 1:** Where do you live? Using a map or the internet, find out the name of the city or town where you live, the county, the state, and the country. Write down the name of each.

**Week 2:** Landforms in the USA. Go to a computer and check out the page at <http://www.learner.org/interactives/historymap/sea.html> Then click “Next: Play Find the Feature” [http://www.learner.org/interactives/historymap/sea\\_game.html](http://www.learner.org/interactives/historymap/sea_game.html) and play the game until you get a perfect score. What landform(s) do you live nearest? List 4.

**Week 3:** Our country has 50 states. Go to a computer and check out the different states and regions (groups of states that are similar) at <http://www.learner.org/interactives/historymap/fifty.html> . Click “Learn about the different regions of the US” and click through the pages about each region until you get to “Next: Play Locate the State” [http://www.learner.org/interactives/historymap/fifty\\_game.html](http://www.learner.org/interactives/historymap/fifty_game.html) and play until you get at least 18/20! Write down 3-4 sentences to say how the game went and what you learned.

**Week 4:** People who dig up things about the past are called archeologists. Practice being an archeologist and dig in pretend dirt to find out about how archeologists learn. <http://www.history.org/kids/games/dirtDetective.cfm> Write down 3-4 sentences to say how the game went and what you learned.

**Week 5:** Did you know that what is now the USA used to be part of England? The Declaration of Independence is when our country “broke up with” England. Read it and put the document back together at [http://texasregames.org/games\\_web\\_eng/declaration\\_clarification/index.htm](http://texasregames.org/games_web_eng/declaration_clarification/index.htm) Then, sign it! [http://www.archives.gov/exhibits/charters/declaration\\_join\\_the\\_signers.html](http://www.archives.gov/exhibits/charters/declaration_join_the_signers.html) Write down 3-4 sentences to tell what you learned.

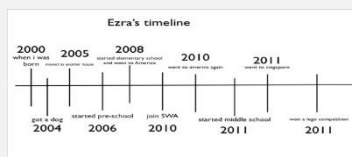
**Week 6:** There were hundreds of different Native Americans (or American Indians) living in North America and South America before the Europeans, Africans, and Asians arrived here. Learn about those Native Americans and where they lived <http://www.learner.org/interactives/historymap/indians.html> and play the “Identify the Tribe” game to see if you know where each group was located [http://www.learner.org/interactives/historymap/indians\\_game.html](http://www.learner.org/interactives/historymap/indians_game.html)

**Week 7:** People came to North America from Europe and started colonies. Check out the info at this link <http://www.learner.org/interactives/historymap/colonists.html> to learn about the different European nations that started those colonies and where those colonies were located. Then, play the game to find those colonies on the map [http://www.learner.org/interactives/historymap/colonists\\_game.html](http://www.learner.org/interactives/historymap/colonists_game.html)

**Week 8:** The three branches have a lot of jobs! Go play another game to make sure you *really, really* know this well! <http://bensguide.gpo.gov/games>

**Week 9:** Many enslaved people faced many challenges, including trying to run away to freedom. Play “Mission US” <http://www.mission-us.org/pages/landing-mission-2>

**Week 10:** Make a timeline of your life. Start at the year of your birth and finish with this year (2015). Include 3 important events that happened in your lifetime and place them at the correct place on the timeline.



# Middle School Science Resources

## **National Geographic Kids** (<http://kids.nationalgeographic.com>)

- Free accounts can be created. Provides a variety of interactive videos, quizzes, and lessons on a variety of science topics.

## **Kahn Academy** ([www.khanacademy.org](http://www.khanacademy.org))

- Provides lessons on K-12 content across many content areas.

## **PBS Learning Media** ([www.pbslearningmedia.com](http://www.pbslearningmedia.com))

- Provides interactive lessons, videos, etc. that can be searched by grade level and subject.

## **Discovery Education** ([www.discoveryeducation.com](http://www.discoveryeducation.com))

- Provides brief examples on a searchable science topics ranging K-12.

## **Museum of Science – Chicago** (<http://www.msichicago.org/online-science>)

- Provides a variety of games, apps, videos, activities, and podcasts to engage students in every day science.

## **The Franklin Institute** (<https://www.fi.edu/learning-resources>)

- Provides a variety of online learning resources relating to science and technology.

## **PBS Science** (<http://www.pbs.org/topics/science-nature>)

- Provides a variety of online videos and current events in science.

## **NASA Space Place** (<http://spaceplace.nasa.gov/>)

- Provides a variety of facts, videos, and space pictures to explore along with a variety of activities to do and online games to play.

## **ACS – Adventures in Chemistry**

(<http://www.acs.org/content/acs/en/education/whatischemistry/adventures-in-chemistry.html>)

- Provides a variety of featured activities and games designed to engage students in fun, real-world chemistry.

## **NBC Learn** (<https://www.nbclearn.com/portal/site/learn/resources>)

- Provides a variety of free resources covering a variety of content areas.

## **ScienceMonster.com** (<http://www.sciencemonster.com>)

- Online science game site by Coolmath.com. Site provides opportunities to explore astronomy, earth science, life science, physical science, and technology.

## **Science Friday** (<http://www.sciencefriday.com>)

- Provides a variety of online videos and sound bites about current events in science. Site also provides a variety of activities that can be done to demonstrate scientific principles.