



KCS | KNOX COUNTY SCHOOLS

2021-2022

SUMMER SCHOLARS GUIDE

SIXTH GRADE



Letter: Scholars Guide

Dear KCS Families,

As the school year concludes, it is important to our educators and families that we provide opportunities for children to stay engaged with learning during the summer, especially with the unexpected school closure related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

KCS has created a Summer Scholars Guide for grades K-8 that serves as a resource for families and aims to minimize summer learning loss and promote preparation for the upcoming school year. Suggestions in the Scholars Guide are optional activities to help students maintain and expand their academic growth over the summer.

In the Scholars Guide, you'll find a list of academic standards from the grade level that your child recently completed, with practice tips on subjects that are already familiar. You'll also find a list of academic standards related to your child's next grade level, allowing them to prepare for the upcoming school year. In both cases, you may need to adapt the suggested activities to meet your child's specific needs. Reading is one of the best things your child can do over the summer, and your local branch library has books for students of all ages. The Scholars Guide includes a list of reading topics and suggested educational websites. We wish your family a fun and safe break and look forward to seeing your child back in school next fall!

****Please adhere to CDC recommendations during COVID-19 and consider virtual options where available.***

Glossary

Expression – Numbers, symbols grouped together to show the value of something (ex., $2 + y$).

Integers – All whole numbers, both positive and negative, including zero.

Math fluency – Being able to quickly and efficiently use algorithms (step by step method) or other written steps when multiplying or dividing.

Primary Sources – Immediate, first-hand accounts of a topic from people who had a direct connection with an event. Primary sources can include: texts of laws and other original documents; newspaper reports by reporters who witnessed an event or who quote people who did; speeches, diaries, letters and interviews - what the people involved said or wrote; original research; datasets or survey data, such as census or economic statistics; photographs, video, or audio that capture an event.

Proportional – When two quantities always have the same relative size or they have the same ratio.

Ratio – A comparison of two numbers, often written as a fraction.

Secondary Sources – One step removed from primary sources, a secondary source is created by someone who did not directly witness an event, though they often quote or otherwise use primary sources. Secondary sources can cover the same topic as a primary source but add a layer of interpretation and analysis. Secondary sources can include: most books about a topic; analysis or interpretation of data; scholarly or other articles about a topic, especially by people not directly involved; documentaries (though they often include photos or video portions that can be considered primary sources).

Variable – Any symbol, usually a letter, which could represent a number.

What you learned **this** year and need to keep practicing

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

- Explain how an author expresses the point of view/perspective of the narrator and characters in a story
- Analyze whether writers support claims/opinions with enough reasons and evidence to prove their point
- Write summaries of stories and articles
- Use the correct pronoun when writing or speaking
- Use proper spelling including capitalization of proper nouns (specific people, places, and dates)

MATH

- Understand/solve problems using ratios, unit rates
- Divide fractions and fluently divide whole numbers
- Understand positive and negative numbers (integers)
- Write, read, evaluate (solve) and rewrite equivalent expressions with variables
- Solve equations with one variable

SCIENCE

- Gather examples for how energy flows through ecosystems, earth processes, and natural resources
- Look for relationships among plants, animals, and climate in various ecosystems
- Compare/critique two arguments on same topic
- Ask questions that arise from careful observation of science in daily life experiences

SOCIAL STUDIES

- Gather, examine, synthesize, and communicate information from primary/secondary sources
- Learn about ancient history: proper time designations, foundations of human civilization, Ag Revolution
- Learn about ancient Africa, Mesopotamia, Egypt, Israel, India, China, Greece, Rome

What is ahead **next** year that you can prepare for

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

- Determine an author's position/opinion and explain how it differs from others' alternative claims
- Explain whether a writer's or speaker's point is supported with enough details and evidence
- Analyze how a theme or central idea develops in a text
- Determine meaning of words as they're used in a text
- Explain the function of phrases and clauses
- Use commas to separate coordinate adjectives

MATH

- Compute unit rates, percent problems, and recognize proportional relationships. Represent these using equations, graphs, and real-world situations
- Add, subtract, multiply, and divide rational numbers
- Add, subtract, factor (find what to multiply) and rewrite expressions. Ex.: $2y + 6 = 2(y + 3)$
- Solve equations representing real-world situations with two variables

SCIENCE

- Communicate information about heredity via writing
- Use scientific reasoning to determine if data supports a claim
- Identify examples of the way advances in the medical field attempt to solve human problems

SOCIAL STUDIES

- Connect continuum of history through all grades
- Learn about world history: Fall of Rome to Age of Exploration
- Learn geography awareness/mapping skills: using keys, legends, compass rose, and intermediate directions

Things to do and places to go during the summer

*Please adhere to CDC recommendations during COVID-19 and consider virtual options where available.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

Increase reading stamina by reading books/articles 20 minutes/day • Work on handwriting by keeping a journal of summer activities • Increase typing speed by practicing at typing.com • Compare movie to novel

MATH

Help your child find some appropriate number and problem-solving games to play online • Encourage your child to track or graph scores or stats for a favorite sports team • Help calculate gas mileage, best buys, and family budgets or vacation planning

SCIENCE

Create your own makerspace at home • Visit area science museums, botanical gardens, or the zoo • Visit Tuckaleechee Caverns or the Lost Sea • Use Khan Academy to learn about science topics

SOCIAL STUDIES

Watch TedEd video segments on medieval/middle ages • Visit Museum of Appalachia, McClung Museum or East TN History Center • Go on a virtual tour around the world at 360cities.net

RTI2, ELL, SPED

Students participating in interventions should receive individual reports related to their specific goals from the school throughout the year.

Keep reading all year long!

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Visit these websites for free reading materials and other important information about why literacy matters.

- ReadCityUSA.com
- Knoxschools.org/mackinvia
- Knoxlib.org



Reading List

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

- *Painless Reading Comprehension; Painless Writing; Painless Vocabulary* by Darolyn Jones
- *The Dragon Grammar Book: Grammar for Kids, Dragons, and the Whole Kingdom* by Diane Mae Robinson
- *Booked* by Kwame Alexander
- *The Graveyard Book* by Neil Gaiman
- *Ella Minnow Pea: A Novel in Letters* by Mark Dunn
- *Regarding the... Series* by Kate Klise

MATH

- *Math Doesn't Suck: How to Survive Middle School Math Without Losing Your Mind or Breaking a Nail* by Danica McKellar
- *G is for Googol: A Math Alphabet Book* by David M. Schwartz
- *The Sir Cumference series* by Cindy Neuschwander
- *A Gebra Named Al* by Wendy Isdell
- *The Number Devil* by Hans Enzensberger
- *Math and Magic in Wonderland and Math and Magic in Camelot* by Lilac Mohr

SCIENCE

- *The Wondrous Workings of Planet Earth: Understanding Our World and Its Ecosystems* by Rachel Ignatofsky
- *Amazon Adventure: How Tiny Fish are Saving the World's Largest Ecosystem* by Sy Montgomery
- *The Race to Save the Lord God Bird* by Phillip Hoose
- *My Side of the Mountain, Julie of the Wolves, Charlie's Raven* by Jean Craighead George
- *The Silverwing Trilogy* by Kenneth Oppel
- *Hoot, Flush, and Scat* by Carl Hiaasen
- *The Brilliant Fall of Gianna Z* by Kate Messner

SOCIAL STUDIES

- *We Were There Too!: Young People in U.S. History* by Phillip Hoose
- *Brown Girl Dreaming* by Jacqueline Woodson
- *12 Questions About Slave Narratives* by Lois Sepahban
- *Surviving Hitler: A Boy in the Nazi Death Camps* by Andrea Warren