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.*

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**Glossary**

**Comprehension** – Showing that the reader understands the texts that he or she just read.

**Fiction** – Stories and books that are about imagined events.

**Math fluency** – The ability to quickly and efficiently use mental strategies, number patterns, place-value strategies (breaking apart numbers into tens and ones), algorithms (step-by-step methods), or other written steps.

**Nonfiction** – Books and articles that are about real-life events, science, and other subjects that are not imagined.

**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.

**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).

**Unit fraction** – A fraction where the top number (the numerator) is 1.
What you learned this year and need to keep practicing

**ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS**
- Read fourth-grade text accurately and with expression to support comprehension
- Retell a story in your own words
- Explain the relationships and interactions among individuals, events, and ideas
- Write multiple paragraphs that include a main idea, details, and a conclusion

**MATH**
- Use math operations (+, -, x, ÷) with whole numbers (no decimals or fractions) to solve problems
- Round, compare (>,<,=), and understand the value of each digit for whole numbers up to 1,000,000
- Understand equivalent fractions and compare
- Understand decimal notation for fractions and compare decimal fractions (fractions with the denominator of 10 or 100) Ex., 3/10 = 0.3

**SCIENCE**
- Understand the impact of animal populations or a species on the environment
- Use science tools to collect data
- Understand renewable and nonrenewable energy
- Research topics using grade-level science articles

**SOCIAL STUDIES**
- Gather, examine, organize, and communicate information from primary/secondary sources
- Understand the U.S. Constitution, including writers, events leading to, and ideas embedded within
- Learn about Westward expansion, impact on Native Americans
- Understand U.S. industrial economy: prior to and during Civil War and Reconstruction

What is ahead next year that you can prepare for

**ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS**
- Read fifth-grade text accurately and with expression to support comprehension
- Identify main idea of a text, explain supporting details
- Integrate information from two or more texts on a topic
- Write multiple paragraphs that include a main idea, details, and a conclusion

**MATH**
- Read, write, compare (>,<,=), and round decimals
- Perform operations (+, -, x, ÷) with whole numbers and with decimals to hundredths or two decimal places
- Fluently multiply up to three-digit by four-digit numbers
- Perform operations (+, -, x, ÷) with fractions including the multiplication of unit fractions by whole numbers (no fractional or decimal part) and whole numbers by unit fractions. Ex., 3 x 1/4 or 1/4 x 3

**SCIENCE**
- Research information about galaxies
- Review graphs/data tables about our solar system
- Make predictions about what would happen if a variable changes
- Ask questions that can be investigated and predict reasonable outcomes

**SOCIAL STUDIES**
- Learn about Industrialization, Gilded Age, Progressivism
- Learn about World War I, 1920s, Great Depression, World War II, Cold War
- Learn about Civil Rights Movement
- Learn Tennessee history pre-statehood; pre-1796-present
- Learn mapping skills: keys, legends, cardinal directions

Things to do and places to go during the summer

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**ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS**
- Keep a journal, scrapbook, or photos of places you visit and write a few sentences describing what you experienced
- Write a script for a short movie and record it using a camera phone

**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
- Bake cookies and measure all of the ingredients in the recipe you are making

**SCIENCE**
- Collect paper scraps and design a flower using the recycled materials
- Plan and carry out a science investigation
- Visit area museums such as AMSE and MUSE Knoxville

**SOCIAL STUDIES**
- Go on the Cradle of Country Music Walking Tour
- Attend a Vintage Baseball Game at the Historic Ramsey House
- Visit the Oak Ridge Manhattan Project National Historical Park, the Green McAdoo Cultural Center, and James White Fort

**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!

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**
- *Rain Reign* by Ann M. Martin
- *Freedom on the Menu: The Greensboro Sit-ins* by Carole Boston Weatherford
- *A Boy and a Jaguar* by Alan Rabinowitz
- *The One and Only Ivan* by Katherine Applegate

**MATH**
- *Powerful Place Value* by Lisa Arias
- *Fraction Frenzy: Fractions and Decimals* by Rob Colson
- *The Great Number Rumble: A Story of Math in Surprising Places* by Cora Lee

**SCIENCE**
- *Separate is Never Equal: Sylvia Mendez & Her Family’s Fight for Desegregation* by Duncan Tonatiuh
- *Rosa* by Nikki Giovanni

**SOCIAL STUDIES**
- *Mesmerized: How Ben Franklin Solved a Mystery that Baffled All of France* by Mara Rockliff
- *Ada Lovelace, Poet of Science: The First Computer Programmer* by Diane Stanley
- *George’s Secret Key* by Lucy Hawking
- *The Wild Robot* by Peter Brown