

## 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

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

**Expression** – Numbers and symbols grouped together to show the value of something (Ex., 2 + y).

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

**Main idea –** What a text is mostly about.

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

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

**Perspective/point of view –** The author or narrator's position and/or attitude as it's explained or stated in the text.

**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.

**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. These 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).

**Summary** – A brief account of the main points in a text.

**Unit fraction** – A fraction where the top number (the numerator) is 1.

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

# What you learned this year and need to keep practicing

### **ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS**

- Read fifth-grade text accurately and with expression to support comprehension
- Identify main idea of a text, explain supporting details
- Explain the relationships and interactions among individuals, events, and ideas
- 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 decimals to hundredths or two decimal places
- · Fluently multiply up to three-digit by four-digit numbers
- Perform operations (+, -, x, ÷) with fractions: multiplication of unit fractions by whole numbers and whole numbers by unit fractions. Ex., 3 x 1/4 or 1/4 x 3
- Relate volume to multiplication/addition. Ex., volume of a cube found by adding the area of each layer

### **SCIENCE**

- Design a process to measure how temperature affects the rate of dissolving solids and liquids
- Explain the relationship between mass and distance and how it affects gravity
- Identify a local engineering example or the kinds of problems that can be solved through engineering

### **SOCIAL STUDIES**

- Gather, examine, organize, and communicate information from primary/secondary sources
- Learn about industrialization, Gilded Age, Progressivism
- Learn about World War I, 1920s, Great Depression, World War II, Cold War
- · Learn about the Civil Rights movement

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

### **ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS**

- Explain how an author conveys the point of view or perspective of the narrator/characters in a work of fiction
- Analyze whether speakers support their claims with reasons and evidence
- Write a summary of a text
- Use pronouns correctly and explain their function
- Use parentheses, commas, and dashes to set off parenthetical elements
- Use proper spelling. Ex., capitalization of proper nouns

### **MATH**

- Understand, solve problems using ratios and 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
- Represent relationships between variables using graphs, tables, and equations

### **SCIENCE**

- Look for relationships among plants, animals, and climate in various ecosystems
- Compare, critique two arguments on the same topic

### **SOCIAL STUDIES**

- Learn ancient history: Foundations of Human Civilization, Agricultural Revolution; Proper time designations; Ancient Mesopotamia, Egypt, Israel, India, China, Greece, Rome
- Learn mapping skills: keys, legends, cardinal 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**

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**

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

Create your own makerspace at home • Explore Zoo Knoxville and talk about what you see and learn • 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 and James White Fort

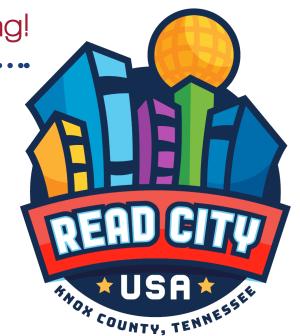
### RTI2, ELL, SPED

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**

- Chains by Laurie Halse Anderson
- The Parker Inheritance by Varian Johnson
- Pax by Sarah Pennypacker
- The War That Saved My Life by Kimberly Brubaker Bradley
- The Night Diary by Veera Hiranandani

### MATH

- NASA Mathematician Katherine Johnson (STEM Trailblazer Biographies) by Heather E. Schwartz
- Sideways Arithmetic from Wayside School by Louis Sachar
- Manga Math Mysteries. #5, The Ancient Formula: A Mystery with Fractions by Melinda Thielbar
- Fraction Frenzy: Fractions and Decimals by Rob Colson

### SCIENCE

- The Evolution of Calpurnia Tate by Jacqueline Kelly
- Energy Island: How One Community Harnessed the Wind and Changed Their World by Allan Drummond
- Grand Canyon by Jason Chin

### **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