



School District 105
Countryside • Hodgkins • La Grange
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Dear District 105 Parents and Guardians,

Full STEAM Ahead! The CONNECT Summer Learning Program planning committee is working to ensure the students of District 105 have valuable, virtual learning opportunities this summer. Our CONNECT Program theme is **Full STEAM Ahead** where we will be focusing on Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math learning experiences. Research focused on academic skill regression states that over the summer months students can lose anywhere from one to three months of learning! District 105 has completed a comprehensive study examining multiple years of student data. Consistent with national studies on summer regression, we determined that our students regress over the summer as well. This regression is seen across all of our District 105 schools, and all socio-economic levels are impacted.

To address this learning loss, District 105 has offered the CONNECT program over the last eight summers. Our programming has evolved over the years, with any changes always based on student performance data and how to best serve our students and families over the summer months. Survey results over the last few years have highlighted that District 105 summer programming has been well received by families and is highly valued by the parent community. Therefore, the Summer CONNECT programming will continue this year with virtual learning opportunities and resources. Summer CONNECT 2020, lasting from June 15-July 31, will include the following:

Summer Learning For All Webpage

District 105 teachers and staff have combined efforts and are excited to bring you the Summer Learning For All webpage. The resources found on this webpage have been chosen to enhance your child's summer learning. Visit a museum's online collection, practice your math facts, or be creative with poetry and writing. The eLearning templates from remote learning will also be available to all students during the summer months. Students are invited to revisit these learning activities during the summer.

CONNECT Calendar of Virtual Programming

Each week of the CONNECT Program, videos and learning experiences will be posted on the Summer Learning for All page of www.d105.net. The focus of these virtual experiences will be STEAM based, feature our D105 teaching staff, and provide families a variety of tools and ideas for extending learning. In addition to the STEAM lessons, there will also be a Movement Monday video and a virtual storytime for all District families on We Read Wednesday. The live storytime will be on Wednesdays from 2:00-2:30, June 17-July 29. The link to join the Zoom will be found in the student Clever portal.

Calendar of Math and Reading Activities

Over the months of June, July, and August, keeping students focused on Math and Literacy on a daily basis is critical to curb summer regression. For students entering 1st-7th grades, the summer learning calendar will be inside the report card envelope sent in the middle of June. An electronic version of the calendar will be available for students entering 8th grade. Use these daily activities as a way to keep the learning going throughout the entire summer. These calendars will also be linked on our district website under Summer Learning For All.

IXL Online Math and ELA Programs (grades K-8)

All students in District 105 have an online account to IXL Math and ELA. Access will continue over the summer months. IXL is a comprehensive math and ELA practice site with an unlimited number of math and ELA practice questions in hundreds of skills — all of which are aligned to grade level standards. D105 will provide families with information on how to create individualized learning paths for the summer and use built-in monitoring



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tools for at-home learning. Next week, more communication will come from the district regarding support for parents as to how to access and monitor your student's individualized IXL learning path.

Family Summer Book Club

Although this summer will be different than the past, we are still creating opportunities where we can “gather” in community and learn together virtually. Families with students of all ages are invited to participate in our third District 105 Summer Family Book Club. The family book is Who Was George Washington Carver? written by Jim Gigliotti. Participating families will be provided the book and related materials through the mail. More information about this event will accompany the book that is mailed to participating families. If interested, please sign up by June 12 using this link: <https://bit.ly/SFBC105>

Family Game Night

This summer our Family Game Night is going virtual. More information about this event will be available on the website and on our District 105 social media accounts in July.

Summer District Open Library

D105 School Libraries are following best practices and looking to our community public library partners for guidance on the best way to potentially offer a curbside summer library book check out service beginning in July. Information about this service will be communicated on www.d105.net and on our District 105 social media accounts.

Through our CONNECT Calendar of Virtual Programming, Summer Family Book Club, Family Game Night, online learning opportunities, and suggested daily learning activities for parents and children, District 105 remains committed to maintaining student learning over the summer months.

Thank you,

Kathryn