

SUMMER RESOURCES

A list of helpful links and activities to
maintain an academic focus over the summer!

All links are virtual unless otherwise noted!



Presented By:

Children's Scholarship Fund Philadelphia

STEM Resources

SCIENCE

Biology:

Science Kids (Biology)→
<https://www.sciencekids.co.nz/biology.html>

Radar's Biology4Kids→<http://www.biology4kids.com/>

Chemistry:

Science Kids (Chemistry)→
<https://www.sciencekids.co.nz/chemistry.html>

Ducksters Education Site→<https://www.ducksters.com/science/chemistry/>

8 Simple Chem Experiments→<https://www.3plearning.com/blog/simple-chemistry-experiments-kids-home/>

Physics:

Science Kids (Physics)→
<https://www.sciencekids.co.nz/physics.html>

Fizzicz Education→<https://www.fizziczeducation.com.au/category/150-science-experiments/>

General Games:

PBS Kids Science Games→
<https://pbskids.org/games/science/>

ENGINEERING

Aerospace:

360 Degree Tour of the Hubble Telescope→<https://www.nasa.gov/content/goddard/hubble-360-degree-virtual-tour>

NASA Glenn Virtual Tours→<https://www.nasa.gov/glennvirtualtours>

Mechanical:

Mechanical Engineering At Home Activities→<https://www.steampoweredfamily.com/activities/mechanical-engineering-kids/>

Environmental:

Engineer Girl→<https://www.engineergirl.org/6072/Environmental-Engineer>

Electrical:

Electrical Engineering Facts for Kids→https://kids.kiddle.co/Electrical_engineering

Electrical Engineering Experiments→<https://onlinemasters.ohio.edu/blog/electrical-engineering-experiments-for-kids/>

General:

Science Kids (Engineering)→<https://www.sciencekids.co.nz/engineering.html>

Engineering for Kids→<https://www.engineeringforkids.com/>

TECHNOLOGY

Coding:

Hour of Code→<https://hourofcode.com/us>

Code.org→<https://code.org/>

Graphic Design Projects/Game Ideas:

5 Graphic Design Projects and Games→<https://www.learningliftoff.com/5-graphic-design-projects-and-games/#.WP9KqjsrJEZ>

Kids Think Design→<http://www.kidsthinkdesign.org/graphics/index.html>

MATH

Online Games:

Fun Brain→<https://www.funbrain.com/>

Math Blaster→<http://www.mathblaster.com/>

Math Playground→<https://www.mathplayground.com/>

Cool Math Games→<https://www.coolmathgames.com/>

Logic/Higher Order Thinking:

Hooda Math→<http://www.hoodamath.com/>

NSA/CSS Resources→<https://www.nsa.gov/Resources/Students-Educators/>

Reading & Writing Resources

Reading

Read aloud books/authors:

- Roald Dahl
Museum tour

<https://www.roalddahl.com/museum/visit/virtual-museum-tour>

- The Wizard of Oz
- The Last Firehawk
- The Boxcar Children (audiobooks on Hoopla)
- Time Warp Trio
- Mr. Lemoncello Series
- Secret Coders series
- Geronimo Stilton
- Encyclopedia Brown
- Usborne Puzzle Adventure Books
- Calvin and Hobbes
- Stuart Little
- Dragon Masters

Local Philly Area Resources:

- Philly's free library, for eBooks and audiobooks → <http://www.freelibrary.org>
- Tree House Books for in-person book distributions in North Philly → <http://www.treehousebooks.org/>

Writing

Strategies and Ideas:

- Summer writing journal (With daily prompts)
- Book Reviews (Combination of reading and writing)
- Argumentative essay writing (Best summer meal and why)
- Various free summer writing activity worksheets that can be found in many places online
- Editing grammar in pieces of text (like celebrity's Tweets!)

Websites/Apps:

- Kenn Nesbitt's Poetry4Kids <https://www.poetry4kids.com/> (Nesbitt, former Children's Poetry Laureate, includes poetry writing lessons, activities, a rhyming dictionary, children's poetry for reading, and so much more)
- Dictionary.com can be used on website or downloaded on an app!

History & Art Resources

History

Virtual Museum Touring :

- British Museum→[https://
britishmuseum.withgoogle.com/](https://britishmuseum.withgoogle.com/)
- Natural History Museum→[https://
naturalhistory.si.edu/visit/virtual-
tour](https://naturalhistory.si.edu/visit/virtual-tour)
- List with more virtual museum links! [https://www.purewow.com/
family/virtual-museum-tours-for-
kids](https://www.purewow.com/family/virtual-museum-tours-for-kids)

Art

DIY Activities:

- Create an Art Bingo Sheet with different activities in each square!
- Practice a new drawing or art skill in a personal journal with your favorite markers of crayons!

Art Museums:

- Exploring the MET Art Museum:
[https://www.metmuseum.org/art/
online-features/metkids/](https://www.metmuseum.org/art/online-features/metkids/)
- Museum Without Walls (interactive walking experience):
[https://
www.associationforpublicart.org/
explore/public-art/#gallery/all/!
mww](https://www.associationforpublicart.org/explore/public-art/#gallery/all/!mww)

Dialogue Resources

Discover how to navigate the difficult conversations with your kids

General Dialogue:

- How to engage kids in meaningful conversation (for parents): <http://resourcesforearlylearning.org/educators/module/20/7/19/>
- NPR's "Why All Parents Should Talk With Their Kids About Social Identity" → covers race, gender, class, etc. <https://www.npr.org/2019/10/08/767205198/the-things-parents-dont-talk-about-with-their-kids-but-should>
- Diversity Resources for Children → a little bit of everything from both the standpoint of parents and teachers <https://sites.google.com/site/drwnak/about-us>

Race and Racism:

- Race and Racism CNN's "How to talk to your children about protests and racism" → written in light of recent events; BLM in particular <https://www.cnn.com/2020/06/01/health/protests-racism-talk-to-children-wellness/index.html>
- Parent Toolkit's "How to Talk to Kids about Race and Racism" → race and racism more broadly, distinguishes between what it's like for white parents and parents of color. <https://www.parenttoolkit.com/social-and-emotional-development/advice/social-awareness/how-to-talk-to-kids-about-race-and-racism>

Socioeconomic Status:

- Click2Houston's "How to talk to your young children about economic and social class differences" → short video clip demonstrating that young children are capable of having these conversations, and explains a bit about what parents can do to help further the dialogue <https://www.click2houston.com/money/2020/01/10/how-to-talk-to-your-young-children-about-economic-and-social-class-differences/>

Gender and Sexual Orientation

- Mashable's "How to talk to kids about gender" → great detailed resource for parents <https://mashable.com/article/how-to-talk-to-kids-about-gender/>
- Planned Parenthood → very detailed resources for talking to your children about gender and sexual orientation; can be divided into different age ranges for easier explanation <https://www.plannedparenthood.org/learn/parents/identity>

Religion:

- <https://www.pbs.org/newshour/show/secular-parents-guide-teaching-kids-faith>
- <https://www.pbs.org/newshour/nation/10-commandments-talking-kids-religion>

(Dis)Ability :

- FamilyEducation's "6 Tips to Talk to Your Kids About Disabilities" → applies to both physical/visible disabilities as well as mental/nonvisible <https://www.familyeducation.com/life/empathy/6-tips-talk-your-kids-about-disabilities>
- VeryWellFamily's "How to Talk to Kids About Disabilities" → more in-depth <https://www.verywellfamily.com/how-to-talk-to-kids-about-disabilities-4142349>

Online Summer Camps

- **Camp Kinda** Free; age 5–14. <https://campkinda.org/>

Camp Kinda offers themed activities like "Histories Mysteries," for kids to complete at their own pace. Each week until Sept. 1, kids get a new week's worth of online, offline, and even outdoor activities designed to take about three to four hours per day.

How it works: Self-directed activities on a flexible schedule, with new daily activities released every week.

- **Varsity Tutors** Free; age 5 and up. <https://www.varsitytutors.com/virtual-summer-camps>

Kids can join a weeklong session based on their grade level for a variety of original, educational subjects like basic engineering using household items, mastering strategy games, and drawing anime.

How it works: One hour of live instructions via video chat from Monday to Friday, with some self-directed work time.

- **Wide Open School** Free; all ages. <https://wideopenschool.org/>

Created and curated by Common Sense, this site makes distance learning easier and more accessible for families and educators. Kids from preschool to high school can browse through engaging videos, lessons, and activities by topic or subject -- all created by top-quality providers including PBS, GoNoodle, and Khan Academy.

How it works: Self-directed activities on a flexible schedule; parents can use the "virtual summer camp" schedule, create their own, or let older kids explore themselves.

- **The Lion King Experience: At Home** Free; age 8–15. <https://www.lionkingexperience.com/>

Originally designed for classrooms and adapted for home use, this immersive theater program teaches kids performance art through *The Lion King*. Each lesson plan (there are 11 for kids, 18 for teens) contains videos, journal prompts, performances, and more.

How it works: Self-directed activities broken into 45-minute lesson plans on a flexible schedule.

- **American Diabetes Association Imagine Camp** Free; age 6 and up.

<https://www.diabetes.org/community/camp>

For summer 2020, the ADA is offering Imagine Camp, an at-home version of its traditional camp for kids with type I diabetes. Imagine Camp focuses on community-building instead of outdoor activities, with online adaptations of campfires, games, and singalongs.

How it works: Two hours per week of guided discussions with counselors and health experts via video chat, plus additional virtual activities and videos.

- **Camp Kesem at Home** Free; age 6 and up.

<https://www.campkesem.org/covid19-resources-and-programming>

Camp Kesem provides free summer camps to kids whose parents have cancer, allowing them to build relationships with other kids going through the same thing. This summer's programs are all virtual. Apply through your local Camp Kesem chapter, which you can find on the website.

How it works: Live and recorded videos twice a week, along with offline activities and social media interaction with other campers and counselors.

Language & Culture Resources

Language

English Learner Summer Programs:

- Philadelphia School District → <https://www.philasd.org/multilingual/summerprogram/>
- USA Learns → <https://www.usalearns.org/free-online-english-courses>
- ESOL (English to Speakers of Other Languages) Courses → <https://www.esolcourses.com/>

Spanish:

- Spanish Playground <https://www.spanishplayground.net>;
About: Spanish learning and practice targeted at kids; lots of different offerings including games, activities, poems, songs, etc.

Asian Languages:

- National Resource Center For Asian Languages Fullerton: http://www.fullerton.edu/nrcal/resources/resources_vietnamese.php;
About: Free resource for audio books of varying reading levels and other downloadable resources for children of many ages
- 111 Mandarin Chinese Resources You Wish You Knew <https://www.iwillteachyoualanguage.com/resources/mandarin-chinese-resources>
About: Detailed list with a table of contents for you to choose what aspect of the Chinese language you want to learn or practice, and is filled with links to these helpful resources.
- All Language Resources <https://www.alllanguageresources.com/free-resources-to-learn-chinese/>
About: List of various Chinese learning resources for people of all ages and skill levels. Includes books and courses, apps, websites, etc.

Arabic:

- St. Lawrence University <https://www.stlawu.edu/modern-languages/arabic-resources>
About: Extensive list of resources for Arabic learning; broken into subsections depending on interests.
- Fluent in 3 Months <https://www.fluentin3months.com/online-arabic-classes/>
About: Another great resource that provides links to different Arabic learning modules. General Resources/ Online Camps (free)

Culture

Culturally Inclusive Programs:

- Al Bustan → <https://www.albustanseeds.org/>
- Tree House Books → <http://www.treehousebooks.org/>
- Asian Arts Initiative → <https://asianartsinitiative.org/>
- The Evoluer House → <https://www.evolverhouse.org/>

YouTube Video Links

Vietnamese:

- Link: <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLzdu29UIUT29jC4sMuVqgXGP24JBEC9C8>;
About: Playlist of videos on youtube for learning Vietnamese at elementary level. A lot of conversational lessons to help children learn and communicate with their family.

Spanish:

- Story Time/Hora de Cuentacuentos:
YouTube: @veoleo_co, Live Fridays at 10:45am EST
Link: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC1oZ_DVDnaX12yGeHs6Hk-A

Chinese:

- Playlist of Chinese fairy tales and stories for kids with English captions.
Link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=anBo8Pq_9i4&list=PLiXqu8asUhm5u7zcievVwIDLCLoZ_Ujee

Arabic:

- About: This channel is full of fairy tales and stories for children in Arabic and also has English captions.
Link: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCazFScO30FKY3YoNNDfNY5g>

& even more!

Apps To Download On Devices:

- ABCya
- Khan Kids
- PBS Games
- Hour of Code
- Scholastic Learn at Home
- Epic!
- Humongous

Local Philly Area Activities:

- Philly museums: <https://phillystylemag.com/visit-phillys-favorite-museums-thanks-to-virtual-gallery-tours>
- Philly Zoo (live virtual animal feedings):
<https://philadelphiazoo.org/philly-zoo-at-2-live-videos/>
- Camden Adventure Aquarium:
<http://samuraivirtualtours.com/example/aatour/index.html>
<https://www.adventureaquarium.com/>