

Dear Families,

Through the years many parents have asked what can be done to maintain skills and continue to develop my scholar's critical thinking over the summer. To address this wondering, Uplift has created blended summer assignments for Math and Science *and* Reading and Humanities. These blended assignments will help your scholar retain their skills and provide valuable practice over the many weeks of summer.

As your scholar engages in their work for each subject area, we encourage you to discuss the activities, readings, and learnings with your them. Discussions are an important way for scholars to remember and retain concepts and can increase your scholar's engagement with the assignments.

Please see below for information and tips around how to help your scholar successfully engage in and complete each of their blended summer assignments for Math and Science *and* Reading, and Humanities. Scholars should work on these assignments throughout the summer and plan to submit them to their teachers on the first day of school. The assignment and answer keys (where applicable) are uploaded on your scholar's subject area Schoology course pages and can be downloaded and printed at your convenience; hard copies of the assignments are also available through your scholar's campus office.

We are excited to be able to provide you with these resources for extra scholar practice over the summer. If you have any questions, please reach out to your school's leadership team. Thank you for all that you do! We are so fortunate to have you in our Uplift family.

Happy Learning,

Uplift Curriculum Team

READING AND HUMANITIES BLENDED ASSIGNMENTS

A few things to note:

- Our goal is to have scholars experience critical thinking in reading and humanities over the summer.
- Teachers hope that everyone *attempts* the assignments and completes them to the best of their ability.
- Teachers will be collecting packets (complete or incomplete) at the beginning of the 21-22 school year.

Reading and Humanities Connected Assignment:

Studies show that when scholars do not read every day, they are at risk to slide in their reading level. This is known as the “summer slope”. To help fight this, we have created a summer Reading assignment that will allow them to both critically and creatively engage with a grade-level graphic novel.

The Humanities assignments were designed to be completed alongside the reading assignment and are directly paired to those texts. These assignments will help scholars increased their appreciation for the book they read and practice humanities-based skills by deepening their understanding of the historic or cultural connections in the book and making connections to other time periods.

If your scholar is entering grade 6, please have them read *Lowriders in Space* by Cathy Camper and Raul the Third (illustrator). While reading the graphic novel, your scholar’s primary job is to take enjoyment in reading the text. Once your scholar has finished the novel, they should complete the “Questions After Reading” (page 2) according to the directions then select one “Alternative Book Report” (page 3) project to complete. We strongly recommend that your scholar preview the “Questions After Reading” and “Alternative Book Report” before they begin reading the graphic novel, so they have a clear purpose for reading and are able to annotate relevant text evidence while reading.

The **6th Grade humanities extension** for this assignment has two parts. Part one focus on some of the introductory information and skill needed to jump start their learning for the upcoming school year. The second part provides additional cultural context for *Lowriders in Space*. Each part includes detailed instructions, texts in the assignment, as well as videos or websites to be viewed with the provided links. Guiding questions or activities are included with each one and should be completed within the document.

If your scholar is entering grade 7, please have them read *They Called Us the Enemy* by George Takei and Harmony Becker (illustrator). While reading the graphic novel, your scholar’s primary job is to take enjoyment in reading the text. Once your scholar has finished the novel, they complete the “Questions After Reading” (page 2) according to the directions then select one “Alternative Book Report” (page 3) project to complete. We strongly recommend that your scholar preview the “Questions After Reading” and “Alternative Book Report” before they begin reading the graphic novel, so they have a clear purpose for reading and are able to annotate relevant text evidence while reading.

The **7th Grade humanities extension** for this assignment has three parts. Part one provides additional historic context for the history that *They Called Us the Enemy* is set in, part two asks scholar to analyze primary sources, and part three connects the issues from the book to issues of today. Each part includes detailed instructions, texts in the assignment, as well as videos or websites to be viewed with the provided links. Guiding questions or activities are included with each one and should be competed within the document.

If your scholar is entering grade 8, please have them read *March: Book One* by John Lewis and Nate Powell (**illustrator**). While reading the graphic novel, your scholar's primary job is to take enjoyment in reading the text. Once your scholar has finished the novel, they complete the "Questions After Reading" (page 2) according to the directions then select one "Alternative Book Report" (page 3) project to complete. We strongly recommend that your scholar preview the "Questions After Reading" and "Alternative Book Report" before they begin reading the graphic novel, so they have a clear purpose for reading and are able to annotate relevant text evidence while reading. **Advisory on Language:** Please note that, in its accurate depiction of racism in the 1950s and 1960s, *March* contains several instances of racist language and other potentially offensive epithets. Taking this language into consideration, Common Sense Media still rates the book as appropriate for scholars ages 12 and up.

The 8th grade humanities extension for this assignment has three parts. Part one provides additional historic context for the history that *March: Book One* is set in, part two asks scholar to analyze primary sources, and part three connects the issues from the book to issues of the earlier Reconstruction Era. Each part includes detailed instructions, texts in the assignment, as well as videos or websites to be viewed with the provided links. Guiding questions or activities are included with each one and should be completed within the document.

Please clarify directions for your scholar if necessary but allow them to complete as much work as possible independently. Encourage your rising middle schooler to complete reading their graphic novel no later than July 31st so they may spend the first week in August completing the "Questions After Reading" and the "Alternative Book Report". Both parts of the assignment are due on August 9th, the first day of school. The humanities extensions can be done before, during, or after their reading based on the scholars' preference. All parts of the assignment are due are also due on August 9th.

MATH AND SCIENCE BLENDED ASSIGNMENTS

A few things to note:

- Our goal is to have scholars experience doing math and science over the summer.
- Teachers hope that everyone attempts the packet.
- Teachers will be collecting packets (complete or incomplete) at the beginning of the 21-22 school year.
- Scholars may get guidance from sibling(s), parent(s), etc.
- If a scholar does not know how to do a certain problem, check the answer and work backwards.
- Feel free to use extra paper if more space is needed to work the problems.

Math and Science Blended Assignment:

If your scholar is entering grade 6, their blended assignment addresses critical areas scholars learned while in 5th grade. For Math, these areas include Numbers and Operations, Algebraic Reasoning, Geometry and Measurement. For Science, these areas include Organisms and Environments. The blended scholar packet contains **3 assignments** - Part 1: Interdependency; Part 2: Food Webs; and Part 3: Environmental Change. Each assignment should be completed according to the directions provided in the packets.

If your scholar is entering grade 7, their blended assignment addresses critical areas scholars learned while in 6th grade. For Math, these areas include Numbers and Operations, Proportionality, Geometry and Measurement. For Science, these areas include Organisms and Environments. The blended scholar packet contains **3 assignments** - Part 1: Prokaryotic and Eukaryotic Cells; Part 2: Organisms and Environments; and Part 3: Organization and Interactions in an Environment. Each assignment should be completed according to the directions provided in the packets.

If your scholar is entering grade 8, their blended assignment addresses critical areas scholars learned while in 7th grade. For Math, these areas include Numbers and Operations, Proportionality, Geometry and Measurement. For Science, these areas include Organisms and Environments. The blended scholar packet contains **3 assignments** - Part 1: Organization in Plants and Animals; Part 2: Plant and Animal Cell Organelles; and Part 3: Functions of a Cell. Each assignment should be completed according to the directions provided in the packets.

Math Assignment:

In addition to the blended Math and Science summer assignments, we also want to provide your scholar with the opportunity to engage in online math skills practice through the use of an online platform called **MATHia**.

If your scholar is entering grades 6, 7, or 8 they will continue to refine their skills with fraction and decimal operations, ratios and proportions, and geometry concepts. This online program supports scholars to work independently by providing help and hints along the way. We suggest scholars **engage on the MATHia program about 45 – 60 mins each week during the month of June**. Scholars may access their MATHia accounts through their Uplift Classlink system throughout the month of June. The MATHia system will shut down July 1st to prepare for the 21-22 school year. If you have any questions, please reach out to your campus teachers or leaders.