



Activity Guide - Weeks 5-8

Hello Parent/Guardian,

We hope you are doing well. These activities are designed to help students engage with their community as well as explore their interests and opportunities. Each activity can be done by any aged child, though younger students may need support to accomplish some of the parts. Our hope is that students' minds and bodies will be active in the final weeks of summer so that they will be ready for school to start in August or September.

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Week 5: Understanding People

Activity 1

In this week's activities, you will explore people and seek to understand more about how we live together in our community and world. To start, let's investigate similarities and differences between you and people near you. Follow these steps:

1. Think about some people in your life or neighborhood who are different from you in some way. They might be a different age, gender, race, religion, or some other trait.
2. Find a way to talk to, call, or text one or more of the people you thought about. Check with your parents to make sure you can contact the person, and ask for help if you need it.
3. Try to find three things that are different between you and three things that are similar. You could talk about food, sports, music, hobbies, work, school, where they are from, what they hope to do, or anything else you might be curious about.
4. Record your findings below

Person you talked to or messaged: _____

3 differences	3 similarities



Week 5: Understanding People

Activity 2

Now that we have explored some of the ways we are different and similar to people around us, let's explore some of what brings people together and what keeps us apart.

1. Brainstorm things that unite people in some way; for example, school or a concert. Try to come up with at least 5. Write your answers below:



2. Now brainstorm things that can keep people apart in some way; for example, Corona Virus or different beliefs. Try to come up with at least 5. Write your answers below:



3. Try to answer why some things unify people while other things divide them. If you can, try researching some questions online or talk with adults or peers that you know. Write down your thoughts below or on another sheet of paper.



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seedling image source (color changed): <https://freesvg.org/zizee-seedling>



Week 5: Understanding People

Activity 3

Think about the people in our community, our state, and our country. There is a lot of variety. Since we live in the Grand Rapids area, we are going to focus on that. Follow the steps below to explore this more.

1. If you have access to the internet, go to the Experience GR People page: <https://www.experiencegr.com/about-grand-rapids/people/>. Read through the different groups and events that are represented in our area. If you don't have access to the internet, think and talk about different groups you have seen in your area and write down some answers or draw a picture of it below:



2. Using your research or your own experience, what festivals, events, or art exists in our area that represent different cultures? How do you feel about those things?



3. Describe some ideas you might have about how people could learn more about different cultures or interact with them more.



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Week 5: Understanding People

Activity 4

You have thought and explored about how people are alike and different, how they interact, and how different cultures are represented in our area. Now it's your turn to create. Follow the steps below.

1. Think about ways you could represent or describe different types of people and how they interact in our society. Some ideas include sidewalk chalk, stories, poems/songs, or photographs and video.

If you have internet access, go to this link for ideas: bit.ly/art2people. You could also ask adults or friends for examples they know about. Jot some ideas down below.



2. Create your project. If possible, share it with someone to get feedback and see if you can improve it.
3. When finished, find a way to share it. You could show the people you live with, friends, post it on social media, or in some other way. You could also look up Kent ISD on Facebook or Twitter and share your work there.

Thanks for participating in these activities. Hopefully they have helped you get a better sense of people and how we live together. Keep growing.



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Week 6: Understanding the World of Work

Activity 1

This week's activities focus on work. That may not sound that interesting to you, but you are hopefully interested in what you will do with your life and how you can support yourself. So, it may be a good idea to start thinking about it. Get started below:

1. Call, email, or interview 3 or more people that you know. Ask them about their jobs (or past jobs). You could include the following questions or come up with your own.
 - a. How did you get your job?
 - b. What education or skills do you need for your job?
 - c. What kinds of tasks do you do?
 - d. What do you enjoy or not enjoy about your work?
 - e. If you could do something differently, would you? If so, what?



2. Write your responses below and use another piece of paper if needed:

Person 1	Person 2	Person 3





Week 6: Understanding the World of Work

Activity 2

1. Of the people you interviewed, which one has a job that is most appealing to you? Why? Jot your thoughts down below.



2. Look at the career pathways below and **circle the 3 that interest you most**. If you have internet access, research some of the pathways to learn more about them.

- a. Agriculture, Food, & Natural Resources
- b. Architecture & Construction
- c. Arts, A/V Technology, & Communications
- d. Business, Management, & Administration
- e. Education & Training
- f. Energy
- g. Finance
- h. Government & Public Administration
- i. Health Science
- j. Hospitality & Tourism
- k. Human Services
- l. Information Technology
- m. Law, Public Safety, Corrections, & Security
- n. Manufacturing
- o. Marketing
- p. Science, Technology, Engineering, & Mathematics
- q. Transportation, Distribution, & Logistics



3. What more do you want to know about your options?

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Week 6: Understanding the World of Work

Activity 3

1. If you are going into grades K-5 and have internet access, try one of the interactive activities on this site: knowitall.org/series/kids-work. Write at least 3 things you learn.

If you are going into grades 6-12, go to this page: bit.ly/workpath. Click on a pathway and then the color image to see info on different jobs. Click the job links for info on pay and more. Write at least 5 things you learn.



If you don't have internet access, see if you can get more information about your field of interest from an adult or the library.

2. If you have internet access, go to the Kent ISD Career Readiness Plan my Future Page: bit.ly/creadyplan. Go through the planning sites they have listed and explore.



If you do not have internet access, start a future plan and write the questions you want to research.

3. Your plan. What are your next steps? What do you need to do? How long will it take? Enter your response below or on another sheet of paper:





Week 7: Build and Reflect on Your Family Tree

Activity 1

- Who are the important people in your life? Who do you care about and who cares about you? Your family may be the people you are related to (brothers and sisters, parents, grandparents, cousins, aunts, uncles) or people you are not related to (friends, neighbors, guardians).

Think about the members of your family. Make a list of the members in your family. Within your list of family members, try to list their age and where they live.

Family Member's Name	Age	Where do they live?



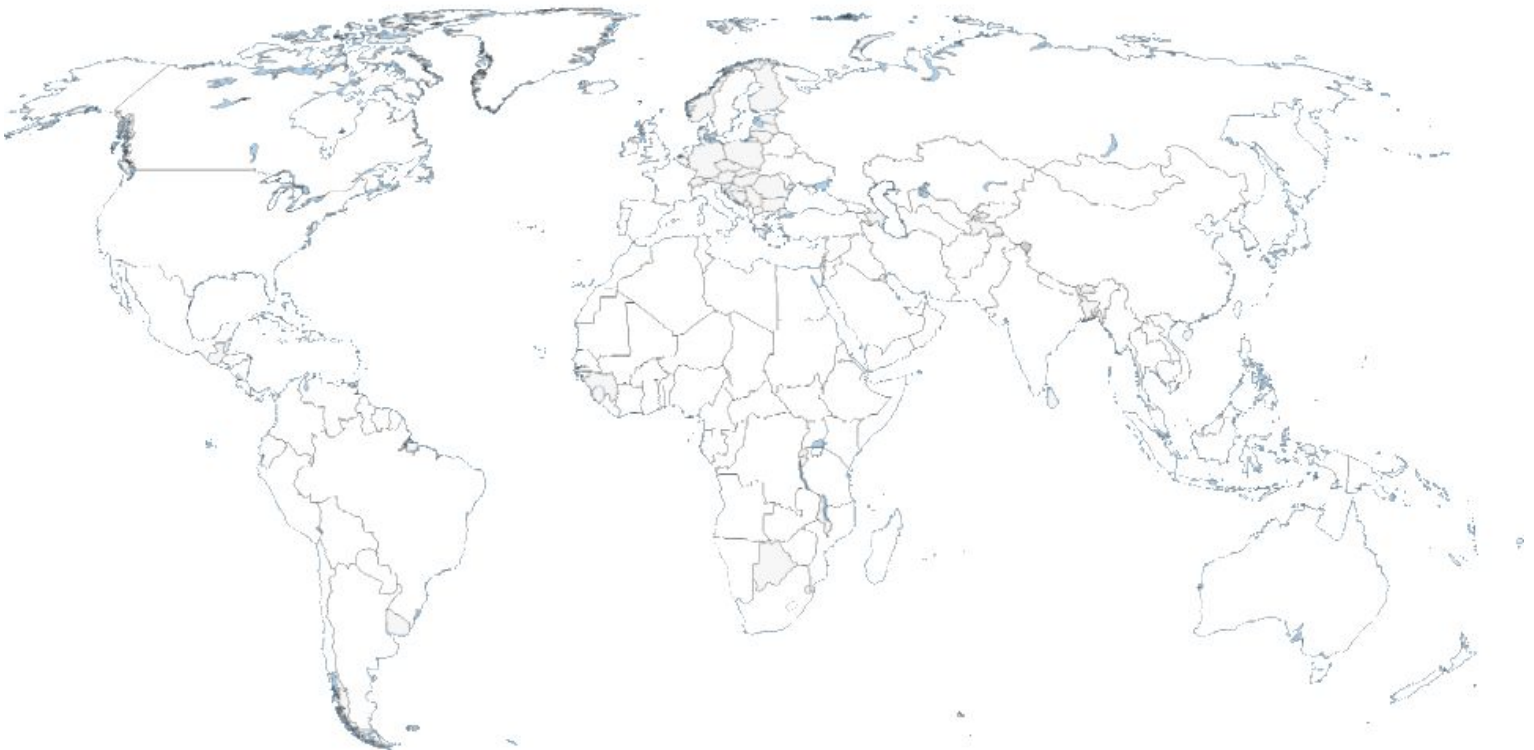
Week 7: Build and Reflect on Your Family Tree

Activity 2

- Next, ask your family members about your family traditions. What is unique about your family? Where did your family originate from? Write down some of your findings below:

- Use the map below to show where your family is located. You could include your ancestors or just the people who are living. Draw lines and add labels if needed.

map image source: wikipedia





Week 7: Build and Reflect on Your Family Tree

Activity 3

- Now, you get to construct a family tree. Decorate your family tree with details on your family traditions, locations of where people are from, and other items that make your family special! Get creative & do this below or on a separate sheet of paper/poster board so you have all the space you need! If you can, try to look up examples of family trees to see how you might make yours.



Week 7: Build and Reflect on Your Family Tree

Activity 4

- Reflect on your family tree by answering the following questions:

1. Who in your family do you look up to and why?

2. What might you do to connect more with your family?

- When you are done, share your family tree project with your family! Maybe mail or send electronic versions.

Thanks for participating in the family tree activities. We hope it got you thinking more about your connections and helped you become more connected to them.



Week 8: Compare and Contrast Grand Rapids Local Parks

Activity 1

- This summer get permission from your family to visit 2 or more local parks. While you visit the park make note of the park's name and what the park has to offer. Use the boxes below to put a checkmark for each of the things the parks have.

	Pool	Beach	Play-ground	Basket-ball	Tennis	Disc Golf	A river or lake	A bike path	Picnic tables	Grills	Fishing	Wildlife
Park 1												
Park 2												

What other features does each park have? What are some of the things that make the park especially good or not so good?

Park 1:

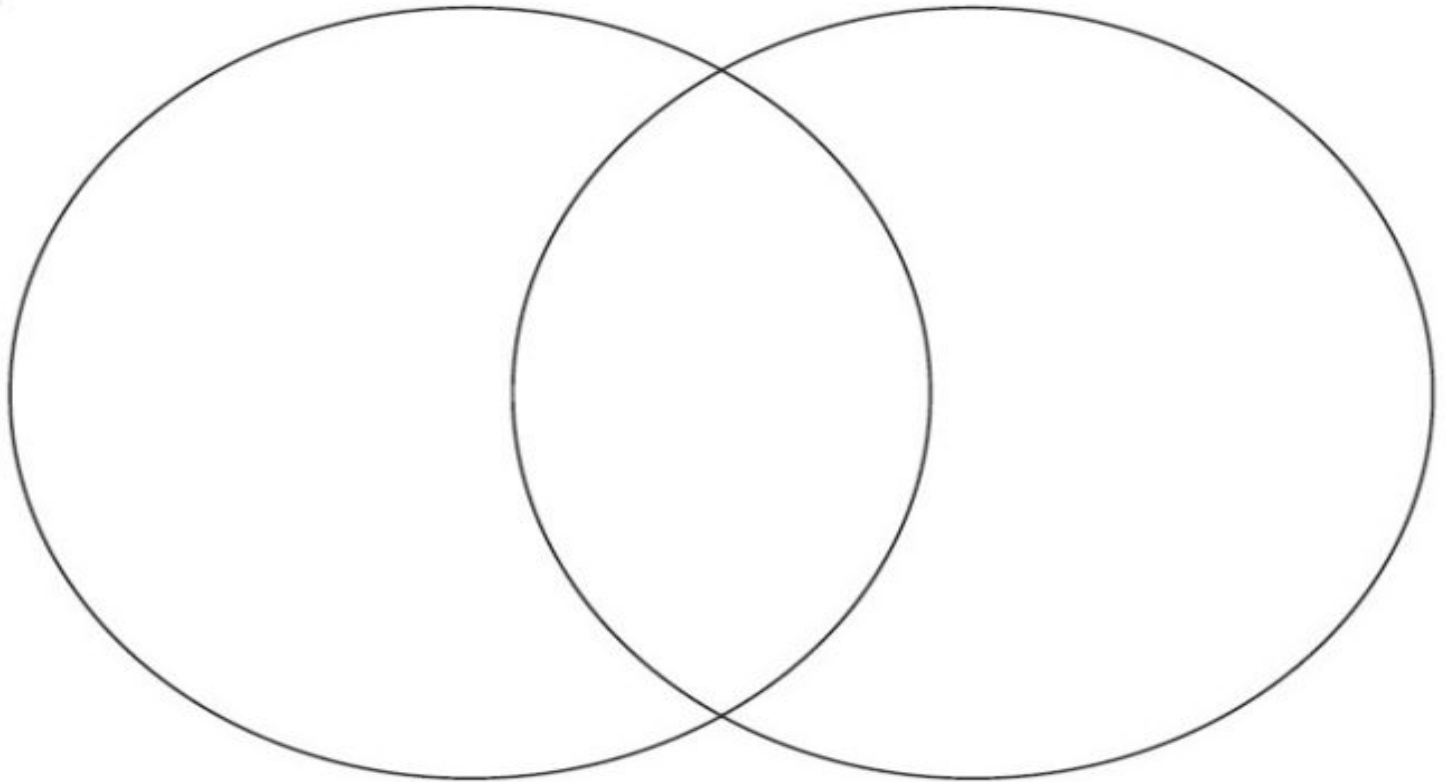
Park 2:

Make sure you take some time to enjoy the park! Repeat this process as many times as you can.



Activity 2

- When you are done visiting 2 or more parks use a Venn diagram to organize your thoughts. Write the similarities in the middle and the differences in the outer circles.



Park 1

Park 2

Shade in the stars to give each park a rating out of 10 stars, then explain why! (10 is the best)

Park 1: ★★★★★★★★★★

Explanation-

Park 2: ★★★★★★★★★★

Explanation-



Activity 3

- Connect and share. Choose 1 of the activities below or challenge yourself to do both!
 1. Write a letter, compose an email, or call a local official with recommendations for improvement or to express appreciation for one of the parks you visited.

Below is the information for Grand Rapids Parks and Recreation. If you live in a different city or township, you can look up your parks and recreation department or look up Kent County Parks and Recreation.

Address: Grand Rapids Parks and Recreation Office
201 Market Avenue SW
Grand Rapids, MI 49503

Email: parksandrec@grcity.us

Phone: 616-456-3696

2. With permission from an adult, post to social media with pictures, video, or text about what you liked or would like. Tag the city or county account so they see it.
 - a. Tag @grandrapidsparks
 - b. Tag @kentcountyparks



*Look for social media accounts for your city or township if you live elsewhere

This is the end of this year's Summer Brain Gain activities. Remember you can do things like this on your own any time.

Keep thinking, keep exploring, and keep creating.