

# Educational Summary

## Grade 6

### 2000-2001

## Language Arts

### **\*English to include Spelling, Reading, and Writing**

- ☞ Participated in a Kids Around Town project where the students learned to operate the studio equipment at a local TV station. They then wrote, produced, acted in and edited three Public Service Announcements for D-Net, an electronic voters guide. The PSA's were broadcast the first week in November.
- ☞ Experimented with web page design. Is currently creating a webpage for a homeschool support group.
- ☞ Maintained e-mail contact with many correspondents.
- ☞ Read a variety of books, manuals, websites, references, and periodicals.
- ☞ Wrote a report on the Hoover Dam, going through several drafts to correct spelling and grammar.
- ☞ Learned Latin and Greek word roots
- ☞ Continued to learn communications skills on the computer. Practiced typing, improved e-mail management skills, and learned instant messaging.

### **German**

- ☞ Took a year-long Conversational German class as part of the homeschoolers coop. Started German I course.
- ☞ Attended German language overnight camp for a week.

## Mathematics and Logic

### **\*Arithmetic**

- ☞ Was snack table manager for the homeschool coop for a semester. He was responsible for purchasing, inventory control, and sales of snacks and drinks to homeschoolers at Enrichment Day, a 2 day a week event. He maintained weekly inventory counts in an Excel spreadsheet, and handled sales over the busy lunch hour. He made inventory selections and set prices to maximize profit and sales.
- ☞ Assisted with family bill paying and record keeping.
- ☞ Used computer programs such as Mathshop Deluxe, JumpStart, and card games such as 24 to practice math skills.

### **Other math**

- ☞ Began first chapters in an Introduction to Algebra course.

### **Logic and Strategy**

- ☞ Enjoys logic and strategy games and puzzles including chess. Competed in several chess tournaments including the state championships.

### **Computer Programming**

- ☞ Programmed simple applications in Visual Basic computer language including a table driven quiz program.

- ☞ Began to use and modify simple Javascripts in his webpages

- ☞ Continued to learn HTML.

### **Economics**

- ☞ Learned much about basic economics from managing the snack table (see note under arithmetic).
- ☞ Enjoyed computer programs such as Gazillionaire, Sim City, Sim Tower, Roller Coaster Tycoon, and Sims

### **\*Science**

- ☞ Participated in 2 "missions" at Challenger Learning Center—Catch a Comet and Mission to Mars. The Mission to Mars included several hours of preparatory classes before the day of the mission. Watched a space shuttle lift-off in FL.
- ☞ Studied anatomy as part of a first aid/CPR class.
- ☞ Attended Carnegie Science Center workshop on genetics.
- ☞ Observed natural phenomena daily in the woods and fields of PA. Also had extended stays in Georgia and Florida including a trip to the beach. Spent time on Lake Erie beaches and a week camping by the Yough river. Spent time observing stars, planets, the moon, nebulae, and galaxies through a powerful telescope
- ☞ Numerous visits to the Science center and Natural History Museum including the SciTech Festival.
- ☞ Frequently watches videos such as Jeff Corwin, Bill Nye, and Nature shows and browses through science books.
- ☞ Experienced 120 MPH winds in a wind tunnel and experimented with the aerodynamics of his body
- ☞ Exposure to scientific concepts in computer programs such as Sim Ant, Odell Down Under, Invention Studio, Bill Nye, Sim Farm, Body Voyage and Roller Coaster Tycoon. Also spent much time exploring sound with sound editors on the computer.
- ☞ Did kitchen chemistry experiments, labs in a box, played with hydraulic rockets, and experimented with the properties and behavior of fire.
- ☞ Learned about horse care and anatomy as our family boarded horses for the first time..

### **\*Geography**

- ☞ Took a one semester course in current events, tracking the action on maps.
- ☞ Used Global Positioning System and mapping software (Streets 98) to track progress during road trips to GA and through PA.
- ☞ Traveled the east coast in trips to FL and GA and Erie
- ☞ Moved to a new house 30 miles away and learned a new "neighborhood", lifestyle, and microenvironment.

## **Social Studies**

### **History**

#### **\*US**

- ☞☞ Toured the town and fort at St. Augustine, FL
- ☞☞ Researched and wrote a report on the Hoover Dam
- ☞☞ Learned about Thomas Jefferson, Louis Braille, and Thomas Edison
- ☞☞ Explored the homestead and attic of his great grandparents home in Florida.
- ☞☞ Had discussion about the Great Depression and WWII with relatives
- ☞☞ Studied history as part of the context in Current Events class

#### **\*PA**

- ☞☞ Visited the Heinz Regional History Center several times
- ☞☞ Toured the U.S. Brig. Niagara and maritime museum in Erie

#### **\*Civics**

- ☞☞ Participated in a Kids Around Town project which is designed to teach students to be effective citizens. They wrote, produced, acted in and edited three Public Service Announcements for D-Net, and electronic voters guide.
- ☞☞ Closely followed the Presidential Election events.

#### **Other**

- ☞☞ Learned of the experience of dealing with a family member with a serious illness
- ☞☞ Attended his first viewing and funeral..
- ☞☞ Toured a potato chip factory.
- ☞☞ Learned social studies concepts through computer simulations such as Sims and Roller Coaster Tycoon

#### **\*Safety**

- ☞☞ Attended the homeschool Safety Fair where he toured a fire truck and saw demonstrations of health and safety procedures
- ☞☞ Played with fire in supervised situations. Had home discussions of general and fire safety.

#### **\*Health & Physiology**

- ☞☞ Took a First Aid/CPR course and received certification
- ☞☞ Attended 1 day workshop at the Carnegie Science Center in adolescent development and safety from AIDS
- ☞☞ Took a genetics course at the Carnegie Science Center
- ☞☞ Received regular instruction in personal hygiene, adolescent development, and nutrition.
- ☞☞ Observed the effects of influenza, stroke, and cancer on family members and learned of their treatments. Visited hospital , observed the administration of chemotherapy, and observed procedures in the intensive care unit.

## **\*Phys Ed**

- ☞☞ Spent one week at paddling camp learning kayaking and rafting
- ☞☞ Active around home with chores, walks, bicycling, an obstacle course, and other physical activities.
- ☞☞ Participated in the Homeschool Baseball league.
- ☞☞ Participated regularly in a church-run after school program that had a period of very active games.
- ☞☞ Explored new activities such as sky diving in a wind tunnel.
- ☞☞ Rode horses

## **\*Music**

- ☞☞ Studied piano year around and music theory.
- ☞☞ Listened to many forms of music via the internet and CD's in our home and car.

## **\*Art**

- ☞☞ Spent time designing web pages and graphics for them
- ☞☞ Became adept at various computer graphics programs modifying digital photos
- ☞☞ Experimented with videography, making home movies with his sister and making PSA's at a TV studio. Also made "movies" in the computer program, 3-D movie maker
- ☞☞ Dabbled in drawing and various crafts such a polymer clay sculpture and painting porcelain.
- ☞☞ Did handwriting drills
- ☞☞ Attended the extravaganza, Arabian Nights in Orlando, FL.