



GRADES 6-8 *Issue 3, April 3, 2020*

Families are invited to explore these weekly resources that have been curated with grades 6-8 in mind. These resources are offered for families interested in additional ways to supplement learning activities beyond those that are provided by classroom teachers.

We hope students and families will find some digital spaces to explore, engage, and enrich personal learning interests at home. We plan to post new editions on Fridays.

ONGOING RESOURCES

[Confident Parents Confident Kids](#): A parent guide to support students' social-emotional development.

[April Fitness Challenge](#): Keep your mind and body active. **NEW!**

[Youth/Parent Fireside Chat](#): iKeepSafe. **NEW!**

NEW OPPORTUNITIES

[Free Computer Science Courses for Grades 6-12](#): Amazon Future Engineer Science

Possible activity: Choose a course that interests you.

[Solution Squad](#): Jim McClain (digital comic book)

Possible activity: Develop your understanding of math concepts in a comic book format. Be sure to read "How to Read Comics" (pp. 8-10) before you dig in.

[Spinning Tube Trick](#): Veritasium YouTube Channel (5:27 min video)

Possible discussion questions: Why does this phenomenon happen? Can you recreate this using a toilet paper tube?

[The Invention of the Electric Guitar](#): Smithsonian Learning Lab (5:14 min video)

Possible discussion questions: Will we recognize the sound of the electric guitar 10 or 20 years from now?

Which songs on your playlist have the best guitar solo?

[What's Going On in This Picture?](#): *The New York Times*

Possible discussion questions: Look closely at the picture without its caption. What do you notice? What do you wonder? What's going on in this picture?

[Why pasta comes in all shapes and sizes](#): TEDEd Small Thing Big Idea (3:24 min video)

Possible discussion questions: What new information did you learn from this video? What is your favorite type of pasta? What is your least favorite? Why?

Take a Spring Break Virtual Vacation

Possible discussion questions: What do you notice? What do you wonder? What do you want to know more about?

[Yosemite National Park Vacation Travel Guide](#): Expedia (9:20 min video)

Join a guided tour through Yosemite.

[Yosemite Trail Guide](#): Don't forget to bring this guide as you [explore Yosemite's treasures](#).

[Protecting Wildlife in Yosemite](#): Yosemite Conservancy (3:02 min video)

[Yosemite Mountain Yellow-Legged Frogs](#): Yosemite Conservancy (7:33 min video)

Possible discussion question: What's going on with the Mountain Yellow-Legged frogs?

LOW TECH / NO TECH ACTIVITIES

[Classification game](#): (homemade Scattergories). Invite others to join the game virtually.

[Food Art](#): The one time it might be okay to artistically play with food during mealtime.

[Penguin Cam](#): Pittsburgh Zoo & Aquarium

Possible activity: Have fun watching the penguins. How many captions can you and a family member create while watching these funny creatures?

[Pen Spin #1 Tutorial](#): YouTube (3:28 min video)