

Summer Packet:

Dear Parent/Guardian of students entering the next grade level.

Research shows that students who complete academic activities during the summer retain or improve the knowledge and skills they gain during classroom instruction.

We need your support in encouraging your child to complete his/her required summer assignments. This is a required packet designed to assist him/her in applying the learning done during this past school year. The proper completion of this summer packet will represent your child's first project grade in Social Studies for the 2016-2017 school year.

The packet must be completed and returned to school by the first day of school. **PACKETS NOT SUBMITTED ON THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL WILL RECEIVE A ZERO!!! NO EXCUSES.**

Extra copies will be located at the front office if the packet is lost. A digital copy is also available on my website.

Thank you and have a wonderful summer.

-Mr. Berdecia

NAME: _____

Summer Packet - Eighth Grade Social Studies

Welcome to 8th Grade United States History II! While I want you to rest and enjoy your summer break as much as possible, I want you to be ready to start the new school year. I am asking you to complete this assignment sometime over the summer. This assignment should take no more than a couple of hours out of your summer break. It is meant to be just a taste of what we will be discussing when we start the year in September.

1. You will need to place all completed work in a red pocket folder. Be sure to put your full name at the top of the folder.

2. This packet will be your first project grade in social studies and will be worth 200 points. LATE PROJECTS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. NO EXCUSES! Grammar, punctuation, spelling and neatness will be graded. Typed work is not necessary, however you may type the assignments if you desire. You should be completing ONE MISSION approximately every two weeks of summer.

Mission # 1 – “Your Journey”

Directions: Draw (by hand only) a rough map of a country other than the U.S. that you would most like to visit (on a separate sheet of printer paper). Your map should include the following items:

- a. Borders of the country with surrounding geographical areas labeled (nations, water, etc.)
- b. Latitude and longitude coordinates of the labeled capital
- c. Four labeled tourist attractions in the country
- d. On the back of the map (other side of the paper), choose two of the attractions you listed and write a brief explanation of what you can expect to see and learn at those attractions. (Please write one five sentence paragraph for each attraction. Write complete sentences with proper grammar, spelling and punctuation).

Mission # 2 – “A Century Timeline”

Directions: Using an unlined sheet of paper, create a 100 year timeline with clearly identified dates (1877-1977). Identify and label what you think are the 10 most important historical events that involve the United States during the span of your timeline.

Illustrate each event with a drawing, quote, or image and specific date. On the back of the timeline (other side of paper), choose the one event you believe is the most important event of that hundred year span and write a one-paragraph summary of the event and its importance to the United States.

Events may include anything that you consider significant.

Mission # 3 – “My birthday in history...”

Directions: On a separate sheet of paper- write a one-paragraph description of an event from history (anywhere in the world between 1877 to 1977) that occurred on or near your date of birth in the space below:

a. My Birth Date: _____

b. Title of Historical Event

c. Date of Historical Event _____

Please title the paragraph- My Birthday in History- use font NO larger than 12pt.

Mission # 4 – “Summer News”

Directions: On any day of your vacation, obtain a newspaper (on-line or print) and
READ! READ! READ!

Choose an international, national, AND local story to complete the following questions. Please write answers on a separate sheet of lined paper. This may be typed, if you wish.

Name of Newspaper:

Date of Newspaper:

1. Write the headline from a local story (from Plainfield or New Jersey)
2. Write a brief description of the story (minimum 7 sentences)
3. Write the headline from a national story (from outside New Jersey)
4. Write a brief description of the story (minimum 7 sentences)
5. Write the headline from an international story (from outside the United States)
6. Write a brief description of the story (minimum 7 sentences)

ATTACH THE ARTICLES WITH THE DESCRIPTIONS!!! The articles can be from a newspaper or a website. Approved websites include CNN, FOX News, BBC, and New York Times. In order to receive credit for this mission, you must attach the articles.

ALL STORIES MUST BE FROM THE SAME DAY, BE SURE TO LOOK AT WHEN THE ARTICLE WAS WRITTEN.

Mission # 5: "World Geography"

Directions:

- 1) Go to <http://www.lizardpoint.com/fun/geoquiz/usaquiz.html>. Be sure to click on the test button.
- 2) Play the game until you earn all 150 points for this US geography test
- 3) Once you earn 150 points, preferably print your score out and staple it to this packet. If a printer is not available, write your score down and have a parent or guardian sign their name next to your score.
- 4) Go to <http://www.lizardpoint.com/fun/geoquiz/worldquiz.html>. Be sure to click on the test button.
- 5) You must earn all 90 points for this world game test.
- 6) Once you earn 90 points, print your score out and staple it to this packet. If a printer is not available, write your score down and have a parent or guardian sign their name next to your score.

There WILL BE a Geography test (US and World) during the second week of school. I suggest that you take this portion of the project very seriously. US II deals greatly with America's expansion to international affairs, so knowing where these nations are located is highly important. Study, Study, Study!!!