

Science Summer Enrichment Activities

Haines Middle School

Here at Haines, we strive for excellence and highest academic achievement. Your teachers have prepared interesting and captivating assignments. The science summer enrichment activities can be carried out with the involvement of the whole family. We all wish you lots of fun and can't wait for you to present your activities in the first week of school. Please follow the directions very closely and have fun.

****This year you have a choice of activities in science. Please choose two out of the three assigned activities****

1. Current Events in Science

Please find an article that is related to current events in science. You will compose a mini research paper on the topic that is related to this article. Below, find questions to answer that will help you conduct your research and write the essay. Include pictures or photographs to help us understand your presentation. Please use spell check and make sure that your presentation is error free. Please include MLA style citations for all your resources you have used.

- I. What is the article about?
- II. What is the problem/issue in this article?
- III. How is it related to our daily life, or to you?
- IV. Is there a solution to the problem mentioned in the article? V. How would you solve the problem? VI. How will this relate to our future?

2. Outdoor Science Scavenger Hunt

This activity can be done as a family, or you can do it with your friends, unless you like to work alone. You will go outside and find things that are in the scavenger hunt form. Use the form to find all the items, please take a picture of the found items with your phone. I will consider pictures of you and the items, type of like selfies. Once you complete the scavenger hunt, create a slide presentation with your pictures explaining each item. Please follow the directions and have fun.

ECOSYSTEM INTERACTIONS

Scavenger Hunt

Find as many items on the list as you can. Take a picture of it.

- 1. A bird or mammal interacting with a plant**
- 2. An animal interacting with dirt or rocks**
- 3. An insect interacting with a plant**
- 4. An animal consuming food**
- 5. A bird interacting with a non-living component of its ecosystem**
- 6. An insect interacting with a non-living component of its ecosystem**
- 7. 7. A plant that needs shade to thrive**
- 8. A plant interacting with a non-living component of its ecosystem**
- 9. A fungus that returns nutrients to the soil**
- 10. An animal using a living or nonliving component of its ecosystem for shelter**

3. Create/Invent Something

Your task is to invent something that would help someone in your school, or community. Think about the problem you would solve with your invention. What is it? How is it useful? Who would it help? Draw a picture of your invention as a prototype. Make a model of it. You will present your model to the class. Before you invent something, follow the text, it will help you with generating ideas.

Sometimes a terrific invention is a matter of sheer luck and discovery. For example, Red Delicious apples are one of the most common varieties of apples available. It was discovered by an Iowan farmer named Jesse Hiatt who saw a small seedling growing on his farm. He thought it was a nuisance plant and chopped it down. The tree kept growing back, however, and finally he allowed it to grow to maturity. It produced red apples. Eighteen years went by and he took the apple he called "Hawkeye" to a fruit show where he sold the rights to market the apple that was renamed Red Delicious.

- Go to the [Inventor's Hall of Fame website](#).
- Select "search by decade" and select "1900." Scroll through the inventions from this decade that made it into the Hall of Fame.

Choose the five that you feel are most important and list them. Then, circle the number(s) of the invention(s) listed that you have used. Place a star next to the one you would least like to live without.

- Select "search by decade" again and select any decade you wish.

Which invention do you wish most that you would have invented yourself? Describe what life would be like without that invention using the three-frame comic strip below. Use the first two frames to show life with the invention and the last frame to show life without the invention.
