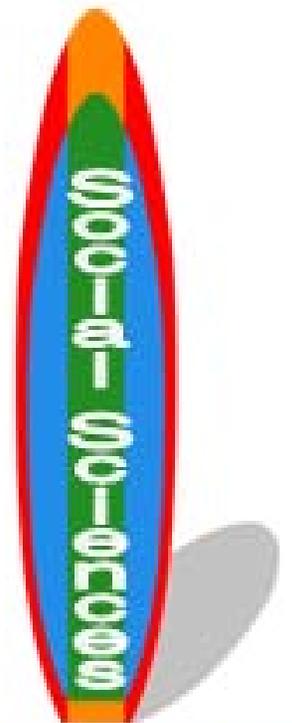




Ready, Set, Go Mission Possible



ELEMENTARY



Curriculum and Instruction
Social Sciences and Life Skills

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

Dr. Solomon C. Stinson, Chair

Perla Tabares Hantman, Vice Chair

Agustin J. Barrera

Renier Diaz de la Portilla

Dr. Lawrence S. Feldman

Dr. Wilbert “Tee” Holloway

Dr. Martin Stewart Karp

Ana Rivas Logan

Dr. Marta Pérez

Alexandra Garfinkle

Student Advisor



Alberto M. Carvalho

Superintendent of Schools

Milagros R. Fornell

Associate Superintendent
Curriculum and Instruction

Dr. Maria P. de Armas

Assistant Superintendent
Curriculum and Instruction, K-12 Core

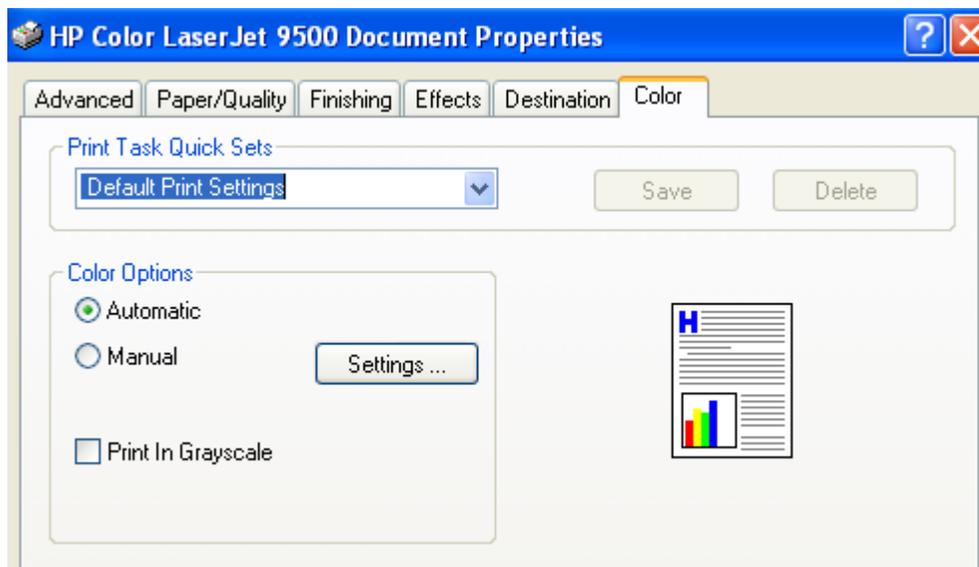
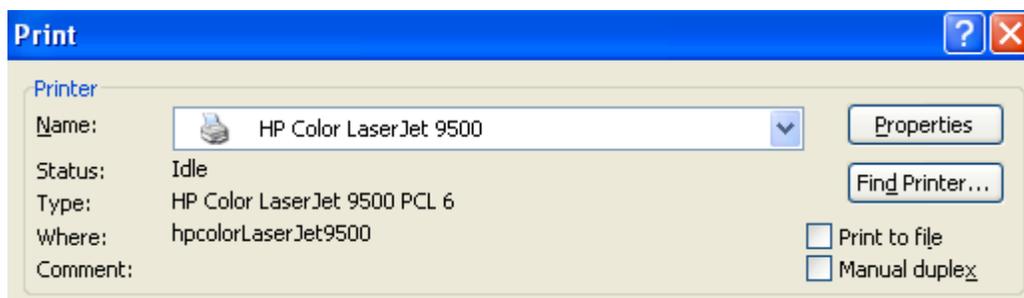
Mr. John R. Doyle

Administrative Director
Curriculum and Instruction, Social Sciences and Life Skills

Welcome to the Miami-Dade County Public School's Summer Fun packets. These fun activities are designed to help promote learning throughout the summer break. The activities are divided by grade levels and curriculum content – Social Studies, Science, Mathematics, and Reading/Language Arts. Educational web-links are also included with all packets. Please be sure to supervise your child while they are using the internet.

In addition to the fun packets, it is strongly recommended that you encourage your child to continue to read at least 30 minutes each day. Support for reading includes: Barnes & Nobles' *Summer Reading Journal* <http://bn.com/summerreading> and Miami-Dade Public Library's *Wild About Reading Summer Reading Adventure* <http://www.mdpls.org>. In addition, *Ticket to Read* is available through the Student Portal: <http://www.dadeschools.net/students/students.htm>.

In an attempt to conserve paper and ink, if you wish to print these activities, they are combined using a little space as possible and no color except for the links on this page and this note. If you wish to avoid printing in color, please select "Print in grayscale" on your printer's properties/color tab located on the "Print" screen. See the figures below.



Grade Levels: K-2 (with some activities also appropriate for grades 3-5)

Subject: American History

Title of the Activity: Pledge of Allegiance

Brief description of the activity: Help your child understand the importance of reciting the Pledge of Allegiance. Recite the pledge to encourage memorization of the Pledge. Have your child draw and color a picture of the flag of the United States.

General level of appropriateness:

K-2	Grades 3-5	Grades 6-8	Grades 9-12

Subject: American History

Title of the Activity: Scavenger Hunt Stressing the Importance of Florida

Brief description of the activity: Have your child collect objects either in your yard or at the beach that are a part of Florida's natural resources; e.g., sand, limestone rocks, oranges or any citrus fruit, palm fronds, sea shells. You could also give your child a list of these items that must be collected as part of a scavenger hunt. Once collected, ask your child to look at the objects and help them define the term "natural resources." Ask if he or she can tell you why these resources are important to Florida.

General level of appropriateness:

K-2	Grades 3-5	Grades 6-8	Grades 9-12

Subject: Civics/Government

Title of the Activity: Prominent Citizens in our Community

Brief description of the activity: Discuss with your child(ren) that we all need people to help us in certain ways. People who help us in our community are called community leaders or helpers. These people help us in many different ways. Ask your child(ren) to come up with 5 different occupations of community leaders or helpers (e.g., mayor, firefighters, police officers, doctors, teachers) and together write a paragraph on each describing the ways they help their community. For the younger children, have them draw a picture of each of the occupations of their community leaders or helpers.

General level of appropriateness:

K-2	Grades 3-5	Grades 6-8	Grades 9-12

Subject: Civics/Government

Title of the Activity: Rules in Our Community

Brief description of the activity: Explain to your child(ren) that all communities need rules to help keep their citizens safe and free from problems. If rules are not obeyed, people can get hurt and the community would not function properly. A good citizen obeys all the rules of their community, including the rules at school, at home, etc. Have your child(ren) fold a piece of notebook paper in three columns. The first column should read, "Community Rules," the second column should read, "School Rules," and the third column should read, "Rules at Home." Have them write 5 rules under each column that apply to each situation. Have them compare and contrast how each rule differs.

General level of appropriateness:

K-2	Grades 3-5	Grades 6-8	Grades 9-12

Subject: Economics

Title of the Activity: Making Choices

Brief description of the activity: Ask your child(ren) to think about a special toy they would like to have this summer. How much does it cost? Ask: What are you willing to give up in order to purchase that special toy? Discuss the importance of making wise choice when spending money. Explain the difference between a "need" and a "want."

General level of appropriateness:

K-2	Grades 3-5	Grades 6-8	Grades 9-12

Subject: Economics

Title of the Activity: Summer Vacation

Brief description of the activity: Talk to your child(ren) about where you might want to go on vacation during the summer. Identify one activity you might want to participate in on that imaginary vacation and together determine how much it would cost for your family to participate in that activity. Remember the costs for transportation, hotels, meals, etc. Once you have figured out the cost, discuss with your child(ren) how many hours working family members would have to work at their job(s) in order to pay for the activity. Discuss the importance of spending wisely and the importance of savings.

General level of appropriateness:

K-2	Grades 3-5	Grades 6-8	Grades 9-12

Subject: Geography

Title of the Activity: My First Map

Brief description of the activity: Help your child draw a map of their bedroom from a “bird’s eye view.” Assist them in drawing items that are in their room such as their bed, dresser, toy chest, etc. Label the cardinal directions on the map (North, South, East, and West). Have your child color their new map of their bedroom and hang it up in their room.

General level of appropriateness:

K-2	Grades 3-5	Grades 6-8	Grades 9-12

Subject: Geography

Title of the Activity: “I Spy” Geography Game

Brief description of the activity: Create signs that say, North, South, East, and West and label the North, South, East, and West side of your house/apartment. In order to teach your child these cardinal directions, play “I Spy” with them using the key words North, South, East, and West. For example, you might say, “I spy on the North wall of our home, something that helps us tell time.” Your child will learn which side of their home is North, South, East, and West accordingly. Reverse the role and allow your child to create the “I Spy” sentence/object that you must find.

General level of appropriateness:

K-2	Grades 3-5	Grades 6-8	Grades 9-12

Subject: Multicultural Awareness

Title of the Activity – I Am Unique

Brief description of the activity- This activity discusses the differences and similarities among people. Have your child point to the various parts of the body and recite the following poem.

“I am different from my head to my toes (point to yourself, then to head and toes). I am different from my eyes to my nose (point to yourself, then eyes and nose). I come from a place that is far and wide (point to self, then spread arms wide open) .A place where we all smile instead of cry (pretend that you are tracing your lips into a smile and bring hands down eyes as if you were crying). I am very different as you can see (point to yourself, then to your child). But, I still have a lot of love in me! (point to yourself and place hand over the heart, then hug yourself).”

Discuss individual differences and help them develop an appreciation for differences of people within other cultures.

General level of appropriateness

K-2	Grades 3-5	Grades 6-8	Grades 9-12

Subject: Multicultural Awareness

Title of the Activity - Multicultural Book

Brief description of the activity – This multicultural activity helps children appreciate different cultures and traditions. Ask your child to cut out various pictures from magazines (old National Geographic magazines are great) or print them from the Internet. Make a book by having your child glue the pictures onto the construction paper. Punch holes in the pages and add ribbon to make the book. They can also dictate their thoughts about the pictures to you. Write their responses down on that particular page.

General level of appropriateness

K-2	Grades 3-5	Grades 6-8	Grades 9-12

Subject: Character Education

Title of the Activity: Kindness

Brief description of the activity: Brainstorm with your child(ren) ways they can demonstrate kindness to others. Have students put their words into action. Ask students to draw a picture that shows how they were kind to others.

General level of appropriateness:

K-2	Grades 3-5	Grades 6-8	Grades 9-12

Subject: Character Education

Title of the Activity: Good Character at Home

Brief description of the activity: Ask your child(ren) to make a list of chores to be done at home. Invite them to list all family members and the chores they are responsible for; e.g., working outside the home, cooking, cleaning the house, paying bills, doing laundry, taking out the trash, feeding pets. Discuss the consequences of not completing tasks. What would happen if a parent did not pay the bills or if someone did not take the trash out? Why is it important to be responsible?

General level of appropriateness:

K-2	Grades 3-5	Grades 6-8	Grades 9-12

Grade Levels: 3-5 (with some activities also appropriate for grades 6-8)

Subject: American History

Title of the Activity: Meaning of the U.S. Flag

Brief description of the activity: Show your child the flag of the United States. Explain to your child the meaning of the colors. Furthermore, explain the importance of the flag having 13 stripes and 50 stars. If your child has access to a computer and the Internet, have your child search for pictures of early flags of the United States. Tell them to pick one of the early flags and draw and color it. Finally, have your child write a paragraph explaining the historical significance of the flag that he/she chose to draw.

General level of appropriateness:

K-2	Grades 3-5	Grades 6-8	Grades 9-12

Subject: Multicultural Awareness

Title of the activity - Chop Sticks Pick-up (Cultural Appreciation)

Brief description of the activity - During this multicultural activity explain to your child that not everyone eats with forks and spoons. Introduce the concept of eating food with chop sticks. Use pencils (not sharpened), if necessary. Tell children chop sticks are used for eating. Have students practice using the chop sticks by picking up cotton balls from a plate. Permit the children to experiment with ways to pick up the cotton balls. Then demonstrate how they might pick up the pretend food. Extension activity: Visit an Asian restaurant and eat dinner using chop sticks. For the older students, have them write instructions about how to use chopsticks once they have mastered their use.

General level of appropriateness

K-2	Grades 3-5	Grades 6-8	Grades 9-12

Subject: Multicultural Awareness

Title of the activity - "Inventions" - Making a Traffic Light

Brief description of the activity - Garrett A. Morgan was the first African American car owner in Cleveland, Ohio and his invention of the traffic light was used throughout North America. Enhance your child(s) multicultural knowledge about African Americans, by celebrating the invention of the traffic light by Morgan by making traffic lights that are edible. Make a traffic light out of one half of a Graham cracker and using M&M's. Spread on peanut butter on the cracker and place the M&M's in the correct color pattern. Have fun eating your graham cracker traffic lights with your child.

General level of appropriateness

K-2	Grades 3-5	Grades 6-8	Grades 9-12

Subject: Character Education

Title of the activity – Character Education and Television

Brief description of the activity - Ask your child(ren) to list their favorite TV programs. Discuss the attributes and traits of the characters in the television program. Ask them to look for evidence of honest or dishonest behavior by observing the words, deeds or actions of the characters. List the negative and positive traits of the characters. Note that people who do not speak the whole truth or omit pertinent information are dishonest as well. Discuss how popular television shows may develop a plot using unfavorable characteristics in their scenarios and how this sets a bad example for us to follow.

General level of appropriateness

PreK-2	Grades 3-5	Grades 6-8	Grades 9-12

Subject: Character Education

Title of the activity – Random Acts of Kindness

Brief description of the activity – Talk about the phrase, “Practice Random Acts of Kindness.” What does this phrase mean? Ask your child(ren) to give examples of random acts of kindness. Have them write about a time when someone was kind to them. Ask them to write a letter to this person thanking him/her for this kind act.

General level of appropriateness

K-2	Grades 3-5	Grades 6-8	Grades 9-12

Subject: American History

Title of the Activity: Independence Day

Brief description of the activity: Explain to your child the importance of July 4th. Teach your child that Independence Day is more than picnics, barbeques, and time off from summer school and work. Stress the importance of the evening fireworks as a way to remind us of the battles of the Revolutionary War. Plan a new way to celebrate this summer’s Independence Day that incorporates the early American history. Finally, have your child research and learn about one of the battles of the American Revolution and write a summary of the battle accordingly.

General level of appropriateness:

K-2	Grades 3-5	Grades 6-8	Grades 9-12

Subject: Civics/Government

Title of the Activity: Current Events

Brief description of the activity: Explain that it is very important to know what is happening in their community, their state, country, and the world. Have your child read the newspaper for a week and cut out articles that deal with local, state, national, and world news. They should have at least two articles for each category. Have them divide the articles by category – local, state and national news. Have them write a brief summary of each article.

General level of appropriateness:

K-2	Grades 3-5	Grades 6-8	Grades 9-12

Subject: Civics/Government

Title of the Activity: Rights and Responsibilities of a Good Citizen

Brief description of the activity: Explain to your child(ren) that communities and their leaders work to improve and make their communities safe and well-organized. Those that work in a community (e.g., police officer, fire fighters) sometimes risk their lives so that others in the community will be safe and secure. These are our rights as citizens of a community. However, to have these rights, citizens must also have certain responsibilities to their communities. They must work to be good citizens. For example, all citizens of our community are entitled to a free public education. That is their right as a member of our community. However, their responsibility to their community would be to attend school everyday and learn and behave correctly. Children need to understand that all rights come with certain responsibilities. Have your child divide a piece of paper in two columns. Label one column “Rights” and in the other column “Responsibilities”. Have them list 5 rights and responsibilities that we all have as citizens of our community, state or country (e.g., we have a right to attend school, but we also have a responsibility to behave and complete our assignments).

General level of appropriateness:

K-2	Grades 3-5	Grades 6-8	Grades 9-12

Subject: Economics

Title of the Activity: My Advertisement

Brief description of the activity: Look at magazine advertisements. Make up an imaginary new product and then draw a poster that represents a magazine advertisement for the new product that you have created.

General level of appropriateness:

K-2	Grades 3-5	Grades 6-8	Grades 9-12

Subject: Economics

Title of the Activity: Save That Receipt!

Brief description of the activity: Ask your parents or adult caregiver to share shopping receipts that they received for a week's worth of purchases. Include any receipts that you might also have obtained. Look at each receipt and determine whether there is a tax included. Total all taxes to determine how much your family paid in taxes (based on receipts only) for the week. Discuss with your family members what government does with the taxes that have been paid by consumers in the state.

General level of appropriateness:

K-2	Grades 3-5	Grades 6-8	Grades 9-12

Subject: Geography

Title of the Activity: My Trip through Florida

Brief description of the activity: Obtain a road map of Florida either from the Internet or a local gas station. Plan a trip through Florida stopping at interesting and entertaining locations such as Disney World, St. Augustine, and Tallahassee. Using your road map, draw the route you would take to complete your trip. Using the scale found on your road map and a ruler, calculate how many miles you would travel to complete your trip. Finally, research on the Internet some of the interesting historic and cultural activities you could do while visiting each place you selected to go visit.

General level of appropriateness:

K-2	Grades 3-5	Grades 6-8	Grades 9-12

Subject: Geography

Title of the Activity: Tracking the Weather

Brief description of the activity: Using the newspaper, record the high and low temperatures of Miami and three other cities in the United States over five days. Create a line graph that shows the high and low temperatures of each city during the five days. Finally, write a paragraph that explains what the graph shows.

General level of appropriateness:

K-2	Grades 3-5	Grades 6-8	Grades 9-12

Useful Websites for Social Studies:

National Geographic: www.nationalgeographic.com

Newsweek Magazine: www.newsweek.com

Time Magazine: www.time.com

Miami Herald: www.herald.com

CNN Newsroom: www.cnn.com

Center for Civic Education: www.civiced.org

Constitutional Rights Foundation: www.crf.org

Florida Council of Economic Education: www.fcee.org

U.S. President: www.whitehouse.gov

U.S. Senate: www.senate.gov

U.S. House of Representatives: www.house.gov

History Channel: www.history.com

Federal and State Laws

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida adheres to a policy of nondiscrimination in employment and educational programs/activities and strives affirmatively to provide equal opportunity for all as required by law:

Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 - prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, or national origin.

Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended - prohibits discrimination in employment on the basis of race, color, religion, gender, or national origin.

Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972 - prohibits discrimination on the basis of gender.

Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967 (ADEA), as amended - prohibits discrimination on the basis of age with respect to individuals who are at least 40.

The Equal Pay Act of 1963, as amended - prohibits gender discrimination in payment of wages to women and men performing substantially equal work in the same establishment.

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 - prohibits discrimination against the disabled.

Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) - prohibits discrimination against individuals with disabilities in employment, public service, public accommodations and telecommunications.

The Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993 (FMLA) - requires covered employers to provide up to 12 weeks of unpaid, job-protected leave to "eligible" employees for certain family and medical reasons.

The Pregnancy Discrimination Act of 1978 - prohibits discrimination in employment on the basis of pregnancy, childbirth, or related medical conditions.

Florida Educational Equity Act (FEEA) - prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, gender, national origin, marital status, or handicap against a student or employee.

Florida Civil Rights Act of 1992 - secures for all individuals within the state freedom from discrimination because of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, handicap, or marital status.

Veterans are provided re-employment rights in accordance with P.L. 93-508 (Federal Law) and Section 295.07 (Florida Statutes), which stipulates categorical preferences for employment.

Revised 9/2008