








# FUTURE SIXTH GRADER ACTIVITIES

The goal of this calendar is to help students review content and skills over the summer through fun, grade-level appropriate tasks and activities that can be completed as a family. In an effort to increase literacy skills with this calendar, we suggest that each student keep a journal and write or draw daily about the activities they complete. Encourage your child to write new and interesting words they learn in their journal. Reading is one of the most beneficial things kids can do over the summer. We suggest that you read to your child or have your child independently read for 20 minutes everyday. \*\*Standards identifiers are shown in parentheses. Complete standards can be found at [www.georgiastandards.org](http://www.georgiastandards.org).

<u>Math Monday</u>	<u>Outdoor Tuesday</u>	<u>Science Wednesday</u>	<u>Thinking Thursday</u>	<u>Family Fun Friday</u>
<p><b>1 Play basketball.</b> How many baskets did you make out of 10? If you do not have a basketball, ball up a piece of paper and try to ring a trash. What is the fraction of how many baskets you made? Play again. What is that fraction? Add the two fractions together. Simplify the expression if needed. Use the fraction to create a percentage of baskets made! (MGSE5.NF.3)</p> 	<p><b>2 Collect Leaves</b> Collect 12 leaves of various shapes, sizes, and colors from the ground. Conduct a comparison investigation by asking: • What differences and similarities can you see? Use this <a href="#">Identification Key</a> to describe the shape, arrangement, venation, and margin of the leaves that you have collected. (Obtaining, Evaluations, Communicating)</p>	<p><b>3 National Egg Day: Egg Drop Challenge!!!!</b> Using a variety of materials or supplies on hand, design, build, and test a contraption that will protect an egg from breaking when dropped from a specific height. You will need 1 raw egg, a ziploc bag to put the egg in BEFORE you drop it, and materials you have on hand to build your contraption. (Constructing Explanations and Designing Solutions.)</p>	<p><b>4 Reusing</b> Use items you would throw away or recycle to make something useful. Describe a problem that your product will help to solve. Name your product, set a price, and create a slogan. (Asking Questions and Defining Problems)</p> 	<p><b>5 Think Like A Leader</b> Design your own game. Make sure you write down all of the rules. Play it with family members. If you need to change the rules, would you have to make an amendment or can you change the rules in another way? If so, how many players would have to vote "yes" to get the rules changed? (SSIIPS #3, 11; SS5C2)</p>

**Week 1: Garden Extension** [A Plant That Eats Spiders and Other Green and Growing Fact](#) by Kaitlyn Duling. BrainPop [Seed Plants](#) Research to find out if any carnivorous plants live in our area. A venus flytrap uses trigger hairs to send a signal to the leaves of the plant to close around its prey. Can you invent a similar type device for human use? We already have some similar devices such as stepping on a mat in front of a door to make it open or waving your foot under a bumper to make a car hatchback open. What other uses can you think of for opening and closing a device based upon touch? Make a drawing of your design. Are there any medical or world problem-solving applications for this device?

<p><b>8 Today is World Oceans Day.</b> Visit one of these aquarium webcams: <a href="#">Georgia Aquarium Webcams</a> and <a href="#">Monterey Bay Aquarium Webcams</a> Use only triangles to create an animal that lives in the ocean. Label each triangle you use as isosceles, equilateral, or scalene. Identify any right angles. (MGSE5.G.4)</p> 	<p><b>9 Go on a nature walk in your yard.</b> During your walk, stop and stand still for 3 minutes. What do you see? Hear? Feel? Write down the specifics in a journal and answer the question. Create similes, metaphors, and personification using the things you wrote down. (ELAGSE5L5)</p> 	<p><b>10 Water Balloon STEM Challenge</b> Use materials you have on hand to prevent a water balloon from popping. Go outside and test by throwing it against a wall or tree. (Constructing Explanations and Designing Solutions)</p>	<p><b>11 Follow a recipe</b> Bake or cook something, as simple as a peanut butter sandwich or as complex as an entire meal. Write an opinion piece about your experience. Introduce your topic clearly, state your opinion, support it with facts and details, and include a concluding section related to your opinion. (ELAGSE5W1)</p> 	<p><b>12 Think Like An Economist &amp; A Historian</b> Collect all the coins you can find in your house. Organize the coins in a timeline. In what year was the oldest coin made? How old is it? Was anyone in your family alive in that year? What memorable/historical event(s) happened in the year the coin was made? Which coins have images on them that represent historic events? Did the events happen in the same year the coin was made? Why or why not? (SSIIPS #2, 7, 10, 11)</p>
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**Week 2: Flag Day Extension** Picture Book: [Why Are There Stripes on the American Flag?](#) By Martha E. H. Rustad (Epic) "[United States Flag.](#)" Safari Montage [The Pledge of Allegiance](#) by Norman Pearl (MyOn) Each day we say the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag and the United States of America? What does it mean to pledge allegiance to something? Name a reason that we should pledge our allegiance to our country. Research the rules to follow for displaying an American flag. You might find this website helpful: <https://www.pbs.org/a-capitol-fourth/history/old-glory/> Which rules could you do a better job following? Design a flag for your family - what do the colors represent? What do the shapes represent? What rules should you follow for displaying your flag?

<p><b>15 Measure it Monday</b> Trace your hand on paper. Measure the length of your hand and then the width of your hand in inches. Subtract the mixed numbers to find the difference between the length and width of your hand.</p>	<p><b>16 Take a nature walk.</b> Observe your surroundings. What do you wonder? Come up with questions that help you learn more about what you are curious about. Then find the answers! (Asking and Answering Questions)</p>	<p><b>17 Virtual Visit</b> Visit <a href="#">National Geographic for Kids</a> and find an animal that interests you. Develop a presentation to tell others what you've learned. Try to use expert words important to that animal. (Obtaining, Evaluating,</p>	<p><b>18 Catapult Design Challenge</b> How far can you launch something with a homemade catapult? Which items fly the farthest? Plan, design, and build a working catapult. <a href="#">Use this easy popsicle stick catapult design</a> or let get creative with LEGO, pencils,</p>	<p><b>19 Think Like A Geographer &amp; A Historian</b> Take a walk in your neighborhood. Identify the names of several streets. Look at a map of your city or Fayette County, and find your street. Are there other streets around your</p>
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(MGSE5.NF.1)

and Communicating Information)

spoons and cardboard tubes!  
(Constructing Explanations and Designing Solutions)

neighborhood? Around your school? Now look at a map of [Fayette County from 1950](#). Compare the map of today and that of 1950. What do you notice? What do you think? What do you wonder about? (SSMGS#10)

**Week 3 Extension: Summer Solstice Extension:** Storybooks: [Sylvester and the Magic Pebble](#) by William Steig (Epic); [A Year with Friends](#) by John Seven (Epic); [The Archer and the Sun](#) by Rob Cleveland (Epic) Nonfiction book: [What is a solstice?](#) By Gail Terp (Epic) Nonfiction video: [Solstice](#) (Discovery Education)

The term solstice comes from the latin word **sol** which means **sun**. As you read this summer, take note of words containing this Latin stem. Designate a page in your journal for your word collection. Other stems you might want to notice during your summer reading are: Terra -Earth, Geo -Earth, Astro -Star, Lum -light, and Luc -light.

In Fairbanks, Alaska, the Summer Solstice is celebrated with a midnight baseball game. Research why Alaska is the Land of the Midnight Sun and why no artificial light is needed during this game.



**22 Baseball by the Numbers**

Go to [ESPN batting average website](#). Pick out ten players and order their averages from least to greatest. Can you write five of them in expanded form and written form? If the lowest batting average was ten times better, what would his batting average be? (MGSE5.NBT.2)



**23 Traveling Seeds**

Most plants reproduce using systems that include flowers and seeds. In this outdoor investigation, you will observe, collect, and classify plant seeds. Gather a collection of seeds from a wooded area. Explain that plants have developed many different methods of seed dispersal, to ensure the success of their species. Examine the seed collection and invent a system for sorting or classifying them. (Investigate, sort/classify)

**24 Tallest Tower Challenge**

How high can you go? Using 20 mini marshmallows and toothpicks, straws, or uncooked spaghetti noodles to build the tallest tower possible! Use a tape measure to measure the height of the tower in centimeters. (Constructing Explanations and Designing Solutions)

**25 Story Writing**

Write a story that includes descriptive details and dialogue to show how characters react to events. Your story could be realistic fiction, fantasy, personal narrative, or historical fiction. Bonus: write your story as a script of a play! (ELAGSE5W3)



**26 Think Like A Historian**

In honor of National Sunglasses Day tomorrow, look up photos of people in sunglasses. They can be family pictures, pictures in a magazine, or historic pictures. Why do you think the person is wearing sunglasses? Evaluate these photos of the [1920s](#). What do you see? What do you think is happening? Are any of the people wearing sunglasses? Why or why not? What new questions do you have? Is this the same or different from today? (SSIPS #6, 10, 11, 14)



**Week 4: Dragon Boat Extension**

[Toy Boat](#) by Randall de Seve. Brainpop. "[Buoyancy](#)." Galileo-Britannica "[Boating](#)." [All About Boats](#) by Mary Lindeen. Can you create your own sail boat from items around your house? Can your boat float across a tub of water by blowing on the sails? Try making an origami Dragon Boat with [this fun link!](#)

**29 National Waffle Iron Day**

Suppose I was making waffles for my family. Each batch of waffles calls for 2 ¼ cups of flour and 1 ¾ cups of milk. If I need to make ½ of a batch to feed my small family, how many cups of flour and milk will I need? (MGSE5.NF.2)



**30 Go on a walk outside.**



Look for insects, birds and mammals. [Classify them using the charts for guidance.](#) (Classification)








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Math Monday	Outdoor Tuesday	Science Wednesday	Thinking Thursday	Family Fun Friday
		<p><b>1</b> <u>National US Postage Stamp Day</u> Today is National U.S. Postage Stamp Day. Think of a topic you learned about in science this year. Design a stamp highlighting your favorite science fact. (Obtaining, Evaluating, and Communicating Information)</p> 	<p><b>2</b> <u>Longest Paper Chain</u> Make the longest paper chain you can, using a single piece of 8.5" x 11" paper (standard copy paper) and tape or staples. Measure your paper chain in inches. Use scale to imagine how far your chain could stretch if every inch represented 10 miles on a map. How many miles would that be? Where could you go from your house that would be that far away? (Map and Globe Skills)</p> 	<p><b>3</b> <u>Think Like A Historian</u> Create at least five questions about memories of Independence Day or another holiday. Ask at least two family members the questions you have created. Record your answers in your journal. Ask someone else the same questions. Are their answers the same or different? Are the answers they have provided facts or opinions? Are they from a primary or secondary source? What other questions would you like to ask? What was the most interesting thing you learned?(SSIPS #4, 6, 11, 14)</p>

**Week 5 Independence Day Extension** Picture Books: [John, Paul, George, & Ben](#) by Lane Smith (Epic), Video: ["Independence Day."](#) Safari Montage, Nonfiction Book: [Holidays & Heroes: Let's Celebrate Independence Day](#) by Barbara deRubertis (Epic)

<p><b>6</b> <u>Prepare a Meal</u> Help an adult prepare a meal. Can you measure the ingredients in the recipe? Can you double them? Can you half them? (MGSE5.NF.2)</p>	<p><b>7</b> <u>Adopt a Tree Task</u> Pick a tree in your yard or nearby and observe it. Keep notes about it in your journal where you can draw pictures of your tree and write about what you observe. (Planning and Carrying Out Investigations)</p> 	<p><b>8</b> <u>Keeping it Cold</u> Design a device to keep a popsicle or ice cube from melting. Write about your experiment and provide a reaction to what happened. What would you do differently next time? (Constructing Explanation and Designing solutions)</p> 	<p><b>9</b> <u>Cow Appreciation Day</u> Today is cow appreciation day. Research to find information about cows, including characteristics used to classify cows into scientific groups. Use the information to write a fiction or non-fiction book with illustrations and a cover. FYI: Today is Cow Appreciation Day at Chick-Fil-A (ELAGSE5W2 or W3, S5L1)</p> 	<p><b>10</b> <u>Secret Code</u> Did you know that Cherokee, Choctaw, and Navajo Indian soldiers helped the U.S. win World Wars I &amp; II with secret codes? Can you create your own secret code? You could use letters, numbers, shapes or something else. See if a friend or family member can crack it. When you use your code, what patterns do you notice? Who else might use your code? Extension: Research the Indian Code Talkers of WWI or WWII. Why did American soldiers use secret codes? How did the codes help the Americans? (SSIPS #6, 10, 11)</p>
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**Week 6 Extension** Picture books: 8-bit Baseball [https://www.myon.com/reader/index.html?a=si\\_bitbase\\_f14](https://www.myon.com/reader/index.html?a=si_bitbase_f14) Gaming Safety [https://www.myon.com/reader/index.html?a=tss\\_games\\_s13](https://www.myon.com/reader/index.html?a=tss_games_s13) Fact (video): "The History of the Video Gaming Industry." Discovery Education <https://app.discoveryeducation.com/learn/videos/832bffe1-eeae-4224-8884-20d0bbbf825f> Design your ideal video game. Determine the story arc for your video game. This is a simple overview of the story within your game. Decide on the setting, characters, different levels, etc. Share your video game vision with a friend or family member and get their feedback to make improvements. What would it take to make your video game to come to fruition? Research your ideas. Explore the Scratch program to go further: [Scratch](https://scratch.mit.edu)

### 13 Scavenger Hunt

Click the [link](#) for a fun scavenger hunt, or find a 3-digit and a 2-digit number in the world around you (newspaper, book, store ad, etc) and estimate their product.

Multiply them and see how close you were.

(MGSE5.NBT.1)



### 14 Bird Feeder

Design and build a bird feeder. How many birds do you think it will attract? What design improvements can you make to attract more birds? What kind of birds did your feeder attract?

To identify the different birds use these resources. [Merlin Bird ID app](#) or [Allaboutbirds.org](#).

(Constructing Explanations and Designing Solutions)



### 15 Build An Unsinkable Vessel

Build a vessel that floats and can't be sunk! Using recycled items and supplies from around the house, build a vessel that will float in a tub of water. Take it a step further and build a vessel that will hold a specific object such as a soup can! Evaluate your success, and use the results to improve or make a new vessel. Record your observations in your

journal. (Constructing Explanations and Designing Solutions)

### 16 Make a Puzzle.

Draw a picture, make a painting, or create a magazine photo collage of something you learned in 5th grade Science or Social Studies. Cut the picture up into jigsaw puzzle pieces and ask someone in your family to put it together. Pro tip: glue your creation to thin cardboard before you cut it to keep the pieces sturdy.



### 17 Think Like An Economist

The adults in your home are tired and have asked you to plan dinner. You can spend \$6 on each person in your family. If you have money left over, you can save it. What will you prepare? How much will it cost? Will you be able to save any money? If you can save money, what is the opportunity cost (choice you gave up to have money left over)? What was the source of your income? What were your expenditures? What decisions did you have to make about spending and saving? How do your actions represent the household function in the U.S. economy? (SS5E2, SS5E4; SSIPS #3, 11)

**Week 7 Extension** Capture a time-lapse video- Set up your device to capture a time-lapse video while you build a fort, make your favorite snack, clean up your room, or a creative activity of your choosing. Get started: Choose Time-Lapse mode in your Camera app. Tap the Record button to start recording; tap it again when you're done. See if you can create a narrative for your video. Research more about the different types of photography genres you can pursue as a professional photographer. Which one do you think is best?

### 20 One Giant Leap for Mankind

Decide what you will need to take on a 2-1/2 year journey to Mars. Then plan how to fit every- thing into a 1-cubic-meter box, using only measuring tape, pencil and paper, and math.

The earth is 3,958.8 miles in diameter. The moon is 1,079.4 miles in diameter. Estimate the difference by rounding to the nearest whole number. Then subtract the miles as is.

(MGSE5.MD.3, MGSE5.OA.2)



### 21 Sidewalk Chalk Pattern

Make a "stained glass" pattern using tape and sidewalk chalk. What categories do your shapes fit into? For example, all rectangles have four right angles and squares are rectangles, so all squares have four right

angles. (MGSE.5.G.3 & Constructing with Design, Pattern, and Geometric Figures)



### 22 Liquid Density Tower Experiment

Gather these supplies: Syrup, Water, Cooking Oil, Rubbing Alcohol, Dish Soap, and a Tall Jar or glass. Slowly pour the liquids into the container. What did you notice? Can you predict which are heaviest? Draw a model or picture of what your tower looks like. Be sure to label the parts Write about what happens? What would happen if we add an ice cube?

(Planning and Carrying Out Investigations)

### 23 Dance!

Make up a dance routine to your favorite song. Write or sketch the steps so you don't forget them. Practice it several times and perform it for your family. Bonus: Teach it to them! (ESGM5.CN.1)



### 24 National Amelia Earhart Day

Research [Amelia Earhart](#) at [National Geographic for Kids](#), and in books.

Look at the places she flew on a map or globe. Which trip do you think was the longest? Using a map key, estimate the number of miles she traveled on one of her trips. If you could meet Amelia, what questions would you ask her? Which famous American you studied in 5th grade is most like Amelia? Most like you? (SS5H; SSMGS #5; SSIPS #11, 14) Bonus: Use items around your house to create airplanes.

**Week 8 Extension** Aviation: Take what you've learned about rockets and design your own or you can follow these directions from NASA . <https://www.jpl.nasa.gov/edu/teach/activity/straw-rocket/> How can you make it more aerodynamic? Smaller fins? More pointed "nose"? Only make one change at a time and see what a difference you can make!

### 27 Game Time

Click this for directions to [Race to Create an Equation Card game](#) or pick four cards and have your child add, subtract, multiply, or divide to get the numeral

24 as the answer.

(MGSE5.OA.1)



### 28 Collecting Rocks

Go outside and look at rocks. Collect 10 of them. How can you sort them? (texture, color, luster, hardness) Draw your rocks in your journal. (Asking Questions and Defining Problems)

### 29 Playdough

Follow this [recipe](#) and steps to make playdough. List the physical properties of the ingredients.

Make the recipe and list the physical properties of the playdough. How are the physical properties of the ingredients the same and how are they different. (Analyzing and Using Data)

### 30 Obstacle Course

Design and make an obstacle course at home or in the yard. How fast can you complete it? Time yourself. Try it again. Was your time faster or slower than the first time? Time your family completing it, too. Write some comparative number sentences, such as 32.15 seconds < 33.12 seconds, using the times. (MGSE5.NBT.3b)



### 31 Think Like A Historian

Visit a memorial in Fayette County or find a street name that is of interest to you. Use at least two sources to research who or what is being honored. What did you learn that was unexpected about the person or event? Was the information from both sources the same? If not, why not? In your opinion, should this memorial have been created? If you were going to create a monument or memorial for someone in your life, who would it be? Why? Ask the people in your family what they think about the last two questions. (SSIPS#4, 11, 15, 16)

## Digital learning resources can be accessed through ClassLink.

Here's how to get started: Go to <https://launchpad.classlink.com/fcboe>

Log in with your Google Account login

Username: High School Graduation Year last name.firstname@mail.fcboe.org

For example 2026lastname.firstname@mail.fcboe.org

Password: First two letters of your last name ( first one capital - second lowercase) birthdate MMDDYYYY

For example - John Smith would be Sm06282008

### ClassLink Resources:

- ★ Newsela - online news articles with a summer reading challenge for grades 3-5
- ★ Read180 - online reading program available for select students in 3-5
- ★ Lexia - online reading skills available for select students K-5
- ★ RAZKids - online reading library available for students whose K-3 teachers enrolled them this school year
- ★ Dreambox - K-5 online game based math program
- ★ Studies Weekly - online social studies newspaper with articles and games by grade level
- ★ Gallopade - social studies resources (print and online) that are specific to Georgia Standards of Excellence
- ★ USA Test Prep - digital science and social studies review
- ★ HMH Science - science online resource
- ★ Moby Max - online ELA, math and science review

### Other Suggested Resources:

- ★ MyOn - Digital Library over 10,000 titles. <https://www.myon.com/index.html>  
Enter the following information: School Name: Get Georgia Reading, Georgia Campaign for Grade Level Reading (Note: DO NOT cut and paste. Start typing "Get Georgia...") Username: fayettecounty Password: read
- ★ PTC Public Library - For online registration to Summer Reading library events visit <http://www.peachtreecitylibrary.eventbrite.com>
- ★ Fayetteville Public Library - <https://www.faylib.org/summer> K-5, summer reading calendar, tutorial
- ★ Capstone Interactive eBooks Digital Library Over 5,000 titles  
<http://www.mycapstonelibrary.com/login/?sqs=410af73c1b610c6fe2b1835423073915042d49912337991d7752a4823ef1acc0>
- ★ Pebble Go Next - Provides students in grades 3-5 with more content and research tools to meet their expanding interests.  
<https://www.pebblegonext.com/modules>
- ★ Georgia Public Broadcasting and PBS Kids - hosts online events and learning activities <https://www.gpb.org/education/summer-resources>