

 SCHOLASTIC

**BETWEEN
GRADES
5&6**

SUMMER EXPRESS



VOCABULARY • GRAMMAR • WRITING • READING • MATH

 SCHOLASTIC

**BETWEEN
GRADES
5&6**

SUMMER EXPRESS

TM

Summer Express Between Grades 5 & 6 © Scholastic Teaching Resources

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Dear Parent:



Congratulations! You hold in your hands an exceptional educational tool that will give your middle schooler a head start into the coming school year.

Inside this book, you will find one hundred practice pages that will help your child review and learn math, reading, writing, grammar, vocabulary, and so much more! *Summer Express* is divided into ten weeks, with two practice pages for each day of the week, Monday to Friday. However, feel free to use the pages in any order that your middle schooler likes. Here are other features you will find inside:

- A weekly **incentive chart** and **certificate** to motivate and reward your middle schooler for his or her efforts.
- Suggestions for fun, creative **learning activities** you can do with your middle schooler each week.
- A **recommended reading list** of age-appropriate books that can be read throughout the summer.
- A **certificate of completion** to celebrate your middle schooler's accomplishments.

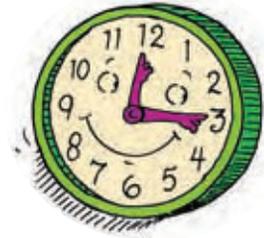
We hope you and your middle schooler will have fun as you work together to complete *Summer Express*!

Enjoy!
The Editors



Terrific Tips for Using This Book

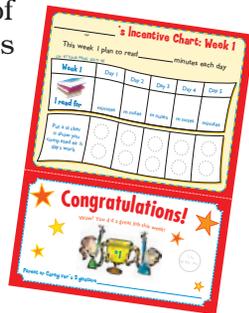
1 Pick a good time for your middle schooler to work on the activities. You may want your child to do them around mid-morning or early afternoon when he or she is not too tired.



2 Make sure your middle schooler has all the supplies necessary, such as pencils, erasers, a ruler, and markers. Set aside a special place for your child to work.

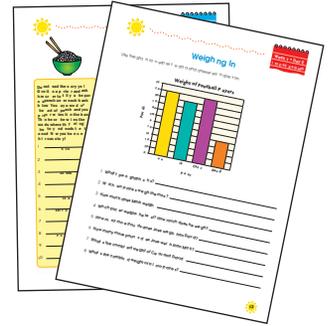


3 At the beginning of each week, discuss how many minutes a day your child would like to read. Write the goal at the top of the incentive chart for the week. (We recommend that a student entering sixth grade read 30 to 45 minutes a day.)



4 Reward your middle schooler's efforts with the small stickers at the end of each day. As an added bonus, let your child affix a trophy sticker to each week's certificate for completing the activities.

5 Encourage your middle schooler to complete the worksheet, but do not force the issue. While you want to ensure that your child succeeds, it is also important to maintain a positive and relaxed attitude toward school and learning.



6 After providing a few minutes to look over the pages to be worked on, ask your child for a plan of action: "Tell me about what you'll be doing on these pages." Hearing the explanation aloud can provide insight into your child's thinking processes, and whether he or she can complete the work independently. If your middle schooler needs support, discuss which family member your child might prefer to work with. Providing choices is an approach that can help boost confidence and encourage your child to take ownership of the work to be done.

7 When the workbook is finished, present your child with the Certificate of Completion on page 141. Feel free to frame or laminate the certificate and display it on the wall for everyone to see—and celebrate!





Skill-Building Activities for Any Time

The following activities are designed to complement the ten weeks of practice pages in this book. These activities do not take more than a few minutes to complete and are just a handful of ways in which you can enrich and enliven your child's learning. Use these activities to turn otherwise idle time into productive time—for example, when standing in line or waiting at the bus stop. You will be working with your middle schooler to practice key skills and having fun together at the same time.

Finding Real-Life Connections

One of the reasons for schooling is to help children function in the real world, to empower them with the abilities they will truly need. Why not put those developing skills into action by enlisting your child's help with reading a map, following a recipe, checking grocery receipts, and so on? Your middle schooler can apply reading, writing, science, and math skills in important and practical ways, thereby connecting what he or she is learning with everyday tasks.



An Eye for Patterns

A red-brick sidewalk, a beaded necklace, a Sunday newspaper—all show evidence of structure and organization. Help your child recognize various types of structure or organization by observing and talking about patterns you see all around. Your middle schooler will be applying this developing skill across all school subject areas. The ability to identify patterns is a skill shared by effective readers, writers, scientists, and mathematicians.



Journals as Learning Tools

Journal writing is often associated with reading comprehension, but keeping a journal can help your middle schooler develop skills in many other academic areas as well. A journal can simply be a spiral notebook, a composition notebook, or sheets of paper stapled together. Writing and/or drawing in the journal will complement the practice pages completed each week. The journal provides another tool for monitoring the progress of newly learned skills and assessing those that need improvement. Before moving on to another set of practice pages, take a few minutes to read and discuss that week's journal entries with your child.



Promote Reading at Home

- ◆ Practice what you preach! You and your middle schooler should both read for pleasure, whether you like reading science-fiction novels or do-it-yourself magazines. Reading should not always be work. **Sometimes we should read just for fun!** Having reading materials around the house encourages you to read in front of your child and demonstrates that reading is an activity you enjoy.
- ◆ Set aside a family reading time. By designating a reading time each week, your family is assured an opportunity to discuss what everyone is reading. For example, you might share a funny quote from an article, or your child might tell you his or her favorite part of a story. The key is to **make a family tradition of reading—and sharing what you've read.**
- ◆ **Make a family collection of reading materials** that is easily accessible to everyone. Designate a specific place for library books and post the return date. This idea will save arguments and library fines. Buying used books or swapping books and magazines with friends and neighbors is another inexpensive source of reading materials.

Skills Review and Practice

Educators have established learning standards for math and language arts. Listed below are some of the important skills covered in *Summer Express* that will help your middle schooler review and prepare for the coming school year so that he or she is ready to meet these learning standards.

Math

5th Grade Skills to Review

- ◆ solving word problems using money values and decimals
- ◆ solving word problems using multiplication skills
- ◆ identifying equivalent fractions
- ◆ adding with regrouping
- ◆ adding decimals (e.g., money values)
- ◆ subtracting with regrouping and multiple regrouping
- ◆ subtracting fractions
- ◆ multiplying with regrouping
- ◆ multiplying decimals
- ◆ dividing with remainders
- ◆ changing decimals to fractions
- ◆ plotting coordinates on a grid
- ◆ recognizing geometric terms and shapes
- ◆ recognizing equivalent decimals, fractions, and percents

Skills to Practice for 6th Grade

- ◆ understanding the four arithmetic operations: addition, subtraction, multiplication, division
- ◆ converting/computing different forms of numbers
- ◆ problem solving
- ◆ exploring line and rotational symmetry
- ◆ converting measurements
- ◆ applying geometric concepts (determining angle measurement, circumference of circles, area of plane figures, and volume of solid figures)
- ◆ working flexibly with fractions, decimals, and percents
- ◆ applying strategies for computing with fractions and decimals
- ◆ utilizing appropriate graphic representation of data (circle graphs, bar graphs, Venn diagrams, and pictographs)
- ◆ understanding and applying basic concepts of probability and statistics

Language Arts

5th Grade Skills to Review

- ◆ using proofreading symbols
- ◆ recognizing forms of poetry
- ◆ writing for a purpose
- ◆ identifying and correcting incomplete sentences and run-on sentences
- ◆ identifying parts of a paragraph
- ◆ identifying parts of speech
- ◆ using subject-verb agreement
- ◆ punctuating using commas and colons
- ◆ summarizing or paraphrasing information
- ◆ using phonetic, structural, and context analysis to identify unfamiliar words

Skills to Practice for 6th Grade

- ◆ identifying parts of speech
- ◆ improving capitalization and punctuation
- ◆ improving spelling, vocabulary, and usage
- ◆ determining correct sentence structure
- ◆ summarizing and paraphrasing paragraphs
- ◆ writing in various modes and genres
- ◆ identifying figurative language and precise language
- ◆ using reference sources, including electronic reference materials
- ◆ using table of contents, index
- ◆ demonstrating knowledge of appropriate critical thinking skills (main idea, inference, sequence; reading for details, information, and understanding)
- ◆ correcting subject-verb agreement
- ◆ diagramming sentences



Helping Your Middle Schooler Get Ready: Week 1



These are the skills your middle schooler will be working on this week.

Math

- addition with regrouping
- interpreting a graph
- geometric shapes
- writing decimals
- money word problems

Reading

- reading for information
- sequencing

Vocabulary

- synonyms and antonyms

Grammar

- identifying nouns

Here are some activities you and your middle schooler might enjoy.

Start a Story Begin with a sentence that your middle schooler might say. Each player adds the next sentence, keeping the story line going but adding twists, turns, and characters. The challenge is to keep the story coherent, interesting, and somewhat complicated for the next player.

Get Moving Summer is certainly the perfect time to get in shape. So get out of your house and start a fitness program with your child that could even last all year. Try at least 30 minutes of aerobic exercise per day or every other day. You may also want to find some exercises for strengthening your muscles. Include friends and family in your fitness program.

Your middle schooler might enjoy reading one of the following books:

The House on Mango Street
by Sandra Cisneros

Call It Courage
by Armstrong Sperry

Black Holes (A True Book™)
by Ker Than

*One Hen: How One Small Loan
Made a Big Difference*
by Katie Smith Milway



's Incentive Chart: Week 1

Name _____

This week, I plan to read _____ minutes each day.

CHART YOUR PROGRESS HERE.

Week 1	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5
 I read for...					
minutes	minutes	minutes	minutes	minutes	minutes
Put a sticker to show you completed each day's work.					

Congratulations!

Wow! You did a great job this week!



Place sticker here.

Parent or Caregiver's Signature _____



Add It Up!

Using what you already know about addition with regrouping, solve the following problems. You may use such strategies as mental math, place value, and regrouping more than once, as needed.

$$\begin{array}{r} 1. \quad 932 \\ + 168 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 5. \quad 4,358 \\ + 257 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 9. \quad 529 \\ 1,140 \\ + 3,349 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 2. \quad 848 \\ + 254 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 6. \quad 99 \\ + 387 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 10. \quad 3,009 \\ 1,225 \\ + 17,791 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 3. \quad 672 \\ + 288 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 7. \quad 6,782 \\ + 19,803 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 11. \quad 1,234 \\ 5,678 \\ + 91,011 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 4. \quad 222 \\ + 688 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 8. \quad 98,388 \\ + 65,973 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 12. \quad 4,562 \\ 30,829 \\ + 16,049 \\ \hline \end{array}$$



Having Summer Fun

First, read all of the ten sentences below.
Then number the sentences in proper sequential order.

- _____ Jonathan and Ricky caught their limit of fish for the day.
- _____ The boys put bait on their hooks and wished the fish would soon bite.
- _____ Jonathan and Ricky walked down a long dirt road to the lake.
- _____ When Jonathan pulled in the trout, however, the fish wiggled off the hook.
- _____ The boys took their fishing poles and tackle box with them to fish.
- _____ Jonathan was so happy because he was the first one to get a bite.
- _____ Ricky raced back to their cabin for the bait.
- _____ After the boys cleaned the fish, they enjoyed a delicious dinner.
- _____ When the boys reached the lake, they discovered that they had forgotten the bait bucket.
- _____ Ricky was luckier because he actually caught the first fish.

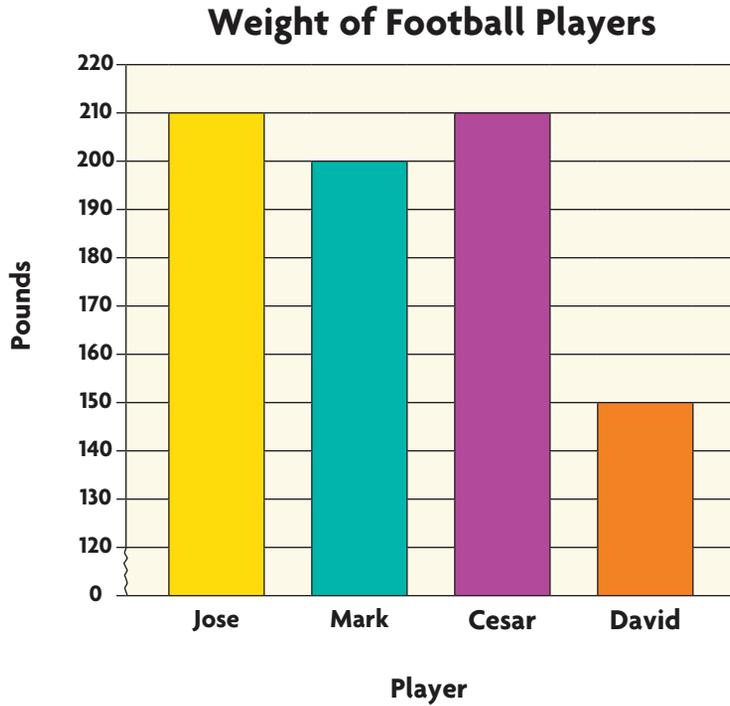


Add one more sentence. What happens after sentence 10?



Weighing In

Use the graph to interpret the data and answer each question.



1. What type of graph is this? _____
2. Which two players weigh the most? _____
3. How much does Mark weigh? _____
4. Which player weighs the least? How much does he weigh? _____
5. How many more pounds does Jose weigh than David? _____
6. How many more pounds does Jose weigh than Mark? _____
7. What is the combined weight of Cesar and David? _____
8. What is the combined weight of all four players? _____