Elementary School Enrichment Activities Suggestions

The following sections can be found throughout this guide:

Elementary School Enrichment Activities Suggestions

Primary

Literacy

Digital:
- CPS Virtual Library Databases: Username: CPS, Password: CPS
- CPS e-Books
    - Districtwide Virtual Library
    - Elementary Virtual Library
- PebbleGo: PebbleGo is a curriculum-connected research database specifically designed for K-3 students. Packed with informational articles, ready-made activities, and literacy support for students of all abilities, it boosts engagement and fosters learning.
- PebbleGo Spanish: With expertly translated versions of PebbleGo articles that include authentic Spanish read-aloud audio recorded by professional voice-over artists, students can easily switch between English and Spanish versions with a click of a button.
- Capstone Interactive: Capstone Interactive is a virtual library of engaging, interactive eBooks with natural read-aloud audio and text highlighting that students can access at school and at home.
- BrainPOP Jr., BrainPOP ELL and BrainPOP Español: Fun educational videos and learning activities for young students, in English and Spanish. Visit www.brainpop.com, click Log In, and enter the following username and password.
    - Username: chicagopublicschoools
    - Password: cps123
- Chicago Public Library Resources:
    - eBooks & Magazines
    - Chicago Public Library Overdrive
        - Kids
        - Teens
        - Spanish

Elementary School Enrichment Activities Suggestions

Additional Resources:
- Common Sense Media: 25 Best Podcasts for Kids
- PBS Kids
- Storyline Online
- Oxford Owl at Home for Parents Free Reading & Resources
- Sight Word Games
- Starfall: Have Fun While Learning to Read
- ABC Mouse
- The Poetry Foundation: Listen to and Watch Poems Online
- Scholastic Student Activities
- Khan Academy

Non-Digital:
- Independent Reading: School lending library or classroom library book bags
- Start a writing journal. Use these Journal Prompts for ideas or write your own stories, informational pieces about science, history, or current events you are interested in, or create your own poetry.
- Super Teacher Activities: some free options to print for packets
- Education.com free worksheets and printables for packets

Social Science

Digital:
- CPS Virtual Library Databases: Username: CPS, Password: CPS
- CPS e-Books
    - Districtwide Virtual Library
    - Elementary Virtual Library
- Social Science K-8 Virtual Library
- FactCite 123 LINGO presents social studies and science content in English and Spanish. Includes Biography, Mythology, Elements, Planets, Earth Science, Biomes, Animals, Countries, States, and Landmarks
- Kids InfoBits - For K-5 students. Features a visually graphic interface, a topic tree search, and age-appropriate, curriculum-related magazine, newspaper, and reference content.
- BrainPOP, BrainPOP ELL and BrainPOP Español: Fun educational videos and learning activities for young students, in English and Spanish. Visit

Elementary School Enrichment Activities Suggestions

www.brainpop.com, click Log In, and enter the following username and password.
  - ○ Username: chicagopublicschoools
  - ○ Password: cps123
- Google Earth is a fun way for students to explore their neighborhood, city, state, country, and the world. Students can use Google Earth to asset map their community or discover new places.
- Common Sense Media: 25 Best Podcasts for Kids
- Explore the vast resources that Chicago's best museums have to offer. Check out History View for virtual tours. Also, these websites are great places for exploration of documents, images, videos, and more. Check out the Chicago Cultural Center, Art Institute, DuSable Museum of African American History, the Oriental Institute at the University of Chicago, the Chicago History Museum, the Illinois Holocaust Museum and Education Center, the National Museum of Mexican Art, or other national museums such as the Smithsonian, the National Museum of African American History and Culture-Learning Labs (ages vary), or the National Civil Rights Museum.
- PBS has a rich database of learning activities and resources for social science.
- History Classroom and National Geographic have large databases of films and student activities.
- Explore primary sources from our nation's history using the Library of Congress and the Teaching with Primary Source Database for activities to use when engaging with the Library.
- Explore Kid Citizen for episodes on the role that young people have played in shaping our democracy.

Non-Digital:
- Independent Reading: School Lending Library or Classroom Library Book Bags. Engage in reading non-fiction texts.
- Start a social science field journal. Keep a log of what you are learning and your reactions and reflections on that learning.

Elementary School Enrichment Activities Suggestions

Math

Digital:
- Khan Academy

Non-Digital:
- Illustrative Mathematics Free Resources
- Fluency Ideas for Home and School
- Card Fluency Games
- Dice Fluency Games
- youcubed Tasks
- MARS Tasks or Problems of the Month

Science

Digital:
- National Geographic Kids contains games, videos, and resources for students to access.
- PBS Kids contains free videos and activities that can be sorted by grade level. Some components require a free account to access.
- BrainPOP, BrainPOP ELL and BrainPOP Español: Fun educational videos and learning activities for young students, in English and Spanish. Visit www.brainpop.com, click Log In, and enter the following username and password.
    - Username: chicagopublicschoools
    - Password: cps123

Non-Digital:
- Classroom library books focusing on science content can be sent home with students for independent reading
- Reuse magazines, newspapers, or other nonfiction texts to identify real-world problems and design solutions to address those challenges. These texts can also be used to have conversations about data analysis and cause and effect.
- Create a Rube Goldberg machine: Identify a simple task and use household items to build a multi-step machine to complete the task. Video examples can be found on Rube Goldberg: Rube Tube.

Elementary School Enrichment Activities Suggestions

Physical Education

Digital:

- At-Home Physical Activity Calendars (English and Spanish)
- GoNoodle for Families or Go Noodle-Kids app
- Animal Movements/Locomotor Movement Folder
- Child-Friendly Workout Videos
- Just Dance Videos

Non-Digital:

- K-5 Physical Education Enrichment Folder

Arts

Digital:

- Online Library: Arts Resources
- "Tune Train" for iPad: Create melodies by creating a route for a train to pick up people high up in tall buildings and down low on the ground.
- Go Noodle: Use *Go Noodle* for follow-along movement and mindfulness activities at home. (*Go Noodle* is free but does require sign-up)
- ArtsEdge lessons from the Kennedy Center can be selected by grade-band and artistic discipline. Many lessons can be printed out.

Non-Digital:

- This Is Not a Squiggle: Draw a scribble on several pieces of paper. Have the student complete the scribble or squiggle into something figurative and tell you about how they did it.
- Brain Dance: Warm-up your body and brain at the start of the day, or anytime, with *BrainDance*. (This resource is only a written description of BrainDance and the patterns.)

Elementary School Enrichment Activities Suggestions

Intermediate

Literacy

Digital:
- CPS Virtual Library Databases: Username: CPS, Password: CPS
- CPS e-Books
  - Districtwide Virtual Library
  - Elementary Virtual Library
- Chicago Public Library Resources
  - eBooks & Magazines
  - Chicago Public Library Overdrive
    - Kids
    - Teens
    - Spanish
- PebbleGo: PebbleGo is a curriculum-connected research database specifically designed for K-3 students. Packed with informational articles, ready-made activities, and literacy support for students of all abilities, it boosts engagement and fosters learning.
- PebbleGo Spanish: With expertly translated versions of PebbleGo articles, that include authentic Spanish read-aloud audio recorded by professional voice-over artists, students can easily switch between English and Spanish versions with a click of a button.
- Capstone Interactive: Capstone Interactive is a virtual library of engaging, interactive eBooks with natural read-aloud audio and text highlighting that students can access at school and at home.
- BrainPOP, BrainPOP ELL and BrainPOP Español: Fun educational videos and learning activities for young students, in English and Spanish. Visit www.brainpop.com, click Log In, and enter the following username and password.
  - Username: chicagopublischoools
  - Password: cps123
- Read, Wonder, and Learn!: Favorite authors and illustrators share resources for learning anywhere.
- CommonLit: Mini-units of study and text sets with parent guidance

Elementary School Enrichment Activities Suggestions

- Poetry Foundation: Listen to and watch a poem online, then write your own!
- Scholastic Student Activities
- Khan Academy

Non-Digital:
- Independent Reading: School or classroom library books
- Write an I Am Poem
- Start a writing journal. Use these Journal Prompts for ideas to start writing.
- Write a blackout poem: Copy pages from books. Have students scan the page and look for words that they find interesting to turn into a poem. Cross out all other words with a black marker. You can also make designs and decorate the page. See examples and more detailed directions.
- CommonLit: Mini-units of study and text sets with parent guidance
- Super Teacher Activities: some free options to print
- Education.com: free worksheets and printables

Social Science

Digital
- CPS Virtual Library Databases: Username: CPS, Password: CPS
- CPS e-Books
    - Districtwide Virtual Library
    - Elementary Virtual Library
- Social Science K-8 Virtual Library
- FactCite 123 LINGO presents social studies and science content in English and Spanish. Includes Biography, Mythology, Elements, Planets, Earth Science, Biomes, Animals, Countries, States, and Landmarks
- New York Times: access educational resources through The New York Times Learning Network.
- BrainPOP, BrainPOP ELL and BrainPOP Español: Fun educational videos and learning activities for young students, in English and Spanish. Visit www.brainpop.com, click Log In, and enter the following username and password.
    - Username: chicagopublicschoools
    - Password: cps123
- icivics is a database of interactive games that engage students in practicing civic life. These games are a fun way to learn about democracy.

Elementary School Enrichment Activities Suggestions

- Google Earth is a fun way for students to explore their neighborhood, city, state, country, and the world. Students can use Google Earth to asset map their community or discover new places.
- Common Sense Media: 25 Best Podcasts for Kids
- Explore the vast resources that Chicago's best museums have to offer. Check out History View for virtual tours. These websites are also great places for the exploration of documents, images, videos, and more. Check out the Chicago Cultural Center, Art Institute, Dusable Museum of African American History, the Oriental Institute at the University of Chicago, the Chicago History Museum, the Illinois Holocaust Museum and Education Center, the National Museum of Mexican Art, or other national museums such as the Smithsonian, the National Museum of African American History and Culture-Learning Labs (ages vary), or the National Civil Rights Museum.
- PBS has a rich database of learning activities for social science.
- History Classroom and National Geographic have large databases of films and student activities.
- Explore primary sources from our nation's history using the Library of Congress and the Teaching with Primary Source Database for activities to use when engaging with the Library.
- Explore Kid Citizen for episodes on the role that young people have played in shaping our democracy.
- The National Constitution Center has a database of activities for kids to engage in that are related to the foundations of our government.

Non-Digital:
- Independent Reading: School lending library or classroom library book bags. Engage in reading non-fiction texts.
- Start a social science field journal. Keep a log of what you are learning and your reactions and reflections on that learning.

Math

Digital:
- Khan Academy

Non-Digital:
- Illustrative Mathematics Free Resources
- Fluency Ideas for Home and School
- Card Fluency Games

Elementary School Enrichment Activities Suggestions

- Dice Fluency Games
- youcubed Tasks
- MARS Tasks or Problems of the Month

Science

Digital:

- National Geographic Kids: Contains games, videos, and resources for students to access.
- PBSKids: Contains free videos and activities that can be sorted by grade level. Some components require a free account to access.
- BrainPOP, BrainPOP ELL and BrainPOP Español: Fun educational videos and learning activities for young students, in English and Spanish. Visit www.brainpop.com, click Log In, and enter the following username and password.
  - Username: chicagopublicschoools
  - Password: cps123

Non-Digital:

- Classroom library books focusing on science content can be sent home with students for independent reading
- Reuse magazines, newspapers, or other nonfiction texts to identify real-world problems and design solutions to address those challenges. These texts can also be used to have conversations about data analysis and cause and effect.
- Create a Rube Goldberg machine: Identify a simple task and use household items to build a multi-step machine to complete the task. Video examples can be found on Rube Goldberg: Rube Tube

Physical Education

Digital:

- At-Home Physical Activity Calendars (English and Spanish)
- Body Weight Challenge Videos
- Instructional Bodyweight Videos for Body Parts
- Instant Activities/ Fitness Folder
- Periodic Table of Yoga Poses
- Yoga Pose Slideshows
- Adapted Yoga for Kids
- Adapted PA Youtube Channel

Elementary School Enrichment Activities Suggestions

- Adapted Physical Activities
- Sweat Deck is the deck of cards workout app that will help mix up fitness routines.

Non-Digital:

- K-5 Physical Education Enrichment Folder

Health Education

Digital:

- Habitz helps Kids learn good habits. It is a fun-to-use app that empowers kids to develop healthy habits and stick with them for life.

Arts

Digital:

- Dance Maker: Create a dance with your family using the *Dance Maker* app. Explore the elements of dance and create a movement phrase around a chosen theme. *Can be used with all ages with support (app is text-heavy)*
- Go Noodle: Use *Go Noodle* for follow-along movement and mindfulness activities at home. (*Go Noodle* is free, but does require sign-up.)
- Visit Museums Virtually: Use the Google Arts and Culture app to visit over 1,200 museums. Use the following activities from the Art Institute along with Google Arts and Culture app:
  - Character Map
  - Make a Movie Poster
- Online Library: Arts Resources
- ArtsEdge lessons from the Kennedy Center
- Chartable: Podcasts curated by the Kennedy Center

Non-Digital:

- **Surrealist Drawing:** Give a student a piece of paper folded into thirds lengthwise and have the students imagine a creature they'd like to draw. In the first round, students draw just the head and neck of their creature. For the second round, they pass the piece of paper to someone else. This second person will turn the paper to the next, blank section, so that the head is now hidden. The second person will draw a torso and pass it on. In the third round, someone will draw the legs. Once this round is complete, unfold the paper to see a unique creature!

Elementary School Enrichment Activities Suggestions

Middle School

Literacy

Digital:
- Read, Wonder, and Learn!: Favorite authors and illustrators share resources for learning anywhere.
- CPS Virtual Library Databases: Username: CPS, Password: CPS
- CPS e-Books
    - Districtwide Virtual Library
    - Elementary Virtual Library
- BrainPOP, BrainPOP ELL and BrainPOP Español: Fun educational videos and learning activities for young students, in English and Spanish. Visit www.brainpop.com, click Log In, and enter the following username and password.
    - Username: chicagopublicschoools
    - Password: cps123
- Chicago Public Library Resources:
    - eBooks & Magazines
    - Chicago Public Library Overdrive
        - Kids
        - Teens
        - Spanish
- Listen to and watch a poem online, then write your own.
- Poetry Activities
- Check out a poem guide.
- Scholastic Student Activities
- Khan Academy

Non-Digital:
- Independent Reading: School or classroom library books
- Write an I Am Poem
- Start a writing journal. Use these Journal Prompts for ideas to start writing.
- Write a blackout poem: Copy pages from books. Have students scan the page and look for words that they find interesting to turn into a poem. Cross out all other words with a black marker. You can also make designs and decorate the page. See examples and more detailed directions.
- Try a story or poetry re-tell
  1. Copy the beginning of a story

Elementary School Enrichment Activities Suggestions

2. Cut off the end
3. Rewrite it!
See an example here.
- CommonLit: Mini-units of study and text sets with parent guidance
- Super Teacher Worksheets: some free options
- Education.com: free worksheets

Social Science

Digital:
- CPS Virtual Library Databases: Username: CPS, Password: CPS
- CPS e-Books
    - Districtwide Virtual Library
    - Elementary Virtual Library
- Social Science K-8 Virtual Library
- New York Times: access to educational resources through The New York Times Learning Network.
- BrainPOP, BrainPOP ELL and BrainPOP Español: Fun educational videos and learning activities for young students, in English and Spanish. Visit www.brainpop.com, click Log In, and enter the following username and password.
    - Username: chicagopublicschoools
    - Password: cps123
- The New York Times Upfront Magazine is written for grade 9-12 students, but some content is accessible for middle school students.
- icivics is a database of interactive games that engage students in practicing civic life. These games are a fun way to learn about democracy.
- Google Earth is a fun way for students to explore their neighborhood, city, state, country, and the world. Students can use Google Earth to asset map their community or discover new places.
- Common Sense Media: 25 Best Podcasts for Kids
- Explore the vast resources that Chicago's best museums have to offer. These websites are great places for the exploration of documents, images, videos, and more. Check out the Chicago Cultural Center, Art Institute, Dusable Museum of African American History, the Oriental Institute at the University of Chicago, the Chicago History Museum, the Illinois Holocaust Museum and Education Center, the National Museum of

Elementary School Enrichment Activities Suggestions

Mexican Art, or other national museums such as the Smithsonian, the National Museum of African American History and Culture-Learning Labs (ages vary), or the National Civil Rights Museum.

- PBS has a rich database of learning activities for social science.
- Check out History View for virtual tours of some of the world's most historic places, or search for other virtual tours.
- History Classroom and National Geographic have large databases of films and student activities.
- Explore primary sources from our nation's history using the Library of Congress and the Teaching with Primary Source Database for activities to use when engaging with the Library.
- Explore Kid Citizen for episodes on the role that kids have played in shaping our democracy.
- The National Constitution Center has a database of activities for kids to engage in that are related to the foundations of our government.
- Learn about the upcoming election and develop an action project that answers the question: How do we get people to vote in Chicago?

Non-Digital:
- Independent Reading: School lending library or classroom library book bags. Engage in reading non-fiction texts.
- Start a social science field journal. Keep a log of what you are learning and your reactions and reflections on that learning.

Math

Digital:
- Khan Academy
- Polyup
- Desmos

Non-Digital:
- Illustrative Mathematics
- MARS Tasks or Problems of the Month
- youcubed Tasks

Science

Digital:
- CPS Virtual Library Databases: Username: CPS, Password: CPS
- PhET Online Simulations (Middle School): Online simulations based on

certain content domains within science
- Gale - Middle School Resources: Informational text readings geared towards middle school students
- Science Friday: Podcasts, articles, and videos of science content
- BrainPOP, BrainPOP ELL and BrainPOP Español: Fun educational videos and learning activities for young students, in English and Spanish. Visit www.brainpop.com, click Log In, and enter the following username and password.
  - Username: chicagopublicschoools
  - Password: cps123
- PBS WTTW - Science

Non-Digital:
- Classroom library books focusing on science content can be sent home with students for independent reading
- Reuse magazines, newspapers, or other nonfiction texts to identify real-world problems and design solutions to address those challenges. These texts can also be used to have conversations about data analysis and cause and effect.
- Create a Rube Goldberg machine: Identify a simple task and use household items to build a multi-step machine to complete the task. Video examples can be found on Rube Goldberg: Rube Tube.

Physical Education

Digital:
- At-Home Physical Activity Calendars (English and Spanish)
- Body Weight Challenge Videos
- Instructional Bodyweight Videos for Body Parts
- Instant Activities/Fitness Folder
- Periodic Table of Yoga Poses
- Yoga Pose Slideshows
- Adapted Yoga for Kids
- Adapted PA Youtube Channel
- Adapted Physical Activities

Non-Digital:
- **Pulse Rate:** Your pulse rate is the result of blood being pumped through your arteries by your heart. When your heart contracts (pumps), blood moves through blood vessels in your body called arteries. The arteries pulsate as blood rushes through them. This pulsation can be felt in different locations of your body (wrist, neck, chest). During exercise, your

heart muscle pumps harder to move oxygenated blood to your muscle cells. Normally at rest, your heart muscle works less because your muscles are not really active. Monitoring pulse rate is one way to evaluate one's cardiovascular fitness. Generally, the healthier your cardiovascular system (heart, arteries), the lower your resting heart rate. While sitting use the second and third fingers of your right hand to find the radial pulse of your left wrist (teacher will help).

1. Once you find your radial pulse, count each pulsation for one minute. Record your result on the data section on the sheet.
2. Repeat procedure #1 five times. Record on sheet.
3. Once you have completed your five minutes of data collecting, organize it by forming a line graph.
   ○ **Concluding questions:**
      1. What is a pulse?
      2. What can your resting pulse rate determine?
      3. What effect does exercising have on your pulse rate?
      4. What can you determine about your resting heart rate after collecting and charting your data?
   ○ **Variations:** Repeat daily and graph results. Take heart rate after movement and graph it.

Arts

Digital:
- Sokkyo: Create skits with your family with the improv generator app, *Sokkyo - Improv Suggestions*! *All ages*
   ○ For iPad
   ○ For Android
- Dance Maker: Create a dance with your family using *Dance Maker*.
- Visit museums virtually: Use the Google Arts and Culture app to visit over 1,200 museums. Use the following activities from the Art Institute along with the Google Arts and Culture app:
   ○ Academy Awards
   ○ All Mixed Up
   ○ Journey Back in TIme
- CPS Virtual Library: Arts Resources
- ArtsEdge lessons from the Kennedy Center
- Chartable: Podcasts curated by the Kennedy Center

Non-Digital:
- Use this template, adapted from The Playwriting Center, to write a short play.
- Make a Zine! from Brightly

Elementary School Enrichment Activities Suggestions

Resources for English Learners

Elementary
- [Fun English Games for Kids](#)
- [Games to Learn English](#)
- [English 4 Kids](#) online interactive lessons
- [ABCya Spanish](#)
- [Unite for Literacy](#)
- [ESL Kid Stuff](#)
- [Digital Dialects](#)
- [Randall's ESL Cyber Listening Lab](#)

Middle School - High School
- [English Class 101](#)
- [News in Slow English](#)
- [News in Slow Spanish](#)
- [CommonLit Spanish](#)