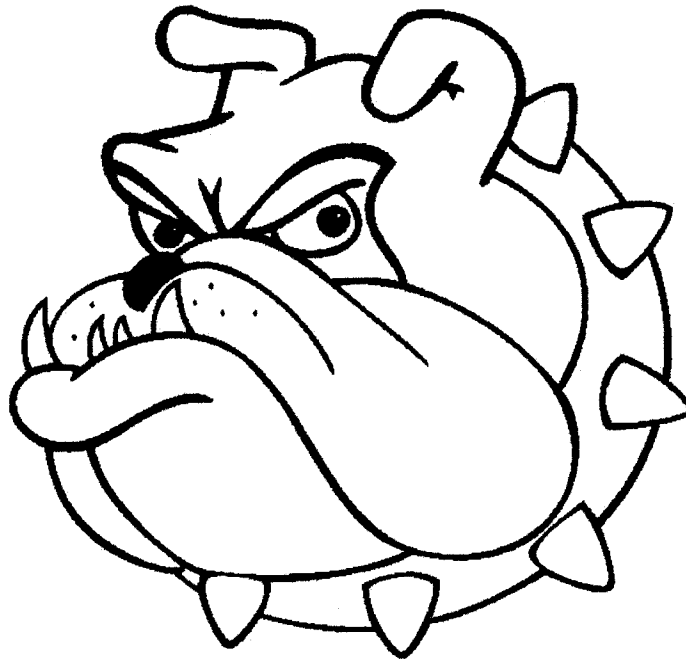


# Bradford Academy High School



## Summer Learning Packet - Social Studies

**Welcome** to the Bradford Academy High School's Summer Learning Packets. These fun activities are designed to help promote learning throughout the summer break. 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* - <http://bn.com/summerreading>
- Detroit Public Library's *Summer Reading* - <http://www.detroitpubliclibrary.org/>

## **9<sup>th</sup> Grade Social Studies Summer Fun Packet**

### **Activity # 1**

**Subject: Civics**

**Title of the Activity: Helping our Community**

**Brief description of the activity:** Being a good citizen means taking responsibility to help others less fortunate in our community and helping keep our community safe. It is important to know what is happening in your community so that you may be able to take action and get involved. Watch the local news and read the local newspaper for a week. Write down the top 5 community problems or issues they found in the newspaper and local news for that time period. Choose the one issue/problem that is the most important one in the community. Research the problem using the Internet, library, etc. to determine possible community solutions to the problem. Using the research, write a letter to the mayor explaining the problem and the possible solutions to that problem. The city government information can be accessed by going to the county website at [www.detroitmi.gov](http://www.detroitmi.gov)

### **Activity # 2**

**Subject: Civics**

**Title of the Activity: The Power of the Media in our National Campaigns**

**Brief description of the activity:** Voter turnout has been declining in the last elections, especially among the 18-24 age group. Voter apathy and general disinterest in elections is highest among this group. Efforts have been made to get this age group more interested in voting and media giants like VH1 and MTV have used rock concerts and celebrities to mobilize young people to vote. However, studies have shown that young people are particularly energized when encouraged to vote by their peers. Research the Republican, Democratic, and Independent candidates for the 2012 Presidential election. Make a list of their campaign promises. Utilizing this list, create a campaign poster aimed at mobilizing young peoples to vote. Create one poster for each candidate and explain each campaign poster to family members. Explain the ideas, concepts, etc. to target the 18-24 age group.

### Activity # 3

**Subject: Economics**

**Title of the Activity: Economics in the News**

**Brief description of the activity:** Look at the evening television news for a week. Make a list of the news that would fall into the category of economics. Review your list of news topics and select one that would be considered an economic problem. Write a brief plan for solving the identified problem and discuss your solution with your family or an adult caregiver.

### Activity # 4

**Subject: Economics**

**Title of the Activity: I Am the Manager!**

**Brief description of the activity:** During the course of a week, make note of inefficiencies or inconveniences that you see in stores or businesses that you visit. Select one of the inefficiencies/inconveniences and pretend that you are the store manager developing a plan for solving the problem. Briefly describe the solution in writing.

### Activity # 5

**Subject: Character Education**

**Title of the activity: Character and Sports**

Ask students to read the local/national newspaper or sports magazines, or to watch their favorite athlete or sport on television. Discuss the behavior or attitude of the athletes. Is the athlete displaying good sportsmanship or is he/she being a bad sport? Discuss the conduct and characteristics associated with being a "good sport." Discuss the positive results that occur when individuals are team players.

### Activity # 6

**Subject: Character Education**

**Title of the activity: Character and the Workplace**

Have students interview a business person, manager, or store supervisor in their neighborhood or community. Ask this person what kind of qualities they expect from an employee. Have each student write an essay explaining the company's required work ethic and qualities/characteristics necessary to work there. Ask students to consider whether they would have the characteristics necessary to work in the place of business of the person they interviewed.

## **Useful Websites for Social Studies:**

National Geographic: [www.nationalgeographic.com](http://www.nationalgeographic.com)

Newsweek Magazine: [www.newsweek.com](http://www.newsweek.com)

Time Magazine: [www.time.com](http://www.time.com)

Detroit Free Press: [www.freep.com](http://www.freep.com)

CNN Newsroom: [www.cnn.com](http://www.cnn.com)

Center for Civic Education: [www.civiced.org](http://www.civiced.org)

Constitutional Rights Foundation: [www.crf.org](http://www.crf.org)

U.S. President: [www.whitehouse.gov](http://www.whitehouse.gov)

U.S. Senate: [www.senate.gov](http://www.senate.gov)

U.S. House of Representatives: [www.house.gov](http://www.house.gov)

History Channel: [www.history.com](http://www.history.com)

## A Sample 100 Question Citizenship Test:

1. What are the colors of our flag?
2. How many stars are there in our flag?
3. What color are the stars on our flag?
4. What do the stars on the flag mean?
5. How many stripes are there in the flag?
6. What color are the stripes?
7. What do the stripes on the flag mean?
8. How many states are there in the Union?
9. What is the 4th of July?
10. What is the date of Independence Day?
11. Independence from whom?
12. What country did we fight during the Revolutionary War?
13. Who was the first President of the United States?
14. Who is the President of the United States today?
15. Who is the Vice-President of the United States today?
16. Who elects the President of the United States?
17. Who becomes the President of the United States if the President should die?
18. For how long do we elect the President?
19. What is the Constitution?
20. Can the Constitution be changed?
21. What do we call a change to the Constitution?
22. How many changes or amendments are there to the Constitution?
23. How many branches are there in our government?
24. What are the three branches of our government?
25. What is the legislative branch of our government?
26. Who makes the laws in the United States?
27. What is Congress?
28. What are the duties of Congress?
29. Who elects Congress?
30. How many senators are there in Congress?
31. Can you name the two senators from your state?
32. For how long do we elect each senator?
33. How many representatives are there in Congress?
34. For how long do we elect the representatives?
35. What is the executive branch of our government?
36. What is the judiciary branch of our government?
37. What are the duties of the Supreme Court?
38. What is the supreme law of the United States?
39. What is the Bill of Rights?
40. What is the capital of your state?
41. Who is the current governor of your state?
42. Who becomes President of the United States if the President and the Vice-President should die?
43. Who is the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court?
44. Can you name the 13 original states?
45. Who said, "Give me liberty or give me death."?
46. Which countries were our enemies during World War II?
47. What are the 49th and 50th states of the Union?
48. How many terms can a President serve?
49. Who was Martin Luther King, Jr.?
50. Who presides over your local government?
51. According to the Constitution, a person must meet certain requirements in order to be eligible to become President. Name one of these requirements.
52. Why are there 100 Senators in the Senate?
53. Who selects the Supreme Court justices?
54. How many Supreme Court justices are there?
55. Why did the Pilgrims come to America?
56. What is the head executive of a state government called?
57. What is the head executive of a city government called?
58. What holiday was celebrated for the first time by American colonists?

59. Who was the main writer of the Declaration of Independence?
60. When was the Declaration of Independence adopted?
61. What is the basic belief of the Declaration of Independence?
62. What is the national anthem of the United States?
63. Who wrote the Star-Spangled Banner?
64. Where does freedom of speech come from?
65. What is the minimum voting age in the United States?
66. Who signs bills into law?
67. What is the highest court in the United States?
68. Who was President during the Civil War?
69. What did the Emancipation Proclamation do?
70. What special group advises the President?
71. Which President is called the "Father of our country"?
72. What Immigration and Naturalization Service form is used to apply to become a naturalized citizen?
73. Who helped the Pilgrims in America?
74. What is the name of the ship that brought the Pilgrims to America?
75. What were the 13 original states of the U.S. called?
76. Name 3 rights or freedoms guaranteed by the Bill of Rights.
77. Who has the power to declare war?
78. What kind of government does the United States have?
79. Which President freed the slaves?
80. In what year was the Constitution written?
81. What are the first 10 amendments to the Constitution called?
82. What is the supreme law of the land?
83. Where does Congress meet?
84. Whose rights are guaranteed by the Constitution and the Bill of Rights?
85. What is the introduction to the Constitution called?
86. Name one benefit to being a citizen of the United States?
87. What is the most important right granted to U.S. citizens?
88. What is the United States Capitol?
89. What is the White House?
90. Where is the White House located?
91. What is the name of the President's official home?
92. Name one right guaranteed by the first amendment.
93. Who is the Commander in Chief of the U.S. military?
94. Which President was the first Commander in Chief of the U.S. military?
95. In what month do we vote for President?
96. In what month is the new President inaugurated?
97. How many times may a Senator be re-elected?
98. How many times may a Congressman be re-elected?
99. What are the 2 major political parties in the U.S. today?
100. How many states are there in the United States?