



Ash Grove R-IV School District

Dear Parents,

This summer, our school district will offer all students, free of charge, a fun, exciting, and academic approach to learning called **Summer Journey**. Make no mistake about it. Not only will our summer program will be FUN for kids, it will also provide an opportunity for students to experience over 60 hours of academics during the summer months. This academic time will give students the chance to review and apply previously learned skills and knowledge as well as prepare for the school year ahead. **Summer Journey's** extraordinary educational goals are comprised of academic courses with hands-on instruction centered in **reading, language arts, math, and social studies or science**. Other fields of study are also available.

While the academic courses will be relaxed in format—no homework or tests for grades—**Summer Journey** will also offer courses for hands-on exploration and discovery. **Summer Journey** courses may include a rocket class, where students learn the basic principles of flight as they construct and fly real rockets, or a cooking course, where they learn basic cooking techniques. Other courses that may be offered include *Simple Machines Camp*, designed to introduce students to elements of engineering, live well, and *Lifetime Sports*, designed to develop the body and encourage a lifetime of fitness. These are only a sample of the courses that may be offered.

If you are the parent of a child who will be entering Kindergarten in fall 2020, I strongly encourage you to consider enrolling your child in **Summer Journey**. We have noticed that when these young students meet their teachers, fellow students, and our staff during the summer, they are eager to return in the fall and find that “first day of school” experience to be a positive one.

Finally, **Summer Journey** offers an enticing incentive program for students. Students will be eligible to receive **daily** rewards if they come to school, exhibit a positive attitude and behavior, and work to improve their achievement. At the end of the program, some lucky students will also win **Grand Prizes**, which will be awarded on the final day. And, as in past years, all of our students who demonstrate outstanding attendance will be rewarded with **Attendance Recognition** gift cards, ranging from \$50 for “near perfect” attendance to \$100 for “perfect attendance.”

Who should attend **Summer Journey**? Everyone. Simply put, it's good for kids. Look at the information enclosed. You'll be glad you did!

Sincerely,
Dr. Gerla
Superintendent

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the *Summer Journey* program?

The Ash Grove R-IV *Summer Journey* is the extended learning summer program operated by Ash Grove R-IV to provide a world-class educational experience to district students.

What does the program cost to parents?

The programming is free to all students.

When will the program be held?

The Ash Grove R-IV *Summer Journey* operates daily July 6 through July 31 from 7:30am to 2:30pm.

Dates could be changed based on the number of days missed due to inclement weather. Changes will be announced.

Must my child be in attendance every hour of the program in order to receive credit for the *Summer Journey* program?

No. It is assumed that students may have vacations or camps planned. While prizes for good attendance are available to students, a child's occasional absence should not deter parents from enrolling their children in the program.

Will transportation be provided to and from the program?

Yes, transportation will be provided for those student families who qualify for transportation during the regular school year. However, bus routes will be limited and may vary from routes during the regular school year. Transportation information will be sent to those families who require transportation as soon as the plan becomes available.

What will my child(ren) do each day?

In the morning, Elementary and Middle School *Summer Journey* students will attend exciting academic classes where they may read interesting adventure stories, play language arts games, and/or use technology to solve math mysteries. A typical schedule would include four morning classes of Reading, Language Arts, Mathematics, and Science or Social Studies. After lunch, students will explore three fun-filled courses for the first 10 days enrolled in the program, followed by three different courses in the last 9 days.

How does the incentive program work?

Many students will win daily incentives for their efforts through a daily drawing or some similar format established by the summer site. Your student is also eligible to receive one of the following incentives for their *Summer Journey* attendance:

- Perfect attendance = \$100 gift card
- One day missed = \$75 gift card
- Two days missed = \$50 gift card

Will breakfast and lunch be served each day?

Yes, through a special state grant, ALL students will receive a free breakfast and lunch.

How do I enroll my child for *Summer Journey*?

Simply fill out the enrollment form found at: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/AGSJ20>



Student Incentives

Attendance Incentives

Student incentives are dependent on attendance.

\$100 Shopping Card

Perfect attendance

\$75 Shopping Card

Up to one day missed

\$50 Shopping Card

Over one day, up to two days missed

Gift cards can be used in the local stores or malls. The attendance incentives are contingent on actual (full-day) attendance in the *Summer Journey*[™] program.

Daily Incentives

Daily incentives will be awarded to students on basis of good attitude and achievement as determined by each site.

Ash Grove R-IV Summer Journey™ Course Offerings

All **Academic Courses** (Language Arts, Mathematics, Reading, Science and/or Social Studies) are offered during morning sessions. All **Journey Courses** are offered during afternoon sessions. Students participate in *Journey* courses for two week blocks, enabling every student to participate in six *Journey* courses.

Kindergarten

(students entering K in the Fall)

Kids at Work

“Work” is fun in the four weekly mini-units Dinosaur Bones, Pat-A-Cake, At the Pet Shop, and Detectives for Hire. Students build on prior knowledge as they learn about a variety of careers. Each activity is designed to foster early learning concepts, such as letter and sound recognition, phonemic awareness, measurement, counting, and shape recognition. Thematic centers and literature-based math activities complete the morning. From digging for fossils to tracking down missing letters, this unit offers multi-level activities appropriate for all early learners.

3-2-1 Blast Off!

We’re blasting off into fun and learning during the afternoon portion of the Summer Journey program. This theme-packed unit is sure to delight and amaze all budding astronauts! After enjoying a daily quiet time under the stars, students rotate through different playful planets and participate in astronaut training camp. From creating silly aliens to designing outer space rockets, this course offers an out-of-this-world experience!

Primary

(students entering grades 1, 2, 3 in the Fall)

BrickLAB Brain Builders Field Day Primary
Scratch Camp Stacking Madness Primary
Unleash Your Wild Side
The Science of Super Powers

Elementary

(students entering grades 4 & 5 in the Fall)

Claymation Oceanic Explorations
Ready, Set, Drone! Rockets Junior
Sports Clip Junior Traveling Artist

Intermediate

(students entering grades 6–8 in the Fall)

Mixed Media Summer Camp Classics
Blocksmith Camp All for One
Video Production Eggs-traordinary Physics

Ash Grove R-IV School District

Enrollment Information Enclosed

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