8th Grade – Individuals & Societies: Summer Work

TO MAINTAIN OR IMPROVE YOUR UNDERSTANDING OF U.S. HISTORY

Directions: Select three of the activities from the list below to complete and hand into your Individuals & Societies teacher on the first day of school.

1. Write a story about how the United States was first “discovered.” Who discovered it? Who was living here at the time? What happened after discovery?
2. Research the Core Democratic Values. List them and create an example for each. Illustrate a drawing to go with them.
3. Make a timeline of U.S. History, with all major events from exploration through the Civil War.
4. Create a diagram that illustrates the branches of government and how a bill becomes a law.
5. Review the Constitution, Declaration of Independence and Bill of Rights. Write an opinion paper on why these are important to the U.S.
6. Make a notebook of the major topics/themes in U.S. History. For each of the following, list and research what happened and why these topics/events are important in our country’s history.
   a. Exploration
   b. American Revolution
   c. Creating a Government
   d. Manifest Destiny
   e. Civil War and Reconstruction

SUPPLEMENTAL RESOURCES:

http://www.history.com/- The History Channel

HTTP://HISTORYMATTERS.GMU.EDU/- A U.S. History resource site

http://www.historesearch.com/ushist.html- A U.S. history resource site


http://historyforkids.org- A fun website for middle school aged kids

http://pbskids.org/historydetectives/- PBS

http://www.kids.gov/- A website that talks about government, other resources and how to make a difference