## **Grade 7 Resource Packet**

Hello Students.

This packet includes a range of activities that you can work on independently at home. Resources are categorized into 2 types:

- Independent Projects
  - These projects cover a range of different topics and skills. They may be spread out over multiple days.
- Enrichment Activities (including digital options)
  - These activities are organized into Read, Write, Move, Design, and Solve categories so that you can engage in many different ways while at home.

You may work through these resources over multiple days and in any order.

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Read Write Move DESIGN SOIVE



### **Independent Projects**

Project 1: Independent Civic Action Project- Census 2020				
Estimated Time	10 hours			
Caregiver Support Option	Household member interviews			
Materials Needed	Notebook or journal, pen or pencil			
Question to Explore	How will you make sure everyone is counted in the 2020 census?			
Student Directions	This guide is designed to help you engage in an independent civic action project, and follows the CPS Informed Action Framework. You will understand, investigate, reflect, and act to answer the question, "How will you make sure everyone is counted in the 2020 census?"			

The 2020 U.S. Census begins NOW. **EVERYONE** can have a real impact in the census by using their expertise and knowledge of their community to make sure everyone is counted.

# How will you make sure everyone is counted in the 2020 census?

This project has three phases of research and reflection before you take a final action. The project phases are:

- Phase 1: Understand and connect to the Call to Action question.
- Phase 2: Investigate the topic and any barriers to census completion
- Phase 3: Plan and take action

# Here are a couple of key dates to keep in mind:

#### March 12 - 20:

First mailing - You will receive an invitation to respond online to the 2020 Census; some households will also receive paper questionnaires

#### March 16 - 24:

Second mailing - You will receive a reminder letter

#### March 26 - April 3: Third mailing - If you have not responded, you will receive a reminder postcard

#### April 1:

National Census Day!

#### April 8 - 16:

If you have not responded, you will receive a **reminder letter** and **paper questionnaire** 

#### April 20 - 27:

If you have not responded, you will receive a **final reminder postcard** before an enumerator visits your home

# PHASE 1: Understand and connect to the question, "How do we make sure everyone is counted?"

Document your answers/information collected for each step in a journal.

#### Phase 1, Step 1: Explore what the census is and why it is important.

Watch this video (<a href="https://youtu.be/HMaaH6Suf98">https://youtu.be/HMaaH6Suf98</a>) OR read <a href="Document A">Document A</a> included in this packet and then answer the following questions in your journal:

- ☐ What do you know about the U.S. Census now that you didn't know before?
- ☐ Have you or your family ever participated in the Census? Why or why not?
- ☐ How will the census impact you or your family?
- ☐ What other information would be important to know/understand in order to answer the project question?"



#### Phase 1, Step 2: Connect with and collect information from others.

Now, interview two or more family or community members by phone, email, or social media. Focus on different ages over 30 years old. Use the questions below, and other questions you want to ask. Write down the responses to each question.

Sample questions for interviews:

- ☐ What is the U.S. Census?
- ☐ Have you ever completed the Census? Why or why not?
- ☐ How will the census impact you or your family?

After you finish your interviews - complete the reflection below

#### Reflection

- ☐ What do you know now that you didn't know before?
- ☐ Did the responses from any of the people you interviewed surprise you? Why or why not?
- ☐ Why do you think these individuals have had these experiences with the U.S. Census?
- Do you think other people in your community have had similar or different experiences from those you interviewed?

#### PHASE 2: Investigate the topic and any barriers to Census completion

#### Phase 2, Step 1: Research Community Impact

#### Use the maps provided in Source C to answer the questions below:

- ☐ What do the colors/shades on the map mean? What patterns do you notice?
- ☐ Was the percentage for your school/neighborhood/part of the city higher or lower than what you would have expected? Explain.
- □ Looking at the overall map, why do you think some areas of Chicago are harder to count than others?
- ☐ Is this data similar to what you learned from your family/community survey data?

#### Phase 2, Step 2: Focus and narrow your research

Here you will work to better understand the Census, and any causes to issues you've learned about in the previous steps. Document your answers in your journal, and make note of NEW questions that you come up with.

- A. Why is the Census important?
- B. What is the U.S. Census information used for?
- C. Who does and doesn't get counted in your community and why?
- D. Why don't some people complete the census?
- E. Why are some communities harder to count than others?

Use **Sources A and B** to answer the questions. You should also use your research from Phase 1 interviews, and Phase 2 map analysis to help you answer the questions.

#### **Reflection:**

- F. What surprised you about some of the research you did?
- G. Are there **barriers** (obstacles or things that get in the way) that you identified that are more important than others? Explain.



H. How will knowing who doesn't get counted help develop a way to get everyone counted in your community?

#### Phase 2, Step 4: Analyze the issue(s) and assess possible solutions.

List all the reasons you found why some people don't complete the U.S. Census.

- I. Which barrier seems the most important to address and why?
- J. Is there a barrier you have identified that doesn't seem to have a solution? Explain.

#### PHASE 3: Plan and Take Action

#### Phase 3, Step 1: Plan and Take Action

Here you will take action to ensure everyone is counted in the census!

You will **create awareness** for what the census is and why it is important, and get as many people as you can to complete the U.S. Census. Follow these steps to organize your awareness campaign.

- **Step 1:** Reflect upon and summarize what you have learned about the US census and why it's important. Decide on the information that is most important or has the biggest impact.
- Step 2: Identify WHO needs to know this information and WHY they need to know it.
- **Step 3:** Identify WHAT you want to say and HOW you want to say it. What could you say to this audience that will make them complete the census?
- **Step 4:** Next, choose the best way to reach people to make sure they complete their census. A letter or email? A tweet? A tik tok? A social media campaign? Phone calls? Why is this the best way to reach them?
- **Step 5:** Finally, construct your MESSAGE. Consider what you have already decided, and how to bring that all together.
- **Step 6:** Implement your plan and make sure to document your action along the way! Track your outcomes if you can did anyone complete the census because of your action?

#### Phase 3, Step 2 - Reflect and Share!

After completing your action, share with others what you learned about the Census and why it's important to engage in civic life!

- What did you learn throughout the process?
- What did you learn about yourself and your community?
- Why should young people be civically engaged?
- Why should everyone complete the census?

As a final action - connect with other CPS students working to get their communities counted by sharing your experience, ideas and thoughts either on social media @CPSCivicLife #EngageCPS or email us at SSCE@cps.edu.



#### **SOURCE A: 2020census.gov**

What Is the 2020 Census? The 2020 Census counts every person living in the United States and five U.S. territories. The count is mandated by the Constitution and conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau, a nonpartisan government agency. The 2020 Census counts the population in the United States and five U.S. territories (Puerto Rico, American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Guam, and the U.S. Virgin Islands). Each home will receive an invitation to respond to a short questionnaire—online, by phone, or by mail—between March 12-20.

Why We Conduct This Count: The census provides critical data that lawmakers, business owners, teachers, and many others use to provide daily services, products, and support for you and your community. Every year, billions of dollars in federal funding go to hospitals, fire departments, schools, roads, and other resources based on census data.

The results of the census also determine the number of seats each state will have in the U.S. House of Representatives, and they are used to draw congressional and state legislative districts.

It's also in the Constitution: Article 1, Section 2, mandates that the country conduct a count of its population once every 10 years. The 2020 Census will mark the 24th time that the country has counted its population since 1790.

# SOURCE B - Berube, Alan. Stakes are high for cities and regions ahead of an unsettled 2020 census.

Brookings Institute "The Avenue." Thursday, February 7, 2019

A little over one year from now, the United States will participate in a democratic tradition that stretches back to the founding of the republic: the once-a-decade census of its population.

From 1790 (U.S. population: 3.9 million) to 2010 (U.S. population: 309 million), the once every ten years census has changed alongside the nation itself. From the territory it covers, to the questions it asks, to how it collects the information, the census has reflected evolution in technology, the role of the federal government, and the size of the country itself.

As we approach 2020, however, both technical and political changes in the census are introducing new challenges. The stakes are high for cities and regions, which depend on a full and accurate count of their populations to ensure their financial health and political strength. Three areas of concern stand out.

**The Census is Moving (Partially) Online:** For the first time in 2020, the U.S. Census Bureau plans to allow households to respond to the census survey via the internet. This move could help reduce the costs of the census (e.g., fewer paper forms to collect and process) and improve response rates among a U.S. population that's increasingly online, all the time.

Yet a digital census could cause complications for participation, particularly in areas with limited internet access. **My colleague Adie Tomer and co-authors find** that in 2015, almost one in four Americans (74 million people) lived in neighborhoods where fewer than 40 percent of households



have internet access. It's not only rural areas where broadband's reach is limited; major metro areas with large Hispanic populations—and/or significant areas of concentrated poverty—exhibit troubling internet access gaps as well. As CityLab's Kriston Capps reports, many cities are leaning on libraries to connect those populations to the online census, but tests thus far suggest the fix won't be easy.

The massive online data collection effort also introduces significant data quality, privacy, and security challenges for the Census Bureau. Viruses, impersonator websites, data breaches, and internet service disruptions could threaten the accuracy of the count. While the Bureau is investing in addressing potential security weaknesses, **the Government Accountability Office recently flagged** significant challenges and risks the Bureau still faces to mounting a successful online 2020 census.

THE CENSUS MAY BE UNDER-RESOURCED: The Census Bureau has estimated the full "life cycle" cost of the 2020 census at \$15.6 billion. Much of its ramp-up funding over the past few years **came in below projected needs**, leading to reduced testing of new operations and procedures. As **Capps from CityLab details**, the Bureau cut two of its planned dress rehearsals, conducting only one end-to-end test in Providence County, R.I. Moreover, the Census Bureau went without a permanent director for 18 months during this critical period, with Congress finally confirming federal statistical agency veteran Steven Dillingham to the position in early January.

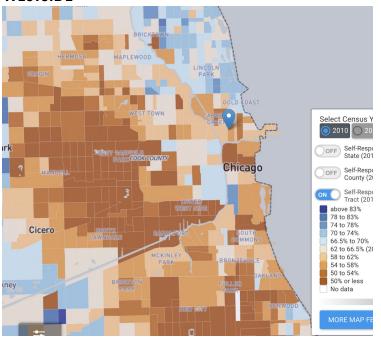
Signs are looking up that Congress will provide adequate funding for the 2020 census in the coming year. Still, other preparation challenges confront the Bureau, including the need to hire more than 500,000 enumerators—the workers who go door-to-door to make sure that people who don't respond online or by mail to the survey get counted. Last time around in 2010, the U.S. unemployment rate was hovering near 10 percent, and workers looking for a decent-paying temporary gig were relatively easy to find. Now with the rate south of 4 percent, it may be harder to find such workers, and as a result more difficult to ensure that harder-to-count communities are accurately captured in the census.



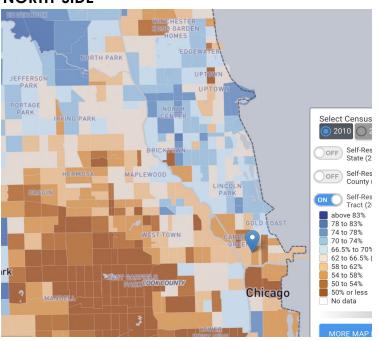
#### SOURCE C - Census Hard To Count Maps, 2020

The following images show the rate of people in CHICAGO that were counted in the last U.S. Census in 2010. The rates represent the number of households that filled out the census on their own. So 50% or higher means 50% of the people or more in that neighborhood completed the Census in 2010.

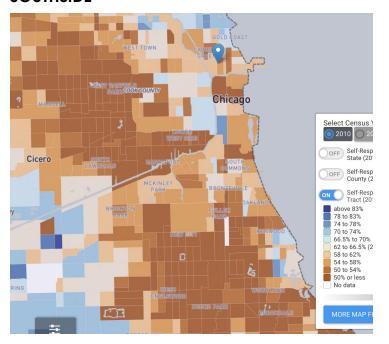
#### **WESTSIDE**



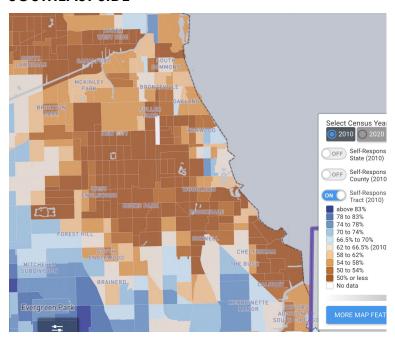
#### **NORTH-SIDE**



#### **SOUTHSIDE**



#### **SOUTHEAST SIDE**





Project 2: Independent Civic Action Project - Elections 2020					
Estimated Time	10 hours				
Caregiver Support Option	Interviews of household members about voting.				
Materials Needed	aterials Needed Notebook or Journal, pen or pencil				
Question to Explore How do we get people to vote in Chicago?					
Student Directions	This guide is designed to help you engage in an independent civic action project, and follows the CPS Informed Action Framework. You will understand, investigate, reflect, and act to answer the question, "How do we get people to vote?"				

2020 will bring about a major election in the United States. We will be voting for the U.S. President and Congress, as well as state and local offices. EVERYONE can have a real impact on the election by using their expertise and knowledge of their community to increase the voter turnout, even if they are not eligible to vote themselves.

#### How do we get people to vote in Chicago?

This project has three phases of research and reflection before you take a final action. The project phases are:

- Phase 1: Understand and connect to the Call to Action question.
- Phase 2: Investigate the topic and any barriers to voting
- Phase 3: Plan and take action



#### PHASE 1: Understand and Connect to the question "How do we get people to vote in Chicago?"

#### Phase 1, Step 1: Explore what the elections are and why voting is important.

Watch the following videos http://bit.ly/ELECTIONSVIDEO1 OR http://bit.ly/ELECTIONSVIDEO2 OR read **Source A** included in this packet below and then answer the following questions in your journal:

- ☐ What do you know about elections and voting that you didn't know before?
- ☐ Have people you know, or people in your family ever voted? Why or why not?
- ☐ Why should people vote?
- ☐ What other information would be important to know/understand in order to answer the project question?"

#### Phase 1, Step 2: Connect with and collect information from others

Now, interview two or more family or community members by phone, email, or social media. Focus on different ages if possible, 18 and older. Use the questions below, and other questions you want to ask. Write down the responses to each question.



Sam	ple questions for interviews:
	Did you vote in the last election?
	r you finish your interviews - complete the reflection below
	What do you know now that you didn't know before?
	Did the responses from any of the people you interviewed surprise you? Why or why not?
	Why do you think these individuals have had these experiences with the voting/elections?
	Do you think other people in your community have had similar or different experiences from
	those you interviewed?

#### PHASE 2: Investigate the topic and any barriers to voting

#### Phase 2, Step 1: Research Community Impact

#### Use the maps provided in Source D below to answer the questions below:

3E	ine maps provided in source b below to answer the questions below.
	What do the colors/shades on the map mean? What patterns do you notice?
	Was the percentage for your school/neighborhood/part of the city higher or lower than what you would have expected? Explain.
	Looking at the overall map, why do you think some areas of Chicago voted more than others? Is this data similar to what you learned from your interviews?

#### Phase 2, Step 2: Focus and narrow your research

Here you will work to better understand elections and voting, and any causes to issues you've learned about in the previous steps. Document your answers in your journal, and make a note of any NEW questions that you have as you investigate.

- A. Why are elections and voting important?
- B. Who is eligible (eligible: to have the right to do something) to vote in Illinois elections?
- C. How does someone register (register: to sign up) to vote in Illinois?
- D. Why do some people vote while others don't?
- E. Are there some **barriers** (obstacles or things that get in the way) to voting in some communities that don't exist in others? Why do these barriers exist?

Use **Sources A**, **B** and **C** below to answer the questions. You should also use your research from Phase 1 interviews, and map analysis to help you answer the questions.

#### Reflection:

- A. Did anything you learned surprise you?
- B. Do you feel any barriers are more important than others? Explain.
- C. What information would be the most helpful in convincing those who can but don't vote, to vote?



**Phase 2, Step 4:** Analyze the issue(s) and assess possible solutions.

List all the reasons you found why some people don't vote.

- D. Which **barrier** seems the most important to address and why?
- E. Is there a **barrier** you have identified that doesn't seem to have a solution? Explain.

#### PHASE 3: Plan and Take Action

#### Phase 3, Step 1: Plan and Take Action

Here you will take action to ensure your community gets out and votes!

You will **create awareness** for the 2020 election and why it is important, and get as many people as you can to commit to voting. Follow these steps to organize your awareness campaign.

- **Step 1:** Think about and summarize what you have learned about the election and why it's important. Decide on the information that is the most important and why people should vote.
- Step 2: Identify WHO needs to know this information and WHY they need to know it.
- **Step 3:** Identify WHAT you want to say and HOW you want to say it. What could you say to this audience that will make them get out and vote?
- **Step 4:** Next, choose the best way to reach people to make sure they turn out and vote. A letter or email? A tweet? A tik tok? A social media campaign? Phone calls? Why is this the best way to reach them?
- **Step 5:** Finally, construct your MESSAGE. What is the most powerful way to convince the people in your community to vote?
- **Step 6:** Carry out your plan and make sure to document your actions along the way! Track your outcomes (what happened as a result of your actions?) if you can.

#### Phase 3, Step 2 - Reflect and Share!

After completing your action, share with others what you learned about the elections and why it's important to participate in elections, even if you're not old enough to vote!

- What did you learn throughout the process?
- What did you learn about yourself and your community?
- Why should everyone vote or participate in the voting process, even if they are not old enough to vote?
- How can young people participate in elections, even if they are not old enough to vote?

As a final action - connect with other CPS students working to get out the vote by sharing your experience, ideas and thoughts either on social media **@CPSCivicLife #EngageCPS** or email us at SSCE@cps.edu.



#### SOURCE A: CIRCLE: Broadening Youth Voting Overview:

https://circle.tufts.edu/our-research/broadening-youth-voting

Participating in elections and voting are some of the most important and powerful ways young people can contribute to their communities, their country, and the democratic process. It's one of many forms that youth **engagement** (**engagement**: the act of participating in one's community or country) can take, and a powerful way for youth to make their voices heard and have an impact on issues that affect them and their communities. The votes of young adults and participation of young people who are not yet old enough to vote can even help decide who wins an election. And, because elections happen often and everywhere, young people regularly have the opportunity to help decide who wins elections.

Yet, historically, young people have voted at lower rates than older adults. That may be starting to change: in 2018, youth turnout was the highest we have ever recorded for a **midterm election** (midterm elections in the United States are the general elections that are held near the midpoint of a president's four-year term of office). Historically, these elections have lower voter turnout than **general elections** (**general election:** voters cast their ballots for members of the national or state legislature. There is a general election every four years to choose the president.), and young people's participation increased (compared to 2014) more than that of older voters. That said, our research shows that many young people do not receive training or support to become informed voters. As a result, there are differences in voting rates by race/ethnicity, education level, and **socioeconomic level** (how much money or income a person has). As a result, certain groups have more influence on what happens during elections. When certain groups have more say than others, we fall short of the democratic values of our country, which rely on the participation of everyone, and we miss an opportunity to improve our communities.

SOURCE B: Rock the Vote - Voter Rights in Illinois https://www.rockthevote.org/voting-information/illinois/#

**Pre-Registration:** 17-year-olds who will be 18 by the next general election can pre-register to vote. On your 18th birthday, your voter registration application will be fully processed.

**Same Day Registration:** Illinois offers the opportunity to register to vote on Election Day at your home precinct. To register, voters must bring two pieces of identification: one must have their current address, and the other should be another form of ID.

**Automatic Voter Registration:** Automatic Voter Registration was passed in 2017, but the program has yet to be implemented.

**If You've Moved:** Illinois requires registrants to live in the state for at least 30 days before registering to vote.

**Documentation Requirements:** When submitting a voter registration application, no additional documents are required for your registration to be processed. The state confirms your citizenship and eligibility through the information provided on your registration form, such as your state-issued license/ID number or the last 4 digits of your SSN. However, grace period registration applications (submitted after Illinois' voter registration deadline) require two forms of identification, one of which must have the applicant's current address.



**Voting Rights Restoration:** Voting rights of convicted persons are restored upon one's release from incarceration. Returning citizens must re-register to vote after their rights are restored.

**Interstate Voter Rolls Accuracy & Maintenance:** Illinois is a member-state of the Electronic Registration Information Center (ERIC) and participates in the Interstate Crosscheck program to compare voter rolls with other states for maintenance purposes.

**SOURCE C - Chicago Elections Mapped: Voter Turnout High, But Low In Minority Neighborhoods** WBEZ, Elliott Ramos, November 8, 2018

Chicago voter turnout for the midterm election Tuesday was the highest in decades — 56 percent citywide — but that was not the case in many minority communities.

That's according to an analysis of data from the Chicago Board of Elections.

While the turnout was the highest in 32 years for a **midterm election (midterm election:** Midterm elections in the United States are elections that are held near the midpoint of a president's four-year term of office. Historically, these elections have lower voter turnout than general elections), it was significantly lower than the city turnout in the 2016 **general election**, which was 71 percent. (**general election:** voters cast their ballots for members of the national or state legislature. There is a *general election* every four years to choose the president.)

On Tuesday, neighborhoods such as Lake View, Lincoln Park, Edgewater, and North Center, which are generally wealthier and more white than other Chicago neighborhoods, saw high turnouts averaging or exceeding 70-75 percent.

Precincts in lower income neighborhoods that are largely African American or Hispanic, such as East and West Garfield Park, Humboldt Park, Hermosa, and Belmont Cragin averaged turnouts at or below 40 percent. Those percentages were similar to South Side neighborhoods such as South Deering, Riverdale, and West Englewood.

But some South Side neighborhoods did not follow that trend, with Englewood, Chatham, Greater Grand Crossing, and parts of Pullman above 65 percent.

There was one notable oddity, and that was the 37th Precinct in the 5th Ward, which is in the Hyde Park neighborhood showing a 119 percent voter turnout.

Jim Allen, the communications director for the Chicago Board of Elections, said it was a known error.

"Part of that precinct was incorrectly coded to a different precinct." Because of that, he said the number of registered voters was lower than the amount cast there, which is why they reportedly ran out of ballots yesterday.

He said the turnout for that precinct is likely closer to 60 percent.



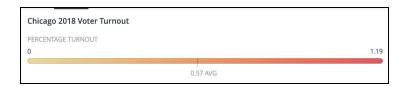
There appeared to be stark differences in turnout between yesterday's election and the midterm election of 2014.

Much of the turnout Chicago's South and West sides were down dramatically compared to four years ago. A lot of that appears to be because the same areas also experienced dramatic drops in numbers of registered voters.

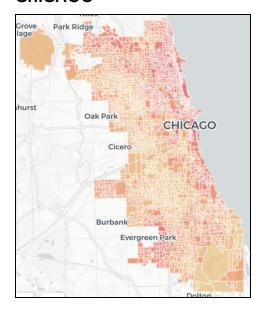
Some of these areas have seen the greatest loss of population, according to latest census figures.

#### SOURCE D - WBEZ Voter Turnout Map - 2018 election

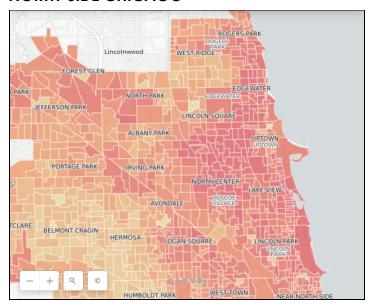
The following images show the rate of people in CHICAGO that voted in the 2018 election. The rates represent the number of people who voted. So darker red indicates more people in that neighborhood who voted in 2018.



#### **CHICAGO**

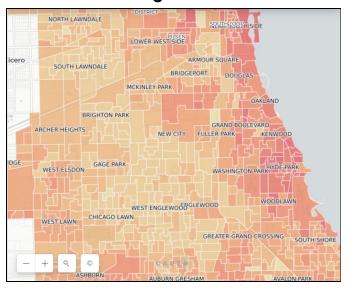


#### **NORTH-SIDE CHICAGO**

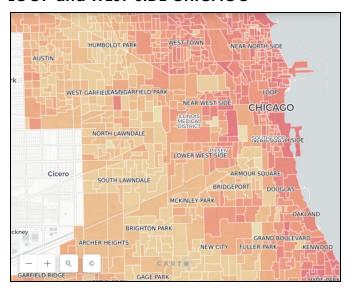




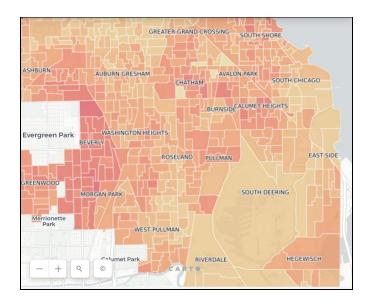
#### **SOUTH-SIDE Chicago**



#### LOOP and WEST-SIDE CHICAGO



#### **SOUTH-EAST CHICAGO**





Project 3: Lice	Project 3: Licensed to III				
Estimated Time	3-4 hours				
Caregiver Support Option	All of the questions posed in this project lend themselves to strong opportunities for discussion.				
Materials Needed	Notebook or journal, pencil or pen,l and scratch paper				
Question to Explore How does health insurance work?					
Student Directions	This 3-part project explores many aspects of health insurance including proposals that are currently being debated across the country. You will read a recent article, explore the mathematics of health insurance, and consider policy proposals. There are also optional videos available to learn more.				

#### Part 1: Medicare for All article

Read the article below and answer the questions to learn more about "Medicare for All"



Your "Medicare for All" questions, answered By Bloomberg, adapted by Newsela staff on 02.20.20 Word Count 822 Level 1060L

Medicare is a U.S. health insurance program. It was created in 1965 to help older Americans pay for medical care. Through this program, the government helps people pay for doctor visits, blood tests, medicines, stays in hospitals or nursing facilities and end-of-life care. Right now, Medicare is usually only available to American citizens over age 65. However, some politicians want to start offering those benefits to everybody. "Medicare for All" is a popular topic among Democrats who are liberal, or supporters of government programs. The Democratic candidates running in the 2020 election are split on the topic. Some of them prefer what's called a "public option," where individuals can choose between government insurance or private insurance.

#### 1. Who can get Medicare now?

About 86 percent of Medicare's 60.8 million members qualify for the program because they are over 65. The rest participate because they have permanent disabilities. People in the program must pay part of their health care costs out of pocket. Most people have some type of additional coverage to help with those costs that Medicare doesn't cover, such as long-term care, dental and vision treatment, and hearing aids.

#### 2. What would Medicare for All mean?

In a general sense, Medicare for All would mean a greater reliance on public health insurance. Most people under 65 in the United States have private health insurance through their jobs. People



who are self-employed, freelance or at jobs that don't offer insurance may buy private insurance on their own. Millions of Americans also buy insurance through Obamacare. It also allows people to get cheaper private insurance, even if they have medical conditions. Yet private health insurance can still be very expensive. In 2018, 30.4 million Americans went without coverage, and the United States is one of the few rich countries in the world that does not offer health care for all its citizens. Medicare for All generally means a government-run "single-payer" system like Canada's. This system does away with private insurance. Another proposal is to create a government-provided choice for Americans to buy into, instead of only private health insurance options. This is known as the public option, and many Democrats say it's a more realistic choice. This plan would allow Americans to choose between private insurance and a government-provided option.

#### 3. Who supports which proposals?

Senator Bernie Sanders is an independent from Vermont. He is running to be the Democratic candidate for president. Sanders has long supported a Canadian-style single-payer system. Candidate Elizabeth Warren and self-described progressives in the House of Representatives, including Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez and Pramila Jayapal, also favor a government-run single payer system. Other Democratic presidential hopefuls, including former Vice President Joe Biden, Pete Buttigieg, Michael Bloomberg and Amy Klobuchar, favor a public option. Trump has criticized Medicare for All. He says it would take away private insurance plans from 180 million Americans who are currently happy with them. Other Republicans agree.

#### 4. Would Medicare for All change health care for all Americans?

The most progressive visions of Medicare for All, like those of Sanders and Warren, would create benefits for everyone. These would outlaw most forms of private insurance, including employer provided coverage. That might mean little if any out-of-pocket cost to patients. However, it would also mean less choice for people who like to pick their insurer and for employers who use health benefits to attract workers. Under a public option plan, people satisfied with their insurance and medical care would have the ability to keep it.

#### 5. Would Medicare for All cut health care costs?

The United States spent \$3.5 trillion on health care in 2017, which is \$11,000 for each American. Experts predict that the country will spend \$47 trillion from 2018 to 2027, adding up what the government, employers and households pay. About 18 percent of money made in the U.S. goes to medical spending. Most similar countries only pay about 11 percent. Supporters of a single-payer system say that the government could set the prices of medical procedures and medicines. This would allow the government to limit costs. Critics argue that people should have a choice in how they spend money on health insurance. They also say that a government plan would have no incentive to run itself efficiently and limit costs that way. Dave Wichmann is the CEO of private insurance company UnitedHealth Group Inc. In April, Wichmann said that Medicare for All would negatively affect the economy and jobs without "increasing access to care."

#### 6. Do Americans want Medicare for All?

In one poll, 74 percent of people supported creating a government health plan "similar to Medicare open to anyone." However, that was only if people could choose to keep the coverage they already have. Support dropped to 56 percent if it meant "all Americans would get their insurance from a single government plan." Agreement dropped to 37 percent if the health plan would "eliminate private health insurance companies."



- 1. Which two of the following sentences from the article include CENTRAL ideas of the article?
  - 1. Right now, Medicare is usually only available to American citizens over age 65. 2.
  - 2. The Democratic candidates running in the 2020 election are split on the topic. 3.
  - 3. In a general sense, Medicare for All would mean a greater reliance on public health insurance. 4.
  - 4. Other Democratic presidential hopefuls, including former Vice President Joe Biden, Pete Buttigieg, Michael Bloomberg and Amy Klobuchar, favor a public option.
  - A. 1 and 2
  - B. 2 and 3
  - C. 3 and 4
  - D. 1 and 4
- 2. Which statement would be MOST important to include in a summary of the article?
  - A. The primary goals of Medicare for All proposals are to increase the number of Americans with health insurance and to reduce the cost of health care.
  - B. Republicans in Congress and the White House are uniformly opposed to Medicare for All or to expanding the government's role in health care.
  - C. Many candidates for the 2020 Democratic nomination for president favor a public option approach to health insurance reform.
  - D. The United States is an outlier among similarly wealthy countries when it comes to how much the country spends on health care.
- 3. What is the MAIN reason the author includes the section "Who supports which proposals?"
  - A. to introduce the reader to some of the foremost advocates of Medicare for All in the House and Senate
  - B. to explain why it is mainly Democrats that support Medicare for All proposals and mainly Republicans that oppose them
  - C. to show how few Republicans support health insurance reforms such as Medicare for All
  - D. to illustrate the opinions of Democratic presidential candidates about a key issue during an election year
- 4. What is one reason WHY the author includes information about the amount of money the United States spends on health care compared to similar countries?
  - A. to illustrate the differences in health care quality between the United States and similar countries
  - B. to show how much money the average American spends each year on health care
  - C. to illustrate one of the major inefficiencies of the U.S. system that Medicare for All might help



to fix

- D. to show how other countries have reformed their health insurance systems to decrease costs
- 5. What is one new thing you learned from the article? What is one question you still have?



#### Part 2: Do the Math

Use prompts, figures, and tables provided below to investigate how health insurance works on a separate sheet of paper. In this part of the project, you will use percents and expected value to understand how health insurance works. You will explore the issue from the perspective of both consumer and insurance company, and learn about everything from the denial of insurance due to pre-existing conditions to the individual mandate.

**Review:** 14% of \$40,000 = 0.14(40,000) = 5,600 Remember that probability describes how likely something is to happen, but does not guarantee that it will.

**Background Information:** Health insurance depends on **insurance pools**; large groups of people pay premiums to the insurance company - i.e. they *pool* their money - which then uses this money to pay for healthcare when one of them gets sick. Even if an individual is unable to afford a \$100,000 surgery, he'll still be able to get it thanks to everyone else's payments. The healthy people in the group help pay the costs when someone is sick or injured, knowing that the same help will be there when they need it. Insurance works because people share risks; even though it benefits individuals, its success *depends* on the group. An insurance company is effectively betting that it will receive more money from customers than it will have to pay in health claims. If it doesn't, it'll lose money. If you have internet access, you can also watch some additional videos about health insurance aligned to these questions at <a href="https://www.mathalicious.com/lessons/licensed-to-ill/teach">https://www.mathalicious.com/lessons/licensed-to-ill/teach</a>

1. When deciding whether or not to buy a product warranty, we can use something called the **expected value**. For instance, if there's a 10% probability that a \$1500 laptop will break, we say the warranty has an expected value of 0.1(\$1500) = \$150. If the warranty costs less than this, we should buy it. If it costs more, we shouldn't. But we can use expected value for more than computers. Imagine a country with four people, where the only medical procedure is a \$40,000 heart surgery. Calculate the expected value of health insurance for each person. Then, who do you think wants insurance the most, and whom does the insurance company want the most?

Name & Prob. of Surgery	Alonso 1%	Ť	Beatriz 16%	*	Claire 25%	Ť	Daniel 50%	Ť
Expected Value, E.V.								



- 2. Imagine the company charges everyone the same price for insurance. If the company only needs to "break even" to earn as much as it spends calculate how much it should charge. At this price, who will buy insurance, and will the company expect to break even? Explain.
- 3. If the company can change the price of insurance each year, determine how much it will cost in years 1, 2, and 3. At these prices, who will buy insurance?



		Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
Price of Insura	ance	\$9,200	\$15,000	\$20,000
Individuals	Buy (√)	Claire, Daniel		
	Not Buy (X)	Alonso, Beatriz		
Company	Revenue	\$18,400		
	Expected Cost	\$30,000		

4. To keep prices low, some people believe that companies should be allowed to deny insurance to high-risk people. If the company refuses to cover Daniel, what will happen in years 1-3? Is this a good situation? Explain.



		Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
Price of Insura	ance	\$5,600	\$8,200	\$10,000
Individuals	Buy (√)			
	Not Buy (X)			
Company	Revenue			
	Expected Cost			



- 5. Continuing the scenario above, imagine Beatriz has a heart attack at the end of year 3. Even though she is uninsured and can't afford the surgery, the hospital saves her life, but increased the price of surgery to \$50,000.
  - Without actually calculating anything, what effect do you think this will have on the price of insurance in year 4, and do you think this is fair? Explain your reasoning.
- 6. When a hospital treats a patient without insurance, it makes insurance more expensive for everyone else. To prevent this from happening, some people believe insurance companies should be required to cover everyone, and that everyone should be required to buy insurance. Let's return to the original scenario where a heart surgery costs \$40,000. If everyone has to buy insurance, show what will happen in years 1-3. Do you think this is a better outcome than before? Why or why not?



		Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
Price of Insura	ance			
Individuals	Buy (√)	Alonso, Beatriz, Claire, Daniel	Alonso, Beatriz, Claire, Daniel	Alonso, Beatriz, Claire, Daniel
	Not Buy (X)			
Company	Revenue			
Company	Expected Cost			

7. In reality, countries have more than four people. Also, there are often more low-risk people than high-risk ones. Imagine 70% of the population is like Alonso, 20% is like Beatriz, 9% is like Claire, and 1% is like Daniel. If everyone still has to buy insurance, how much will it cost, and do you think this is a good long-term solution?

### Part 3: Policy Proposals

Consider the policy proposals below.

- Allow companies to charge higher-risk people more for health insurance
- Allow insurance companies to deny coverage to high-risk people
- Require everyone to buy insurance (and provide subsidies to people who can't afford it)
- Allow hospitals to deny care to people who don't have health insurance



Based on what you've learned, write a letter to your U.S. Senators to persuade them to support at least one of these policies.

Your letter should include:

- An overview of the policy proposal that states your claim
- Three to four reasons that support the proposal
- Facts, examples, statistics that support your reasons (you can use information from the reading and math activities)
- A conclusion that sums up the proposal and makes a powerful statement urging the Senators to act

### **Enrichment Activities**

### Digital Resources

If you have access to the internet, please go to tinyurl.com/DigitalAtHome. This document contains links to multiple digital resources that you can use each day.

There are also more resources specific to grades 6-8 at tinyurl.com/CPSESEnrichment.

### **Non-Digital Resources**

We've designed this section of the packet to provide you the opportunity to:



#### **Directions**

- 1. Each day, pick at least one activity to complete from each category.
- 2. Keep track of your work on a separate sheet of paper or in a journal.
- 3. At the end of each day, write a journal entry answering the questions:
  - a. What was my favorite activity today? Why?
  - b. What is something new I learned today?
  - c. What are my goals for tomorrow?



# Read

**Read independently** for at least 30-40 minutes per day (break the time into two or more chunks if that works best). Then select 1-2 questions from the tables below to respond to or to discuss with a friend or family member. You can pick different questions everyday!

#### Questions about fiction:

Describe a problem or conflict your character faced. How would you solve it?	What lesson(s) do any of the characters learn? What do we, as readers, learn?	What are major turning points in the story? (mood, plot, characterization, etc.)	Pick three adjectives to describe one of the characters. Use examples from the text to support your choices.	Find examples of symbols in your story. What do they mean and what do they add to the story?
Change the genre of your book. What would happen to the main character in this genre?	Analyze the plot structure of your story. Where does the story begin? End?	What are repeated themes in the text? Provide evidence to support your answer.	What examples of figurative language are in the text? What meaning do they hold?	Determine a character's perspective and how it affects the telling of the story.
Create a comic strip that connects major events in your book.	Choose two characters in your story and compare and contrast them.	How does the main character change or develop across the story?	What are the protagonist's strengths and weaknesses?	What is the main conflict in the book? How do the characters react?
How does the author's use of descriptive language add to the story?	Which minor character most influences the protagonist? Give an example and explain why.	Can you draw connections between your story and other stories you have read?	Based on the themes in your book, design a new/alternate cover for your book	Describe how the author creates tension around the conflict. How does it play out in the climax of the story?
What type of language is used to set the tone in your book? Provide evidence and explanations.	How well did the author develop the characters? What did you like about them? What did you dislike?	Identify an important decision made by the protagonist in this chapter. Would you have decided the same thing? Why or why not?	Write a book review about your story, which parts would you highlight to get other readers to read your story?	Choose a few scenes from your book. Write it as a scene from a drama. Include setting, dialogue and directions.



#### Questions about informational texts:

Give examples of when the author uses extreme or absolute language. (leaves no doubt)	Find examples of an author's use of experts to support their claims.	How do the diagrams or photos add to your understanding of the topic?	Create a diagram of a descriptive paragraph provided in your book.	Create an infographic using the facts and figures from your text.
Analyze the language of your text to determine the author's perspective on the issues/topics.	Create an advertisement for your book. Why would other students want to read your book?	Create a jingle or a poem for the topic of your book using information you learned from the text.	Describe the text structures found in your text. How does the organization of the information contribute to the meaning of the text?	Create a children's version of the book or text. What essential information would your young reader need to know?
Write a fictional story from the perspective of a real person or topic in your text. Use information you learned about the person, animal or thing to write the story.	Compare the topic of your book to something similar.  Make connections between your topic and the thing you are comparing it to (e.g., storms are like roller coasters).	What questions do you have about your topic? How would you research the answer to your questions?	Write a 2 paragraph critique of your book. Include your opinion about the content of the text and the writing style of the author.	Create a documentary about your topic. Create a storyboard that captures the most interesting/excitin g scenes that would be in your documentary.

# Write

**I Am Poem:** Write a 3 stanza poem on a separate sheet of paper by completing each statement with your own ideas. When you are done, recite the poem for an audience. If you want to write another poem, interview someone and write an I Am Poem for them!

First Stanza: I am (2 special characteristics you have). I wonder (something of curiosity). I hear (an imaginary sound). I see (an imaginary sight). I want (an actual desire). I am (the first line of the poem repeated).

Second Stanza: I pretend (something you actually pretend to do). I feel (a feeling about something imaginary). I touch (an imaginary touch). I worry (something that bothers you). I cry (something that makes you sad). I am (the first line of the poem repeated).

Third Stanza: I understand (something that is true). I say (something you believe in). I dream



(something you dream about). I try (something you really make an effort about). I hope (something you actually hope for). I am (the first line of the poem repeated)

#### Start a Writing Journal

Pick one idea to write about every day. Get creative! Write in paragraphs or write a poem. Add illustrations or diagrams. Go back to build on your writing over time as you think of new ideas.

- 1. What is your favorite holiday? Write the reasons for your choice.
- 2. What is the bravest thing you have ever done?
- 3. If you could be a superhero, what extraordinary powers would you give yourself? Explain your choices.
- 4. What is the one food you would least like to give up for the rest of your life? Explain why.
- 5. Would you rather be a dog or a cat? Write the reasons for your choice.
- 6. Who or what makes you laugh? Explain why you think this person or thing is funny.
- 7. Imagine that you drank a magic potion, and then suddenly you started to grow smaller and smaller. Finally, you were no larger than a fly. What would you do?
- 8. What is your most prized possession? Explain why it is so important to you.
- 9. What do you like most about yourself? What do you like least about yourself? Explain your answers.
- 10. Do you think you have a lot of self-confidence? Explain the reasons for your answer.
- 11. What is the hardest decision you have ever had to make? Looking back on your decision, do you now think you made the right choice? Explain your answer.
- 12. What is one goal or hope you have for the future? Explain why it is so important to you.
- 13. How would you feel if there was a new law forbidding the playing of any music?
- 14. Who is a hero of yours? Explain why that person means so much to you.
- 15. Which would you rather be: a fish or a bird? Explain your answer.
- 16. Invent a new game or a new toy you think people your age would like.
- 17. Imagine that you had to go to a deserted island for a week. In addition to food, shelter, and other necessities that will be provided, you are allowed to take three personal items. What would they be? Explain the reasons for your choices.
- 18. Would you prefer to live in a cold climate like Alaska's or a hot climate like Florida's? Explain the reasons for your choice.
- 19. If you could be anything you want to be when you graduate from college, what would you be? Explain your choice.
- 20. Write a science fiction or fantasy story in which you are a character.

**Story or Poetry Re-tell:** Copy the beginning of a story or poem, but don't include the ending. Rewrite it yourself!

Write a Play: Use the template below to create a play based on one of your journal entries.

- What is the title of your play?
- List and Description of Characters
- Setting Where is your play taking place?
- Time What time is it?
- Major Conflict What is the major problem the characters are going to confront in this play?
- Curtain Up! What are the characters doing when the curtain rises?
- Write your dialogue and stage directions. Example below.



# ANDREA [Enters, holding a soccer ball] I can't find it! TRAVIS

I told you already: it's in the car. [Takes the soccer ball]

### Move

**Healthy Corners:** Identify four activities for the four corners of the room. Activities can include jumping jacks, chair dips, arm circles, calf raises, or squats. Rotate through each corner after doing each activity for 1-2 minutes.

• Variations: Play music and when the music stops, rotate between stations.

**Fitness Uno:** Before beginning the game, choose an exercise for each color. Example: Red-Jumping Jacks, Green-Squat Jumps, Blue-Jog in Place, Yellow-Arm Circles. Complete the appropriate exercise for each card that is played. When the card states WILD, pick your favorite exercise to perform.

- Variations: If playing the game with the Uno deck of cards, use the number on the deck to indicate how many reps to perform of each workout. You can also use a regular card deck and assign workout movements to each suit.
- Materials Needed: Uno Cards or playing cards

**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.

- 1. Once you find your radial pulse, count each pulsation for one minute. Record your result.
- 2. Repeat procedure #1 five times.
- 3. Once you have completed your five minutes of data collecting, organize it by forming a line graph.
- 4. Answer the following questions after organizing your data.
  - What is a pulse?
  - What can your resting pulse rate determine?
  - What effect does exercising have on your pulse rate?
  - 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.

**Physical Activity Calendar:** Complete the daily activity in the calendar. After finishing the activity for today's date, pick any other activity you want and complete that too!



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	*SHAPEAn	nerica	Mor	ob 2020		
heal+h. moves. minds. March 2020 Secondary Mind & Body Calendar						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 Mindful Minute For 60 seconds, clear your mind & only focus on your breathing. If your mind starts to wander, bring your attention back to your breathing. Self-Injury Awareness Day	Try and sprint from one end of your street to the other. Have a family member time you.	3 Mindful Minute For 60 seconds, clear your mind & only focus on your breathing. If your mind starts to wander, bring your attention back to your breathing.	5 walking lunges 5 jumping split squats 5 jump squats 3 times through	5 Partner Challenge Sit back to back with a friend and link arms. Try to stand up without unlinking arms.	6 Fitness Intervals 10 squats 10 broad jumps 10 second sprints 10 pushups 10 sit-ups National Day of Unplugging (starts at sundown)	7 Jab, Jab, Cross Jab twice with your right fist then punch across your body wit your left. Complete 1 times then switch sides. National Day of Unplugging (ends at sundown)
8 Sugarcane Pose Hold Sugarcane Pose for 30 seconds on each side.	9 Limbo Grab a broom stick and have 2 people hold it. Take turns going under the stick arching backwards. Lower the stick after each successful pass. How low can you go?	10 Crazy 8's 8 jumping jacks 8 leaps 8 frog jumps 8 vertical jumps (as high as you can) Repeat 3 times	11 Between the Knees Gather rounded objects of varying size. Starting with the largest try walking around your house keeping the object between your knees.	12 Happy Baby Pose Straighten your legs for an added challenge.	13 Toe Fencing With a partner, hold each other's shoulders. Try to tap the other person's toe without having yours tapped. National Good Samaritan Day	14 Chest Pass Practice your chest passes against a brid wall. Remember to step towards your target.
Put a piece of tape on the ground and jump back and forth as quick as you can for 30 seconds.	16 Mindful Minute For 60 seconds, clear your mind & only focus on your breathing. If your mind starts to wander, bring your attention back to your breathing.	17 Code Words While watching TV any time you hear the code words complete 10 jumping jacks. Code words: green, St. Patrick's Day, lucky, leprechaun	18 Mindful Minute For 60 seconds, clear your mind & only focus on your breathing. If your mind starts to wander, bring your attention back to your breathing.	19 Pretend! Pretend to: -Sit in a chair for 10 seconds -Shoot a basketball 10 times - Ride a horse -Be a frog -Lift a car	20 Jump, Jump Jump side-to-side over an object or line for 1 minute straight. Go again but jump front to back. Repeat each jump twice.	21 Walking Race Pick a distance and challenge a friend to speed walking race. No running!
22 Dance, Dance Put on your favorite song or turn on the radio. Dance however you like during the entire song!	Complete 25 of the following: High Skip Squat Jumps High Knees Walk backwards	24 Squat with Kicks Complete a squat when standing kick one leg forward. Be sure to alternate legs on each squat. Complete 10.	25 Fitness Intervals 10 squats 10 broad jumps 10 second sprints 10 pushups 10 sit-ups	26 Do this: -Hop on one leg 30 times, switch legs -Take 10 giant steps -Walk on your knees -Do a silly dance -Sprint for 10 seconds	27 Set the Menu Talk with who takes care of you about choosing the dinner menu. Pick items that are healthy and yummy.	28 Vertical Jump Jump as high as you can for 30 seconds. Repeat.
29 Ragdoll Pose Hold Ragdoll Pose for 30 seconds. Repeat.	30 Jab, Jab, Cross Jab twice with your right fist then punch across your body with your left. Complete 10 times then switch sides.	31 Mindful Minute For 60 seconds, clear your mind & only focus on your breathing. If your mind starts to wander, bring your attention back to your breathing.	National Health Obs National Nutrition M 1st- Self-Injury Awar 6sth -7sth National Day (sundown-to-sundo 13th National Good Yoga pictures from www.	ionth reness Day r of Unplugging wn) Samaritan Day	SHAPE America recommends school-age childre accumulate at least 60 minutes and up to severa hours of physical activity per day. Each bout of physical activity should be followed by cool-down stretches that help reduce soreness and avoid injury. Happy exercising!	

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https://www.shapeamerica.org/publications/resources/teachingtools/teachertoolbox/activity-calendars.aspx

### DESIGN

**Designing Solutions:** Find a few short articles from magazines, newspapers, or other nonfiction texts. Identify a real-world problem in what you read and design a solution to address the problem. After drawing your design, look for items around the house that you can use to build a model of your solution. Then answer the following questions:

- What is the problem you are trying to solve?
- Who will your solution help?
- How will you convince others to use your solution?
- Share your solution with a family member or trusted adult and ask for feedback.
- Revise your design and model to address the feedback you heard.

**Rube Goldberg Machine:** Identify a simple task and use household items to design and build a multi-step machine to complete the task. Before building your machine, answer the following



#### questions:

- What task are you trying to solve? (Closing a door is a great task to start with, but you can choose anything!)
- What steps will you include in your machine? (Try to include at least 10!)
- What materials will you need?
- What will you do if your machine doesn't work at first?

**Musical Art:** Gather paper and any art supplies (crayons, markers, paints), and a music source. Play any song and listen to the music. What do you see in your mind? What do you hear? What do you feel? Use your art supplies to express what you are seeing/hearing/feeling on paper. Repeat with two more songs, trying to find songs that sound different from one another. After you finish, talk about (or write) about what you created. Do they look different based on what you heard? Develop titles for your artwork.

# Solve

See the tasks below & others at youcubed.org/tasks.

**Penny Collection:** Consider a collection of pennies with the following constraints: When the pennies are put in groups of 2 there is one penny left over. When they are put in groups of three, five and six there is also one penny left over. But when they are put in groups of seven there are no pennies left over. How many pennies could there be?

**Nine Colors:** You have 27 small cubes, 3 each of 9 colors. Can you use all the small cubes to make a 3 by 3 by 3 cube so that each face of the bigger cube contains one of each color?

**Ice Cream Scoop:** In shops with lots of ice-cream flavors there are many different flavor combinations, even with only a 2-scoop cone. With 1 ice-cream flavor there is 1 kind of 2-scoop ice cream, but with 2 flavors there are 3 possible combinations (eg vanilla/vanilla, chocolate/chocolate, and vanilla/chocolate). How many kinds of 2-scoop cones are there with 10 flavors? What about "n" flavors?

**Leo the Rabbit:** Leo the Rabbit is climbing up a flight of 10 steps. Leo can only hop up 1 or 2 steps each time he hops. He never hops down, only up. How many different ways can Leo hop up the flight of 10 steps? Provide evidence to justify your thinking.

**Four 4's:** Can you find every number between 1 and 20 using only four 4's and any operation? Here's an example  $\sqrt{4} + \sqrt{4} + 4/4 = 5$ 

**What's the Secret Code?:** Use the clues to find the code number:

- It is between 8,500 and 8,800.
- When multiplied by 8, the result is a whole number.
- The digit in the hundreds place is 3/4 the digit in the thousands place.
- The sum of all digits in the number is 26.
- The digit in the hundredths place is 200% of the digit in the tenths place.
- There are no zeros in the decimal places.

What code numbers fit these clues? Explain how you used all of these clues to find these possibilities. Write one more clue so that there is only one possible code number.

