



In This Issue

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**** It's Here! Summer 2021: The Summer of Enrichment**-are you worried your child has fallen behind because of the school changes due to COVID 19? We are offering enrichment this summer to address these deficits including: organizational and time management skills, reading comprehension, writing skills, study and test taking skills, math, and science. Our test prep services and college admissions consultation services continue to draw high school students. Act now to ensure your child's readiness for the Fall of 2021!

****Common App Update:** The new essay prompts have been sent to college admissions consultants like us. We are now working with rising seniors on these essays so that they are completed before summer break. Take advantage of this free time and sign up for essay services!

Helpful Links

For info about SAT I, II, and AP Tests go to:

www.collegeboard.com

For info about ACT test go to:

www.act.org

For info about test optional schools go to:

www.fairtest.org/university/optional

For info about financial aid go to:

www.FAFSA.ed.gov

www.fastweb.com

www.finaid.org

For college search info go to:



Try to Be Curious: A New Way to Navigate Life

As my boys (now almost 19 and 16 years old) grew up, one of their favorite shows was *Curious George*. This loveable little monkey was always getting into some kind of mischief or meeting new people simply because he was, you guessed it, **curious**. His inquisitive nature is reflective of that of a young toddler who navigates the world by touching and tasting everything, wandering up to strangers and waving hello, and meandering off without his or her parent to explore the environment around him/her. It is this curiosity that I love about this monkey and this age group because it lends the explorer the opportunity to discover and grow.

There is no denying the hardships that have accompanied this school year. Many of us are emotionally and physically depleted, looking forward to some rejuvenation over the summer. What might enhance this process of renewal is approaching life with a strong commitment to being curious.

Over the course of this summer, arrive at new experiences with an investigative eye and an open mind. In doing so, you might discover you have a love or passion for something you never knew existed. You might even discover something about yourself! Recently, my son introduced our family to disc golf (You have to try it!) In listening to him describe the game and its objective, I thought, "Wow! This sounds odd, but it sounds a lot better than regular golf; I'll give it a shot." We went to Fort Washington National Park

www.collegenavigator.gov

www.collegeprowler.com

To take a virtual tour of college campuses go to:

www.youniversitytv.com

To learn about Colleges That Change Lives go to:

www.ctcl.org

Keeping on Track:

Seniors: Congratulations!! You did it! We cannot wait to see what you do next!

Juniors: Congratulations to you as well! This was not an easy year, and you came through it relatively unscathed. Start to work on your college essays-we are here to help should you need it. Visit college campuses if the schools you are interested in are offering on-campus tours. Take some time to rest and rejuvenate your soul as you begin your summer break; you more than deserve it!

ACT: Here is the link for the latest ACT information:

<https://www.act.org/content/act/en/covid-19.html>

SAT: Here is the link for the latest SAT information:

<https://pages.collegeboard.org/sat-covid-19-updates>

****We are helping students with their college admissions essays and test prep now! Schedule your appointment today.**

Pay it Forward: Do you know someone who is struggling with the shift to virtual classroom learning?? Send them this newsletter or forward us their contact information. We want to help!

Contact Us

<http://www.Academic-Ally.com>

Hannah@Academic-Ally.com

610 647-3959 ext. 105

and had a lovely afternoon as a family, playing a brand-new game that none of us knew existed. We laughed-I must work on my frisbee-throwing skills- and relaxed against the backdrop of the suburban Pennsylvania woods. Had we not been curious, we would have never known how fun this game was-or that it even existed!

Curiosity can also be used to learn about a subject about which you know very little. I recently had the opportunity to work with some students on a paper about fascism and its rise during the post-World War I era. It was so exciting to uncover information I did not know and to have a deeper understanding of this time in our history.

Curiosity is also applicable to social interactions. It is human nature to feel uncomfortable when first meeting someone from a different culture, religion, race, or ethnicity. These feelings of discomfort can (and have led) lead to uprisings, violence, hate crimes, etc. But we can work curiosity to our advantage and use it as a conversation starter. First, exchange pleasantries. Then get into the details: "Can you tell me more about your beliefs or experience? What was that like for you? What are your hopes for the future? What are your goals now? What are your fears? What would you like others to know about you?" All of these questions can lead to interesting conversations. With these dialogues, we have the opportunity to bridge the gaps caused by differences and create environments that center on mutual respect and understanding.

Be curious this summer; step outside of your comfort zone. Like Curious George, you may not only learn about the world, but you may just discover something fascinating about yourself!
