

- ★ On the **following page (page #2)** you will write a **friendly letter to incoming 8th graders**.
The overall idea is to give them some information and advice that you wish you may have had when you started 8th grade.
- ★ Your letter should be:
 - Three to five paragraphs in length (5-8 sentences = 1 paragraph)
 - In standard 12 point font, In Arial or Times New Roman
 - Either single (1.0) or double spaced (2.0) "Line Spacing"
 - Either block paragraphs or indent paragraphs.
 - Basic rules of writing should be followed → sequencing and flow, complete sentences, correct: spelling, capitalization, grammar, punctuation
 - If these are not followed and impacts the reading of your letter points will be taken off or extra credit will not be awarded
- ★ Each paragraph should cover a different topic. Some topic ideas include:
 - What are some materials or resources that they will need or would be nice to have for Social Studies?
 - What will they be learning about in 8th grade Social Studies? Are there any topics in particular you think they could start researching over the summer?
 - What was your favorite learning topic or activity we did in Social Studies this year?
 - What types of things do you do in this Social Studies class? What can they expect to do each class or throughout the year?
 - What were some of the most important lessons and or skills you learned this year in Social Studies?
 - How can they be successful in Social Studies?
 - How can they avoid failure in Social Studies class?
 - What makes your teacher happy? How can you earn your teachers' respect?
 - What will make your teacher displeased? What could get you in trouble with your teacher?
 - If there is something you would do differently knowing what you know now? What would it be and why?
 - What will you miss about 8th grade Social Studies?
- ★ We plan on sharing these to our social studies class websites so the new 8th graders can see this advice over the summer and prepare for 8th grade early. Be creative and positive!

At the beginning of middle school social studies was always my least favorite class until I got to understand it. I liked it more than I first did. Once you start to understand the concept of social studies things can come easy to you. It won't be so hard to keep up with your classes and your grades. Along with all your other classes social studies can be just as easy if you put effort towards it. I know studying isn't the best thing in the world. I sure hate it, however to succeed you need to put forth work and if you study and perform well in class or on tests then you will succeed.

Studying outside of school can be boring and you do not want to do it and you can just not care but if you put all the effort towards your school work you will succeed and you will do good in school and you'll get good grades if you just try. Studying isn't all that bad when you understand the concept and if you don't that what studying is for, to help you understand and to help you do better.

Social studies isn't all that hard when you get an understanding of how the class works you have to learn to respect the teacher and work by their rules. If you don't respect your teacher and do what they're asking you to do you will not succeed far in social studies. If you learn to commit to your studies you'll most likely succeed, it may not be the best thing and you don't have to be interested in the topic you could not care about but you can try and try to do good for yourself and live up to your full potential and more.

In social studies I liked when we did either personal or partner work and you could choose if you wanted to work with someone or if you wanted to go solo. If some days you felt not confident in your work you could just go in a group and talk about it with your partner. If you stay on task in school you will do good i promise.

In social studies you may not care about anything you are learning but you can learn alot of life skills and help you not make major mistakes like people in our past. The reason we learn history is because we don't want to make the same mistakes we made before. We live and we learn from them. See that's a life lesson right there that I learned from paying a little bit attention in class. In the long run everything you put towards school pays off.