Tinkertown Project Home Extensions

Social Studies

* Map your neighborhood: Take a walk around your neighborhood and have the child practice using positional and directional language (left, right, above, below etc) to describe the sturctures/ roads/ parks. Have the child sketch a map of the neighborhood after the walk. You can expand this to be a research project by looking up maps of the area and have your child do a compare/ contrast of the difference between his/her map and other maps. Another way to take this is to look up maps and pictures of what your neighborhood used to look like and compare to present day. Research why the changes happen.
* Study the LA river (what it is used for, how it has changed, what affect it had on the layour of Los Angeles). Go on a tour.
* Study an older civilization and its proximity/ use of water. Build a model of the city.
* Travel LA using the metro, see where you can and can’t get to, map your route
* Explore the role that agriculture, transportation, or industrialization plays on the original development of cities
* Explore archeology and its role in uncovering cities and the lives that the people in that city led

Science

* Visit a water treatment plant
* Have the student pick two different structures in your neighborhood. Have them observe/ research to figure out a list of materials that each one is made of. Explore why different materials would be used for different structures (purpose, cost etc).
* Let your child take apart an old appliance. You will need to do a bit of research first to make sure there is nothing dangerous inside of the appliance. After they have had fun taking it apart, have them see if any of the parts use a principle of physics that they have learned about (push, pull, friction etc). Draw a diagram of how different parts use these principles.
* Experiment with building simple electrical circuits.

<http://www.explainthatstuff.com/electricity.html>

<http://sciencewithkids.com/Experiments/Energy-Electricity-Experiments/Circuit-switch-light.html>

* Study magnetism, sound, or light as these three areas of physical science will not be covered deeply in class.
* -Build vehicles or contraptions that move/ float/ push

Have the students present them to the class and explain how they move, what physics principles are at work.

Reading

* Create a word wall of city related words. Let your child draw images of the words to go next to the word.

Writing

* Have the student write up interview questions for a profession that is vital to a city (waste management, city electrician, city council member). Have them interview the person (could even be over the phone) and record the answers. Have them write up what they learned about the profession and present to the class at morning meeting.

Math

* Geometry: study 2D and 3D shapes. Create a geometry dictionary filled with all of the shapes they see around their neighborhood, and the properties of those shapes.
* Practice measuring things precisely. Build something (out of any material) that requires accurate measurement for success
* Explore scale. This is a topic that we will be covering in class, but it is a complicated one. The model of a city that we are building is going to be relatively to scale.

https://www.mathsisfun.com/definitions/scale-drawing.html