



#gtchat May 13, 2011 Noon



jofrei RT @katspeil: May 28: GT Childrens Association of SA holding Da Vinci tour of
11:55 am Exhibition + workshops: www.gtcasa.asn.au #gtchat



DeborahMersino Welcome to #gtchat! Our topic now: "Five Inexpensive Summer Activities/
12:00 pm Adventures for #Gifted." Have/need ideas? Join us! #parenting #gtchat



DeborahMersino Please take a moment to introduce yourselves, your role (parent, educator,
12:00 pm advocate, other) & share where you reside! Thank you. #gtchat



DeborahMersino I'm Deborah Mersino, moderator of #gtchat, wife/mom to 2 girls, social media
12:01 pm trainer/consultant to gifted communities, living in CO! #gtchat



Susannewith3 Susanne, mom to 4, homeschooler in NC, 8, 7, 3, and 1 yr olds, the 8 and 7 are
12:01 pm both gifted. :) Very much need summer ideas!! #gtchat



jofrei Hi Jo Freitag from Gifted Resources in Melbourne Australia having 2.00 am Sat
12:01 pm 14th wintery Autumn weather here #gtchat



ljconrad Hello for Pittsburgh where the sun is trying to shine! Gifted parent, advocate,
12:02 pm and blogger dreaming of the perfect job! ;) #gtchat

cybraryman1 Twitterbrarian now in Florida where it is summer all year long! #gtchat Sorry Jo
12:02 pm



laughingatchaos I'm Jen in CO, eventually IL. Mom to 2 2e boys. Writer/blogger/advocate.
12:02 pm #gtchat



DeborahMersino @LorelShea - Don't forget to add #gtchat hashtag so we can all see your
12:02 pm tweets. Happy you're here!



DazzlId Hi everyone, Karen here in Dublin, Ireland. It's been a while since I've had a
12:03 pm Friday evening free, glad to be back! #gtchat



DeborahMersino Welcome Pennsylvania, Colorado, Florida, Australia, North Carolina! Happy to
12:03 pm see you all. #gtchat



DeborahMersino I've got five ideas/activities I'd like to share...then we'll open it up to
12:03 pm suggestions. Sound good? #gtchat



DeborahMersino So good to see you Ireland! #gtchat
12:03 pm

cybraryman1 @DazzlId So nice to have you here again. #gtchat
12:03 pm



ljconrad Hi Jo, Jerry, Jen, Susanne, Karen & Deborah! #gtchat
12:03 pm



jofrei @DazzlId Great to see you again! #gtchat
12:03 pm



GaryBrannigan Child Psychologist in upstate New York interested in maximizing potential in all children #gtchat
12:04 pm



DeborahMersino Activity 1: Geocaching! I first learned of this from @HoagiesGifted, but have yet to try it. It's free and gifted kids LOVE it. #gtchat
12:04 pm



Susannewith3 @ljconrad Hi! :) #gtchat
12:04 pm



DeborahMersino Here's an article from Hoagies on "Geocaching 101: How to find your first cache" <http://bit.ly/la3wIB> #gtchat
12:04 pm



Susannewith3 : #gtchat
12:04 pm



Susannewith3 Activity #gtchat
12:04 pm



DeborahMersino Welcome New York! #gtchat
12:04 pm



Susannewith3 Activity 1: #gtchat
12:05 pm



Susannewith3 ugh. #gtchat
12:05 pm



Susannewith3 ugh. #gtchat
12:05 pm



ljconrad Hi, Lore! There you are! #gtchat
12:05 pm



DeborahMersino Q1: Has anyone here tried geocaching? #gtchat
12:05 pm

cybraryman1 For Q1 My Geocaching (Letterboxing, Orienteering) page: <http://tinyurl.com/48uac2a> #gtchat
12:05 pm



jofrei @DeborahMersino Activity 1: Geocaching! haven't tried it myself yet but have gifted friends who really love it! #gtchat
12:06 pm



2girlsandpoodle RT @DeborahMersino: Welcome to #gtchat! Our topic now: "Five Inexpensive Summer Activities/Adventures for #Gifted." Have/need ideas? Join us! #parenting #gtchat
12:06 pm



Susannewith3 sorry, dani was 'helping' :(I'm wondering how geocaching works here in the south, we have heat advisories most summer days :P #gtchat
12:06 pm



DeborahMersino Geocaching can be done as a family, gets kids outdoors, can be done all across world (I believe). Sounds intriguing. #gtchat
12:06 pm



DazzlId @DeborahMersino Haven't tried geocaching but it sounds like great fun....on the list now! #gtchat
12:06 pm



laughingatchaos Q1: Never gone geocaching or letterboxing, but have heard great things about it. Will need to do that this summer. #gtchat
12:06 pm



DeborahMersino RT @cybraryman1: For Q1 My Geocaching (Letterboxing, Orienteering) page:
12:07 pm <http://tinyurl.com/48uac2a> <=a page for everything. TY! #gtchat



DeborahMersino @Susannewith3 Didn't think about the heat advisories. Suppose it might be
12:07 pm difficult in evening/perhaps early morning? #gtchat



laughingatchaos RT @cybraryman1: For Q1 My Geocaching (Letterboxing, Orienteering) page:
12:07 pm <http://tinyurl.com/48uac2a> #gtchat



DeborahMersino Regarding geocaching, what appeals to me is the hide-and-seek aspect, family
12:08 pm time, adventure, potential goal-setting, etc. #gtchat



laughingatchaos @DeborahMersino I like that it's free. ;) #gtchat
12:08 pm



jofrei @cybraryman1 What is Letterboxing in US? In Aus it is knocking letterboxes off
12:09 pm their stand! #gtchat



Susannewith3 @DeborahMersino yeah, early morning would have to be it, which is fine since
12:09 pm my kids are up at 6:30 (sighhhhh) #gtchat



DeborahMersino Also, geocaching can help computer-addicted kids outside/while allowing them
12:09 pm to look up sites online. Positives all around. #gtchat



2girlsandpoodle #gtchat I'm Joanne- mom&teacher to 2 girls (1 highly abled the school is
12:09 pm reluctant to ID) from Vancouver island, Canada



DeborahMersino RT @jofrei: @cybraryman1 What is Letterboxing in US? In Aus it is knocking
12:09 pm letterboxes off their stand! <great ? I don't know either #gtchat



ljconrad @cybraryman1 btw, I go to one of your pages and there goes the rest of my
12:09 pm day! I could geocache on your site! #gtchat



DeborahMersino @2girlsandpoodle Welcome Vancouver! Happy to have you with us! #gtchat
12:10 pm



laughingatchaos @2girlsandpoodle Ahhh...I love Vancouver Island. :) #gtchat
12:10 pm

cybraryman1 @jofrei It is treasure hunting. See links on my Geocaching page:
12:10 pm <http://tinyurl.com/48uac2a> #gtchat



ljconrad *geocache #gtchat
12:10 pm



LorelShea #gtchat National Parks have great jr. ranger programs for kids. Fun to do when
12:10 pm traveling, or as staycation activity.



DeborahMersino @cybraryman1 - Thank you for sharing about letterboxing. Will definitely check
12:11 pm it out. #gtchat



laughingatchaos RT @LorelShea: #gtchat National Parks have great jr. ranger programs for
12:11 pm kids. Fun to do when traveling, or as staycation activity. #gtchat



DeborahMersino @LorelShea beat me to the punch! Guess what Activity #2 is?! :-) #gtchat
12:11 pm

HoagiesGifted Hi all, sorry I'm late #gtchat
12:11 pm



DeborahMersino Activity #2: National Park Services' Junior Ranger Programs! #gtchat
12:11 pm



jofrei @cybraryman1 Thanks I did not think it would mean vandalism as it does here!
12:11 pm Lol! #gtchat

HoagiesGifted Did someone mention www.hoagiesgifted.org/geocaching.htm ? #gtchat
12:12 pm



DeborahMersino Activity #2: Here's a link to Junior Rangers: <http://www.nps.gov/learn/juniorranger.cfm> #gtchat
12:12 pm



LorelShea #gtchat Sorry to steal your thunder, Deb!
12:12 pm

HoagiesGifted And www.hoagiesgifted.org/geocaching101.htm for detailed instructions #gtchat
12:12 pm



2girlsandpoodle @laughingatchaos @DeborahMersino #gtchat :)
12:12 pm



DeborahMersino @HoagiesGifted Hi!! Yes, we did. Thank you so much. Everyone seems excited
12:12 pm to try it out! You're an inspiration. #gtchat

HoagiesGifted I'm working on Geocaching 102 for advanced users, but it's not up yet... #gtchat
12:13 pm



DeborahMersino RT @LorelShea: #gtchat Sorry to steal your thunder, Deb! <= No worries!
12:13 pm @GiftedHF actually suggested it, so she gets credit too! ;-) #gtchat

cybraryman1 @HoagiesGifted I have it on my Geocaching page: <http://tinyurl.com/48uac2a>
12:13 pm #gtchat



Susannewith3 we love our national and local parks! we like to spend all day at them in spring
12:13 pm and fall #gtchat

HoagiesGifted We've not only gotten computer-addicted family members outdoors, we've
12:14 pm found historic monuments, parks, and all sorts of things! #gtchat



DeborahMersino Activity #2: In addition to the Junior Rangers program, national park services
12:14 pm are filled w/ possibilities: <http://1.usa.gov/kGkkoe> #gtchat



laughingatchaos 2:My sons have done the jr ranger program at Rocky Mtn Nat Park and loved it.
12:14 pm Will try again this summer. #gtchat

cybraryman1 #2 Our local nature center has summer activities for children. Similar to park
12:14 pm service #gtchat



LorelShea #gtchat I love seeing so many friends here! (waves to crowd!)
12:14 pm

HoagiesGifted @Susannewith3 State & local parks likely have "real" geocaches/letterboxes
12:14 pm but national parks only have "virtual" caches-still fun! #gtchat



DeborahMersino Activity #2 re National Parks: Trails, drives, nature, picnics, photography (kids!),
12:15 pm videotaping (kids!), journals, research & more! #gtchat



DeborahMersino RT @laughingatchaos: 2:My sons have done the jr ranger program at Rocky
12:15 pm Mtn Nat Park and loved it. Will try again this summer.<cool! #gtchat



2girlsandpoodle #gtchat letterboxing looks fun, can't wait to learn more about it! Thanks for
12:15 pm sharing that suggestion



jofrei @LorelShea Hi there (waving back from Aus) #gtchat
12:15 pm

cybraryman1 RT @DeborahMersino: #2 re National Parks: Trails, drives, nature, picnics,
12:15 pm photography (kids!), videotaping, journals, research .. #gtchat



DeborahMersino @HoagiesGifted @Susannewith3 Good to know about the "virtual caches" at
12:15 pm National parks. Still have much to learn about geocaching! #gtchat



laughingatchaos Lots of geocaching apps on the iTunes app store. #gtchat
12:16 pm



Susannewith3 @HoagiesGifted hmmm, we have more local ones and i wonder if my
12:16 pm homeschool group would want to do a group geocache... #gtchat



Lauren_Learning End the school year strong: tips for teachers <http://t.co/faUy5EG> #4thchat
12:16 pm #eltchat #ntchat #gtchat



DeborahMersino Activity #2 - National Parks Tip: Plan ahead, let kids look up online the types of
12:16 pm plants, animals, geology, landscape they'll see. #gtchat

HoagiesGifted @laughingatchaos we use a Droid app for caching. the free c:geo app is better
12:17 pm than the \$ one for now, IMHO #gtchat



DeborahMersino Activity #2 - Tip continued: Remember to tap into curious minds...allow them to
12:17 pm share what they're most interested in exploring! #gtchat



ljconrad @HoagiesGifted Was just going to ask about a Droid app! Thanks! :) #gtchat
12:18 pm



DeborahMersino Before we move onto Activity #3, anything else u want 2 share about Activity #1
12:19 pm (Geocaching) and #2 (National Parks/Junior Rangers)? #gtchat



Wkingbg TeachMeet Nashville -Attend, Present, Collaborate June 7-8
12:19 pm <http://tmnash.wikispaces.com>
#gtchat#ntchat#smchat#curriculum#flipclass#elearning



ljconrad Don't forget national monuments and state parks (US) as well. #gtchat
12:19 pm



DeborahMersino @HoagiesGifted - I have a question. What DO you need to have in order to
12:19 pm geocache? A phone app, a tool, what's essential? #gtchat



DeborahMersino RT @ljconrad: Dont forget national monuments and state parks (US) as well.
12:20 pm <=Great point re Activity #2. Absolutely! #gtchat



Dazzlld @HoagiesGifted Thanks, just downloaded that now! #gtchat
12:20 pm



KateArmsRoberts Waving as I check in. I look forward to checking out the transcript in detail later.
12:21 pm Kate from TO. #gtchat



DeborahMersino One more tip re both #1 & #2: Bring picnics to save \$ on food expenditures.
12:21 pm Allow kids to help plan meal/s. #gtchat



DeborahMersino @KateArmsRoberts {Waving back!} Good to see you! #gtchat
12:21 pm

cybraryman1 @DeborahMersino Also have children map the trip and other sites to see on the way #gtchat
12:21 pm



Susannewith3 sigh, i have to bow out, baby is making this impossible. #gtchat
12:22 pm



DeborahMersino RT @cybraryman1: @DeborahMersino Also have children map the trip and other sites to see on the way <=excellent suggestion! #gtchat
12:22 pm



DeborahMersino RT @Susannewith3: sigh, i have to bow out, baby is making this impossible.<=completely understand. I'll post transcript! #gtchat
12:22 pm

GiftedHF Q2 #gtchat Junior ranger program includes history, poli sci, and more. Also state parks have similar program.
12:22 pm



DeborahMersino I'll move on to #3. Feel free to keep making suggestions/asking ? regarding #1 and #2. #gtchat
12:23 pm



DeborahMersino RT @GiftedHF: Q2 #gtchat Junior ranger program includes history, poli sci, and more. Also state parks have similar program.<-TY! #gtchat
12:23 pm



DazzlId @DeborahMersino Absolutely with you on the picnic idea...that can be a whole activity in itself in planning and cooking #gtchat
12:23 pm



DeborahMersino @GiftedHF I'm really glad you suggested this. I think it looks intriguing and I didn't know about it before. Happy you're here! #gtchat
12:23 pm



DeborahMersino Activity #3: Summer Programs/Camps for Gifted. Now, hold up...I know you're thinking \$\$\$\$ #gtchat
12:24 pm



DeborahMersino Re Activity #3: Summer Programs/Camps for Gifted. Likely 2 late for this year, but scholarships ARE available for many programs! #gtchat
12:25 pm



DeborahMersino Re Activity #3: If you research/look early enough, you may be able to offer your son/daughter/neighbor/student a powerful experience #gtchat
12:25 pm



DeborahMersino Re Activity #3: Here's @HoagiesGifted 's list of Summer Programs/Camps: <http://bit.ly/auoAoQ> #gtchat
12:26 pm



halleyrebecca @DeborahMersino we do week-long camps by @SeaburySchool teachers at \$240/week. #gtchat
12:26 pm

HoagiesGifted @Susannewith3 around here, hs groups not only find caches, but also places caches! #gtchat
12:27 pm



DeborahMersino @2girlsandpoodle @cybraryman1 - Absolutely - habitats, animals, etc. Bring camera/videocamera/journal - document observations! #gtchat
12:27 pm



ljconrad Q3: Consider joining museums, sci ctrs, & zoos and summer camps enjoy reduced fees. A year of activities for not a lot of \$\$ #gtchat
12:27 pm

cybraryman1 #3 We sent our son to Science Camp at Springfield College (MA) one summer. Trips to Woods Hole etc. #gtchat
12:27 pm



LisaDSB Argh! Forgot the hashtag #gtchat. "A quick hello to the GT Chatters - I'm in the middle of making pizza lunch but will read up on ur ideas.
12:27 pm



DeborahMersino Re Activity #3 - Summer Camps/Programs for Gifted, I just learned IEA gives out \$1 million in scholarships every year! #gtchat
12:28 pm

GiftedHF RT **@cybraryman1** Also have children map the trip and other sites to see on the way #gtchat Making pit stops at out of way places is fun.
12:28 pm



LisaDSB #gtchat My kids have enjoyed Engineering and other subject-specific camps at the local university.
12:28 pm

HoagiesGifted DeborahMersino Deborah Mersino Re:#3 **@HoagiesGifted's** list of Summer Programs/Camps <http://bit.ly/auoAoQ> #gtchat Thanks **@DeborahMersino**
12:28 pm



LorelShea #gtchat free camps can be very competitive but well worth application process
12:28 pm



laughingatchaos RT **@DeborahMersino**: Re Activity #3-Summer Camps/Programs for Gifted, I just learned IEA gives out \$1 mil in scholarships every year! #gtchat
12:29 pm

cybraryman1 **@GiftedHF** Habitats & animals to see was also suggested by **@2girlsandpoodle** #gtchat
12:29 pm



KateArmsRoberts Q3: We have had good luck with day camps run by the town where DS has been just old enough to attend. #gtchat
12:29 pm



DeborahMersino Re **@IEAGifted**: Here's an overview of Yunasa w/ Piechowski, Gatto Walden, Tolan and Jones! <http://bit.ly/lr9wQ> #gtchat
12:29 pm

HoagiesGifted There's a national network of aquariums... join one, visit in other cities for free!
12:29 pm #gtchat



DeborahMersino RT **@LisaDSB**: #gtchat My kids have enjoyed Engineering and other subject-specific camps at the local university. <=excellent! #gtchat
12:29 pm

GiftedHF #gtchat another idea: themed road trips. We did Little House on Prairie trip several yrs ago, had a blast! History, science, good context.
12:30 pm



DeborahMersino Re Activity #3 Summer Camps for Gifted, the earlier you apply for scholarships, the better your chances. Plan now for next summer! #gtchat
12:30 pm



DeborahMersino RT **@GiftedHF**: another idea: themed road trips. We did Little House on Prairie trip several yrs ago, had a blast! <=love this! #gtchat
12:30 pm



jofrei Q3 In Aus School Holiday Camps Programs www.auscamps.asn.au/holidaycamps.asp #gtchat
12:31 pm



DeborahMersino RT **@HoagiesGifted**: There's a national network of aquariums... join one, visit in other cities for free! #gtchat
12:31 pm



DeborahMersino Okay, here's #4: Volunteering! #gtchat
12:31 pm

GiftedHF RT **@ljconrad** Q3: Consider joining museums, sci ctrs, etc #gtchat Many have membership reciprocation
12:31 pm



laughingatchaos **@HoagiesGifted** Lots of museums have reciprocity. DMNS in Denver has it w/several; we've used our memb. in Chicago often. #gtchat
12:31 pm



LesLinks Hi folks, checkin in a little late... Les in Ireland here... Mom and advocate... Helooo #gtchat [Like it? <http://goo.gl/lw6P>]
12:31 pm



DeborahMersino Re Activity #4: Having a routine can be helpful. Working to find volunteer opps related to gifted kids' passion areas can b powerful #gtchat
12:32 pm



DeborahMersino @LesLinks Welcome Les! #gtchat

12:32 pm

cybraryman1 Many public libraries issue Free Library Passes to Museums, Zoos and Gardens #gtchat

12:32 pm



jofrei RT @ljconrad Q3: Consider joining museums, sci ctrs, etc Many have membership reciprocation <= Great! #gtchat

12:32 pm



ljconrad @LesLinks Hi, Les! Costume maker extraordinaire! #gtchat

12:32 pm



2girlsandpoodle RT @GiftedHF: #gtchat another idea: themed road trips. >> that sounds super fun.

12:32 pm



DeborahMersino Activity #4: Volunteering/mentoring. Might surprise u how allowing gifted learner to explore passion area/give can make huge impact! #gtchat

12:33 pm



LesLinks A good season to join Scout groups... inexpensive, and the benefits from skills learned.. will well outlive the investment.. #gtchat

12:33 pm

cybraryman1 RT @GiftedHF: RT @ljconrad Q3: Consider joining museums, sci ctrs, etc #gtchat Many have membership reciprocation Great program I have done

12:33 pm

cybraryman1 @LesLinks Always nice to see you #gtchat

12:33 pm



LorelShea #gtchat Last yr my son did Free STEM Camp at US Naval Academy. He enjoyed mtg kids from all over country and seeing USNA science facility.

12:34 pm

GiftedHF RT @DeborahMersino Okay, here's #4: Volunteering! #gtchat Yes! Wildlife rehab, animal shelters, nature programs have been fun for us.

12:34 pm



LesLinks @ljconrad @LesLinks Ya ... how to make a 'Villians' hooded cape in one afternoon.. ;-D #gtchat

12:34 pm



DeborahMersino Activity #4: Volunteering - Consider local Humane Society, Retirement Homes (reading to adults), Horse farms, even Summer Gifted Pr. #gtchat

12:34 pm



jofrei Some animal shelters have volunteer training programs in holidays #gtchat

12:34 pm



LesLinks You too my friend.... #gtchat

12:34 pm



DeborahMersino Re Activity #4: Older kids can volunteer (sometimes get paid) at programs like Camp Invention. Gives younger kids great mentors!! #gtchat

12:34 pm



ljconrad We incorporated gifted opportunities/passions into every family vacation. Paid double dividends. Affected career paths. :) #gtchat

12:35 pm



2girlsandpoodle #gtchat RT @DeborahMersino: Okay, here's #4: Volunteering! >> my 9yo wants to volunteer at SPCA but she's too young (they say 16)

12:35 pm



DeborahMersino I have one more activity to share and then we'll open it up for additional suggestions! You all have some excellent ideas! #gtchat

12:35 pm



DeborahMersino @ljconrad Can you share more? Sounds wonderful. #gtchat

12:35 pm

cybraryman1 #4 My Volunteering page: <http://tinyurl.com/3kkb98v> #gtchat
12:36 pm



DeborahMersino Activity #5: Super Saturdays or Super Wednesdays - Credit goes to Dr. George Betts for this idea. #gtchat
12:36 pm



jofrei RT @cybraryman1: #4 My Volunteering page: <http://tinyurl.com/3kkb98v>
12:36 pm #gtchat



DeborahMersino RT @cybraryman1: #4 My Volunteering page: <http://tinyurl.com/3kkb98v> <=TY!
12:36 pm #gtchat



DeborahMersino @2girlsandpoodle Unfortunately, it happens. #gtchat
12:36 pm



laughingatchaos @2girlsandpoodle Our humane society will let kids volunteer if their parents do it w/them. Possibility? #gtchat
12:36 pm

cybraryman1 @DeborahMersino Many organizations don't let young children volunteer. Most 16 yr old #gtchat
12:37 pm



KateArmsRoberts RT @cybraryman1: #4 My Volunteering page: <http://tinyurl.com/3kkb98v>
12:37 pm #gtchat



DeborahMersino Activity #5: Allow each family member to "plan" their Super Day one day during the summer. They set agenda, route, meals, etc. #gtchat
12:37 pm



LesLinks Buy city map. Drive to city, park. Put map in handbag. Take kids 4 long & winding walk (get lost). Give map to kids. Find way back. #gtchat
12:37 pm



laughingatchaos RT @cybraryman1: #4 My Volunteering page: <http://tinyurl.com/3kkb98v>
12:37 pm #gtchat



laughingatchaos RT @DeborahMersino: Activity #5: Super Saturdays or Super Wednesdays - Credit goes to Dr. George Betts for this idea. #gtchat
12:37 pm

GiftedHF RT @2girlsandpoodle #gtchat my 9yo wants to vol. at SPCA but she's too young (they say 16) // they will usually allow if adult vols, too
12:37 pm



DeborahMersino Activity #5: A certain \$ allocation can be given no \$ or \$20, \$40...whatever you're family is comfortable with. #gtchat
12:38 pm



laughingatchaos RT @DeborahMersino: Activity #5: Each family member to "plan" their Super Day during the summer. They set agenda, route, meals, etc. #gtchat
12:38 pm



LesLinks Geo caching.. #gtchat [Like it? <http://goo.gl/YJRgL>]
12:38 pm



2girlsandpoodle @laughingatchaos oh I wonder?! She would love it, to do together. I will look into that. Thx! #gtchat
12:38 pm



ljconrad Ex - Dinosaur Nat'l Monument in CO/ dinosaur tracks in Texas = dd looking to work in museum mgmnt. Wall Street = finance for ds #gtchat
12:38 pm



DazzlId @DeborahMersino @2girlsandpoodle Yes, we have child protection guidelines here in Ireland that can restrict volunteer ops for kids #gtchat
12:38 pm



DeborahMersino Activity #5: Super Days - Set guidelines (must be home by this time, must be legal :-)), but give child/teen free reign. #gtchat
12:38 pm



laughingtchaos @LesLinks Ooh! We'll do that in Chicago! The boys can learn the city that way!
12:39 pm Within safety reason...LOL #gtchat

cybraryman1 @LesLinks I see you are catching up! My Geocaching page: <http://tinyurl.com/48uac2a> #gtchat



DeborahMersino Have heard incredible reviews of Super Days! Can't wait to try with my family
12:39 pm this summer. #gtchat



laughingtchaos @2girlsandpoodle Something I may consider w/my own boys. They'd love it,
12:39 pm esp. the youngest. #gtchat



DeborahMersino @ljconrad - that is so inspiring! Thank you for sharing. :-) #gtchat
12:39 pm



laughingtchaos @DeborahMersino Can you write post detailing Super Days? I'd like more
12:40 pm detail... :) #gtchat



jofrei Some cities have history walking trails and can do brass rubbings etc. #gtchat
12:40 pm

cybraryman1 Important to model volunteering and community service to your children. Proud
12:40 pm of my children for being community minded now #gtchat



DeborahMersino Okay - we've got about 20 minutes remaining. Feel free to share addition
12:40 pm inexpensive summer activities/ideas for gifted & tips! #gtchat



ljconrad Gifted parent groups can organize Super Saturdays! Inexpensive and kids love.
12:40 pm Chess tournaments, etc. #gtchat



DeborahMersino @laughingtchaos Yes, I will. I'll even ask George to help! #gtchat
12:40 pm

cybraryman1 Our Exploration and Entertainment Weekends <http://tinyurl.com/3c9j6qr> #gtchat
12:41 pm



LesLinks Museum scavenger hunts... plan out a number of museums on a map. Have a
12:41 pm list of items 2 b found. Visit all museums in 1 day to find #gtchat



2girlsandpoodle #gtchat activity #5 >> love this idea. Yes, a budget would be a must, lol.
12:41 pm



DeborahMersino Re Activity #5, I know I want to do this (& think kids will love) - know I'll have to
12:41 pm let go of "control" tho...could be tricky! ;-) #gtchat



laughingtchaos @DeborahMersino Wonderful, thanks! #gtchat
12:41 pm



DeborahMersino RT @ljconrad: Gifted parent groups can organize Super Saturdays!
12:41 pm Inexpensive and kids love. Chess tournaments, etc. #gtchat

cybraryman1 @LesLinks Good idea. Some museums have scavenger hunts for their visitors
12:41 pm #gtchat



ljconrad @laughingtchaos I'll send you some links later today. These are big in PA!
12:42 pm #gtchat



jofrei RT @ljconrad: Gifted parent groups can organize Super Saturdays!
12:42 pm Inexpensive and kids love. Chess tournaments, etc. #gtchat



DeborahMersino Tip: Plan activities ahead. Get them in the calendar. Easy to have summer slip away... #gtchat
12:42 pm



laughingatchaos @ljconrad Thanks! Trying to find stuff that isn't locked in location and super-cheap #gtchat
12:42 pm



laughingatchaos RT @DeborahMersino: Tip: Plan activities ahead. Get them in the calendar. Easy to have summer slip away... #gtchat
12:42 pm



DeborahMersino Tip: Remember how quickly summer goes by. Set a goal - 4 or 5 (or more) family activities. Have kids research/participate in advance #gtchat
12:43 pm



ljconrad Always involve kids in planning! It should be their passions ... not yours. ;) #gtchat
12:43 pm



DeborahMersino Tip: Limit TV/computer/gaming time to 1-2 hours a day (if possible). #gtchat
12:43 pm



Dazzlld In Ireland we need to have (a lot of) rainy day activity ideas on hand...I have done "cooking school" to teach my lot how to cook #gtchat
12:43 pm



KateArmsRoberts So true. RT @DeborahMersino: Tip: Plan activities ahead. Get them in the calendar. Easy to have summer slip away... #gtchat
12:43 pm



laughingatchaos RT @ljconrad: Always involve kids in planning! It should be their passions ... not yours. ;) #gtchat
12:44 pm



DeborahMersino Tips: Schedule play dates, have a schedule for getting kids together w/peers (so important). #gtchat
12:44 pm



LorelShea RT @ljconrad: Always involve kids in planning! It should be their passions ... not yours. ;) #gtchat
12:44 pm



laughingatchaos @Dazzlld What kind of rainy day activities? It can get really hot in CO, humid in IL, need indoor plans too. #gtchat
12:44 pm



jofrei RT @ljconrad: Always involve kids in planning! It should be their passions ... not yours. ;) #gtchat
12:44 pm



LorelShea @ljconrad #gtchat very important distinction, Lisa!
12:44 pm



ljconrad @Dazzlld :) teaching life skills! Love it! #gtchat
12:45 pm



ljconrad @Dazzlld :) teaching life skills! Love it! #gtchat
12:45 pm



DeborahMersino Tip: Allow for messes. Simply set boundaries (time allocated, when mess must be cleaned up, what's off limits). #creativity #reigns #gtchat
12:45 pm



DeborahMersino RT @laughingatchaos: @Dazzlld What kind of rainy day activities? It can get really hot in CO, humid in IL, need indoor plans too. #gtchat
12:45 pm



DeborahMersino RT @LorelShea: @ljconrad #gtchat very important distinction, Lisa! <=agree
12:45 pm wholeheartedly! #gtchat



laughingatchaos I like FAC: Friday Afternoon Cocktails. Kids play, moms enjoy each other's company, husbands join after work for BBQ. Awesome. #gtchat
12:45 pm



laughingatchaos RT @DeborahMersino: Tip: Allow for messes. Simply set boundaries (time allocated, when mess must be cleaned up, what's off limits). #gtchat

12:45 pm

cybraryman1 My Field Trip page (have children plan the trip): <http://tinyurl.com/4ngfjkk> #gtchat

12:45 pm



LisaDSB RT @DeborahMersino: Tip: Plan activities ahead. Get them in the calendar.

12:46 pm Easy to have summer slip away... #gtchat



DeborahMersino Here's a rainy day exploration site re to museums: <http://www.coudal.com/moom/>.

12:46 pm Haven't explored thoroughly, but could be neat. #gtchat



Dazzlld With younger ones it's helpful to build in writing activities; postcards, letters to

12:46 pm granny, diary, stories etc #gtchat

cybraryman1 RT @Dazzlld: With younger ones it's helpful to build in writing activities;

12:46 pm postcards, letters to granny, diary, stories etc #gtchat



laughingatchaos RT @cybraryman1: My Field Trip page (have children plan the trip):

12:46 pm <http://tinyurl.com/4ngfjkk> #gtchat



laughingatchaos RT @DeborahMersino: Heres a rainy day exploration site re to museums:

12:47 pm <http://www.coudal.com/moom/>. #gtchat



jofrei RT @DeborahMersino: Heres a rainy day exploration site re to museums:

12:47 pm <http://www.coudal.com/moom/> #gtchat



laughingatchaos RT @Dazzlld: With younger ones its helpful to build in writing activities;

12:47 pm postcards, letters to granny, diary, stories etc #gtchat



DeborahMersino Tip: Downtime allows for creativity to present itself. Unscheduled days are

12:47 pm essential too. #gtchat



Dazzlld @laughingatchaos FAC...sign me up....@Frazzlld too I'd say!! #gtchat

12:47 pm



DeborahMersino Tip: What will you create today? Ask this question early in the day...see what

12:48 pm they come up with...a book, a song, a game, a robot. #gtchat



ljconrad Don't forget simple pleasures ... swimming, hiking, chatting ... all can be

12:48 pm developed into gifted activities! Kids need exercise 2! #gtchat



laughingatchaos RT @DeborahMersino: Tip: Downtime allows for creativity to present itself.

12:48 pm Unscheduled days are essential too. #gtchat

flocabulary @cybraryman1 If your kids like to write, you can challenge them to write a novel

12:48 pm this summer with Camp @NaNoWriMo <http://ow.ly/4U3Lh> #gtchat



ginarau @deborahmersino @ljconrad What are Super Saturdays? I'd love to learn

12:48 pm more...how can I? #gtchat



DeborahMersino TIP: If you're fortunate to have gifted specialist/teacher in school, ask for ideas.

12:48 pm #gtchat



klyoho For the winter break we created a jar with slips of paper for all sorts of pursuits

12:48 pm from mundane to magical. It was our Jingle Jar! #gtchat



laughingatchaos @Dazzlld @Frazzlld FACs are fantastic for the soul. LOL #gtchat

12:48 pm



laughingatchaos RT @ljconrad: Dont forget simple pleasures ... swimming, hiking, chatting ... all
12:49 pm can be developed into gifted activities! #gtchat



jofrei @DeborahMersino Unscheduled days are essential too.<=> And plenty of
12:49 pm reading time and visits to library! #gtchat



DeborahMersino Tip: Some schools allow free summer access to programs like @EPGY (Math,
12:49 pm Language Arts). #gtchat



laughingatchaos RT @DeborahMersino: Tip: What will you create today? Ask this question early
12:49 pm in the day...see what they come up with<=>LOVE THIS #gtchat



2girlsandpoodle #gtchat thanks all - have to go to try to catch sight of my girl in long jump at
12:49 pm school track and field meet!



LorelShea #gtchat drat! keep forgetting the hash tag. My kids plan to make flip videos
12:49 pm w/friends this summer. Great activity for mult ages/genders.



DeborahMersino RT @ginarau: @deborahmersino @ljconrad What are Super Saturdays? Id
12:49 pm love to learn more...how can I?<I'll blog soon! #gtchat



LesLinks Photography.... there are so many activities that can be planned around a
12:50 pm digital camera or two.. now that no development costs... #gtchat



laughingatchaos RT @flocabulary:If your kids like to write, challenge them to write a novel this
12:50 pm summer with Camp @NaNoWriMo <http://ow.ly/4U3Lh> #gtchat



DeborahMersino In brief though, Super Saturdays or Super Days are days when kid/teen sets
12:50 pm the schedule/plan/route/activity for entire day. #gtchat



LisaDSB RT @cybraryman1: My Field Trip page (have children plan the trip):
12:50 pm <http://tinyurl.com/4ngfjjk> #gtchat



ljconrad @LorelShea Tweetchat! :) #gtchat
12:50 pm



DeborahMersino @LorelShea Love the idea of Flip Videos! Excellent. #gtchat
12:50 pm



DeborahMersino RT @flocabulary:If your kids like to write, challenge them to write a novel this
12:50 pm summer with Camp @NaNoWriMo <http://ow.ly/4U3Lh> YES! #gtchat



HHG @DeborahMersino Unscheduled time + variety of art materials + recycling bin =
12:50 pm awesome time! #letthemmakeameess #gtchat



Dazzlld @laughingatchaos Rainy day stuff; once we planned a circus day; they did
12:51 pm acrobatics, dressed up, chose music then put on the show! #gtchat



DeborahMersino @LesLinks So true about photography...kids/teens can choose subject matter/
12:51 pm document/create report/book/album. Excellent! #gtchat



DeborahMersino RT @HHG: @DeborahMersino Unscheduled time + variety of art materials +
12:51 pm recycling bin = awesome time! #letthemmakeameess <=>LOVE #gtchat



laughingatchaos @Dazzlld Ooh! Me likey! Could you blog a bunch of ideas? Please? :) #gtchat
12:52 pm



DeborahMersino Tip: Remember that some of YOUR favorite summer memories may have
12:52 pm involved messes! #letgo #itsworthit #gtchat



ljconrad 1 more possibility ... fundraising for your school's gifted program if needed.
12:52 pm Raise public awareness to need for gifted ed! #gtchat



LesLinks Organise a bunch of kids/families 2 meet in park. Pick a country. Each kid/
12:52 pm family makes a food dish related to that country.picnic!! #gtchat



jofrei Kids putting on their own concert or art show for parents and friends #gtchat
12:52 pm



laughingatchaos @DeborahMersino @LesLinks My sons would LOVE to make iMovies etc with
12:53 pm my computer. #gtchat



DeborahMersino Tip: Water = good. Sprinklers, pool time, ponds, lakes, beaches (if available) +
12:53 pm sunshine = healthy. #gtchat



DeborahMersino RT @jofrei: Kids putting on their own concert or art show for parents and
12:53 pm friends <=yes! #gtchat

HoagiesGifted RT @DeborahMersino: RT @flocabulary:If your kids like to write, challenge
12:53 pm them to write a novel this summer with Camp @NaNoWriMo <http://ow.ly/4U3Lh>
YES! #gtchat



laughingatchaos RT @DeborahMersino: Tip: Remember that some of YOUR favorite summer
12:53 pm memories may have involved messes!<=NO MESSES until after move. #gtchat



TutorSolutions #gtchat - I'm giving a presentation at a GATE Together workshop on how to
12:53 pm write a blog next Saturday and could use some advice...any takers?



momtold_me #Moms: There's a national network of aquariums... join one, visit in other cities
12:53 pm for free! #gtchat <http://dlvr.it/RcCjk>

cybraryman1 My Craft & Hobby pages (arts & crafts, music, art, photography, scapbooking)
12:53 pm <http://tinyurl.com/4vz652z> #gtchat



jofrei RT @cybraryman1: My Craft & Hobby pages (arts & crafts, music, art,
12:54 pm photography, scapbooking) <http://tinyurl.com/4vz652z> #gtchat



LesLinks Rainy day. Cardboard boxes, tape, glue.. lots and lots of junk stuff... Design and
12:54 pm make an innovative robot prototype... quiet4mom. #gtchat



laughingatchaos RT @cybraryman1: My Craft & Hobby pages (arts & crafts, music, art,
12:54 pm photography, scapbooking) <http://tinyurl.com/4vz652z> #gtchat



DeborahMersino Tip: Sit down w/ kids at the beginning of summer & discuss! Listen to ideas, get
12:54 pm things in the calendar, be committed! #schedule #gtchat



DeborahMersino @TutorSolutions I'll be happy to make suggestions! I'll write after chat! #gtchat
12:55 pm



laughingatchaos RT@DeborahMersino: Tip: Sit down w/kids at the beg of summer & discuss!
12:55 pm Listen to ideas, get things in the calendar, be committed! #gtchat

HoagiesGifted <http://www.hoagiesgifted.org/nature.htm> including the book Get Out!: 150 Easy
12:55 pm Ways for Kids & Grown-Ups to Get Into Nature... #gtchat



TutorSolutions @DeborahMersino Awesome, it would be greatly appreciated! #gtchat
12:55 pm



ljconrad @DeborahMersino @TutorSolutions ditto! #gtchat
12:55 pm



DeborahMersino Tip: If you have more than one child, have one of them ask a question (could be silly), have both journal/type answer. #gtchat
12:55 pm



laughingatchaos RT @DeborahMersino:If you have more than one child, have one of them ask a question (could B silly), have both journal/type answer. #gtchat
12:56 pm



DeborahMersino Tip (Example): What if there were no color in the world? How would it feel? Or what if the entire world was blue? You get the idea. #gtchat
12:56 pm



DeborahMersino (Example): What if chipmunks ruled the world? What if kids got to make up house rules? What would they be? etc... #gtchat
12:57 pm



laughingatchaos @DeborahMersino Or write up ?s at beg of summer & draw 1 every morning. Write, even adults. Make joint journal at end of summer. #gtchat
12:57 pm



DeborahMersino Just a few more minutes! Final thoughts, learns, ahas, takeaways? #gtchat
12:57 pm



laughingatchaos @DeborahMersino Resource for finding such questions? #gtchat
12:57 pm



DazzlId @laughingatchaos Some good ideas here too Rainy Day Book: <http://amzn.to/kD0uok> #gtchat
12:57 pm



DeborahMersino @laughingatchaos Excellent! #gtchat
12:57 pm

HoagiesGifted RT @DeborahMersino What if kids got to make up house rules? What would they be? etc... #gtchat <-- ooooh!
12:57 pm



DeborahMersino @laughingatchaos Your creative mind...or I'm sure Web sites exist. You're one of the most creative ppl I know tho. :-) #gtchat
12:58 pm



laughingatchaos @DazzlId Thanks! Need this! #gtchat
12:58 pm

cybraryman1 How about some activities for Grandpet Camp (6 weeks)? Granddogter is here & grandcat coming today! #gtchat <http://lyfrog.com/gyphmbtuj>
12:58 pm



DeborahMersino @HoagiesGifted I'm a bit frightened by that one...but I'm sure they would LOVE it! :-) #gtchat
12:58 pm



laughingatchaos @DeborahMersino I may even do this, and DS10 HATES writing. ;) Heh... #gtchat
12:58 pm



TutorSolutions If anyone is interested, I have a summer creative online writing program designed to improve student writing. <http://bit.ly/kVs59m> #gtchat
12:58 pm



LesLinks Staycation in backyard... set up a tent and 'camp' out.... #gtchat
12:58 pm



laughingatchaos @DeborahMersino LOL! I doubt that, but thanks. ;) #gtchat
12:58 pm



DocForeman @DeborahMersino DD answer: Because it would be just white, not that fun. The world would run out of paper and tape making it white. #gtchat.
12:59 pm



DeborahMersino Yes, @HoagiesGifted has oodles of book suggestions for gifted kids too!
12:59 pm #gtchat



LorelShea #gtchat Wow, that hour just flew by! Thanks, Deborah, and all other GT
12:59 pm tweeters!



DeborahMersino RT @LesLinks: Staycation in backyard... set up a tent and camp out.... <=love
12:59 pm #gtchat

HoagiesGifted Topsy turvy day: kids are adults, make rules, cook, clean; adults are kids, obey
12:59 pm rules, play, laugh... #gtchat



laughingatchaos @LesLinks Oh, we'd do that...until the boys heard the coyotes. LOL #gtchat
12:59 pm



DeborahMersino Create Hogwarts in your own basement... #gtchat
12:59 pm



DeborahMersino What a fun and educational chat! I so appreciate the excellent and creative
12:59 pm suggestions you all provided! #gtchat



DeborahMersino RT @HoagiesGifted: Topsy turvy day: kids are adults, make rules, cook, clean;
1:00 pm adults are kids, obey rules, play, laugh... <= ;-) #gtchat



laughingatchaos Today's plan: comb through the transcript and follow through w/ideas! :) #gtchat
1:00 pm

HoagiesGifted @HoagiesGifted has oodles of books for gt kids too! #gtchat
1:00 pm www.hoagiesgifted.org/hot_topics.htm Young Kids, Classics, Math, SciFi, etc!



LesLinks @laughingatchaos @LesLinks Did they not talk back to them??? howling back..
1:00 pm ;-D #gtchat



ljconrad Prepping for next chat! It should be a good one. Hope to see everyone there. :)
1:00 pm #gtchat



DeborahMersino That's it for this chat. Thank you everyone. I will post transcript soon. It's great
1:00 pm to be back in action. Excellent energy today! #gtchat



laughingatchaos @LesLinks Only if screaming as they run back into the house counts as talking
1:00 pm back! LOL #gtchat



LesLinks @DeborahMersino hogwarts in basement.. ya... that type of thing.... #gtchat
1:00 pm



StephanieBaier RT @TutorSolutions: #gtchat - I'm giving a presentation at a GATE Together
1:00 pm workshop on how to write a blog next Saturday and could use some
advice...any takers?



TutorSolutions Sorry, I got in too late today. Will make sure that I am here on time next week.
1:00 pm #gtchat



ljconrad Quick meeting in Lobby for anyone who has time! ;) #gtstoogies #gtchat
1:01 pm



DeborahMersino @ljconrad Happy you're prepping! #gtchat
1:01 pm



LesLinks @ljconrad What was/is topic? #gtchat
1:01 pm



laughingatchaos Thanks all! Gonna spend some time in the sun today; too much rain lately. ;)
1:01 pm #gtchat



jofrei Thank you [@DeborahMersino](#) and everyone - Lots of great ideas there! #gtchat
1:01 pm

HoagiesGifted Cute dog artist! [@cybraryman1](#) #gtchat
1:01 pm



Dazzlld Don't forget star-gazing...they can stay up late, spread a blanket on the ground and watch meteor showers! #gtchat
1:01 pm



DocForeman [@DeborahMersino](#) My daughter is loving this idea, and want more questions...What a great idea. I can post answers on FB as microblog #gtchat
1:01 pm

HoagiesGifted RT [@Dazzlld](#): Don't forget star-gazing...they can stay up late, spread a blanket on the ground and watch meteor showers! #gtchat
1:02 pm



jofrei RT [@Dazzlld](#): Dont forget star-gazing...they can stay up late, spread a blanket on the ground and watch meteor showers! YES!!! #gtchat
1:02 pm



ljconrad [@LesLinks](#) curriculum models for gifted ed #gtchat
1:02 pm



DeborahMersino Join us again at 7pm/EDT as we discuss "Discovering Top Curriculum Models 4 Gifted Students." Should be informative! #gtchat
1:02 pm



LesLinks [@DeborahMersino](#) Cloud burst here... major wet dd.. ;-D #gtchat
1:02 pm



Dazzlld That was fab...thanks [@DeborahMersino](#) and all for the great ideas...roll on summer! #gtchat
1:02 pm



LesLinks [@ljconrad](#) [@LesLinks](#) Cool.. #gtchat
1:02 pm



jofrei RT [@DeborahMersino](#): Join us again at 7pm/EDT as we discuss "Discovering Top Curriculum Models 4 Gifted Students." (9.00am Aus) #gtchat
1:03 pm



DeborahMersino [@DocForeman](#) So funny/I just made it up/think it could be fun. Love cing what creative answers/philosophical musings they'll create! #gtchat
1:03 pm

cybraryman1 RT [@jofrei](#): Thank you [@DeborahMersino](#) and everyone - Lots of great ideas there! #gtchat
1:04 pm