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## **Summer Learning Sizzles**

### **With Videos, Educational Materials from izzit.org!**

*Engaging learning materials help students avoid the "summer slide."*

ERIE, PA (Summer) – Students have only been out of school for a couple of weeks, but already the “summer slide” has begun, when knowledge gained throughout the school year starts slipping away in the midst of pool parties, summer camp and family vacations. **izzit.org** helps to stop the loss of active, engaged learning with an assortment of DVDs and teaching materials that encourage critical thinking skills and cover a wide variety of subjects -- the same **izzit.org** resources that are used by more than 300,000 classrooms and homeschoolers today.

“According to decades of research, not only do students lose approximately two months of grade level equivalency in math skills, but they typically score lower on standardized tests at the end of summer vacation than they do on the same tests at the beginning of the summer,” said Susan Gable, director of education curriculum at **izzit.org**. “Our teaching materials are designed to engage students and make a lasting impression on them by encouraging discussion and critical thinking. We believe that’s a great way to curtail the ‘summer slide’.”

Teachers and parents can select from a wide variety of educational videos covering such subjects as business, economics, language arts, health & physical education, mathematics, music, art, science & technology, U.S. and world history and geography and more. Each video features accompanying teaching guides and materials. There are also current event lessons and a host of other resources on [www.izzit.org](http://www.izzit.org). The organization also helps ease educators’ budgeting concerns by offering one free video per year per teacher/homeschooler, a savings of approximately \$25.

**izzit.org** released six new videos and teaching curriculum for 2014-15, which are available now on the website: “Recipe for Success” (Grades 7-12) about a successful woman entrepreneur in Zambia; “Escape!” (Grades 7-12) about a man’s harrowing escape from  
(more)

North Korea to South Korea; "[Food Truck Roadblock](#)" (Grades 6-12) about how lobbying and regulations impact Chicago's food truck operators; "[Raise the Wage](#)" (Grades 7-12) about potential unintended consequences of raising the minimum wage; "[Personal Best](#)" (Grades 7-12) about the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution, and discrimination in the U.S.; "[Power to the Planet](#)" (Grades 4-12), an overview of the pros/cons of all the energy sources currently available to us. Currently, there are approximately eight additional teaching units planned for release in the upcoming school year.

"I love the **izzit** videos because they are well made, brief and thorough, and they include great discussion guides," said Richel Stocker, a teacher in Bear, Delaware. "My students enjoy watching them and incorporating the ideas expressed in the videos with our study of politics and economics."

"**izzit.org** makes students learning so much easier with your excellent resources," said Josh Nielsen, a teacher in Pocatello, Idaho. "Students love the topical DVDs and always engage more in the overall theme."

"Another well done DVD from **izzit**," said Michael Eklund, a teacher in Petaluma, California. "The video, '[Food Truck Roadblock](#),' led to an excellent conversation about business and competition and the effect government can have on businesses both large and small. It also led to a great side conversation about corporate influence on politics and how money changes the views of those in power."

**About izzit.org:**

For nearly a decade, **izzit.org** has been offering engaging educational teaching units that encourage thoughtful consideration and critical thinking skills around civics, entrepreneurship, economics, the sciences and other philosophical perspectives that have proven to improve people's lives. Currently more than 300,000 classroom teachers and homeschoolers employ the videos, workbooks, teaching units and fresh ideas from the website to generate stimulating and meaningful classroom and at-home dialogue among students, teachers and parents. **izzit.org** is a 501(c) 3 not-for-profit educational initiative headquartered in Erie, PA. For more information, visit the website, [www.izzit.org](http://www.izzit.org).

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