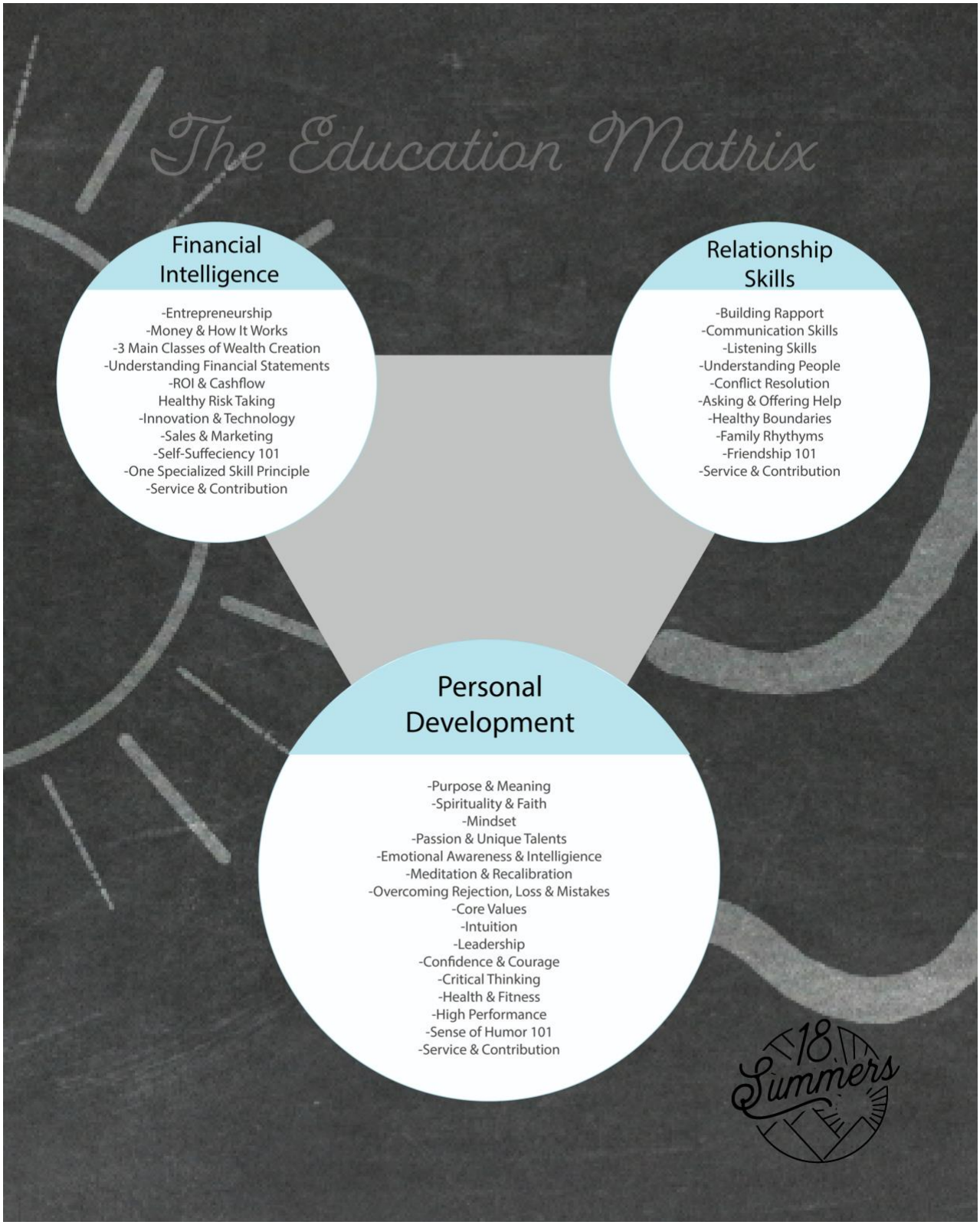

www.18summers.com

18 Summers. All rights reserved. info@18summers.com

About The Education Matrix…

The Education Matrix is a simple, reliable tool for business leaders and entrepreneur families to engage in the education of their children.

None of the current education models, including public, private and homeschool, adequately prepare children in critical areas such as financial intelligence, relationship skills and personal development.

This Education Matrix helps fill that gap. This go-to framework is designed to complement your student's current education structure with both hard and soft skills and personal depth that will better prepare them for life and business.

By incorporating educational and learning opportunities in each of the areas outlined in the Matrix, parents are playing a role in effectively preparing their children for success in life – both personally and professionally.

Teaching the Education Matrix…Interactive + Age Appropriate + Fun = Better Results

We believe that you retain more information by doing, as opposed to reading, hearing or observing (as outlined in Edgar Dale's "Cone of Experience.") Think about your time in school, the way you were taught and the way that you learned. The most important subjects that we learned, we never got a grade in. Never even took a test on. But we did get really inspired to learn about them. It took good teachers that put us into experiential situations, and then we put it to practice.

We all have the power to put our kids in these situations, to do some of these things and to also ask their schools, no matter where they go, to start using these techniques.

This is not meaning that you need to start homeschooling or unschooling, but who says we can't be involved? Who says we can't look at the statistics and share better ways to learn? Explore the ways that will be better for our kids?

In the Education Matrix, we are supporting children in getting better lessons and bringing parents closer to their child's education.

18 Summers. All rights reserved. info@18summers.com

Real-Life Approaches & Lessons…

Different ages require different approaches. Here are some examples of incorporating the principles outlined in the Education Matrix, broken down by three age groups.

Age: 0-5

Education Matrix Focus: Personal Development

Method: Teachable Moments

We started journaling with our daughter Maggie when she was a year and a half. We use the Five-Minute Journal. She couldn't write. She couldn't read. But she liked to write in her own journal. And after she scribbled in her own journal, she told us the things that she's grateful for, the things that were going to make the day great. All she did was watch up.

Kids, even at these youngest ages, need to be put into these positions even if they can't do it fully. Maggie scribbles through her Five-Minute Journal. Some people might say that's a waste of a journal. We think she's still gaining valuable lessons. We need to let kids be involved. That's what teachable moments are. Let them fill the water bowl for the dog and spill it all over the floor. Let them water the plants, grab stuff off the shelf at the grocery store, set the table. Even if it's wrong. Teachable moments are huge. Put your kids in those situations. They are not too young. You'll be shocked at the things that they can do if you start slow.

Age: 6-10

Education Matrix Focus: Personal Development & Financial Intelligence

Method: Games

The goal at this age is to get them to learn more about themselves to be able to relate better with people, and start to find the things they really enjoy; explore their gifts so that they may put it into a career some day. To be clear, we're not forcing a career on them, but identifying something they may look forward to.

Games are a home-run for ages 6 through 10. There are no grades – they're just a fun way to embed the lesson. There are two games we've seen success with time and again that lead to unbelievable conversations and skillsets many of us didn't have after earning our four-year degrees. The first is 7 Habits of Happy Kids by Stephen Covey. The second one is Cash Flow for Kids by the Robert Kiyosaki Rich Dad, Poor Dad company. Yes, your kids can understand what's an asset, what's a liability, how to handle a budget, how to start saving and investing. Learning these lessons at this age puts them far ahead of the game by the time they're 18, 19, 20.

18 Summers. All rights reserved. info@18summers.com

Age: 11 and up

Education Matrix Focus: Personal Development

Method: Deep Dive

At 11 years old and up, this is when children are starting to get true individuality. Personal development will allow them to learn about themselves. We like to do a deep dive slow digest every 90 days with our kids. We do this three times a year, taking the summers off. A deep dive slow digest is based on the belief that one book can overpower a stack of 20 books. How is that? If you read it slowly, digest it, and discuss it, the lessons will stick and you'll get a better result. Not for a grade, not for a book report, for true results to be into practice.

Do one book every 90 days, reading 12 to 15 pages a week. Each week, spend 15-20 minutes discussing the book, its lessons, how they can be used in real life, and so on, with your child. After completing the book, have your child do a final recap presentation. We've kept it just to us, invited our family, and even had some close family friends over that have similar core values. Have your child put it into a presentation form -- if they teach it, they own it.

Putting it into this simple format can be huge for the parent-child relationship. The foundation that this sets up and the conversations it spurs – it's unlike anything else.

One book to try is INSERT. It talks about overcoming being a victim in your mind, how to empower yourself to be a creator, and how not to get caught up in drama or create drama. Something, obviously, that teenagers need. It has yielded incredible results.

If you are interested in diving deeper into any of these topics and learning MORE specific, actionable ways you can incorporate learning in these areas into your child's life, set up a time to chat one-on-one with Jim Sheils at https://calendly.com/jimsheils or info@18summers.com.

18 Summers. All rights reserved. info@18summers.com