

## WHO WE ARE.

An inquiry into the nature of the self; beliefs and values; personal, physical, mental, social and spiritual health; human relationships, including families, friends, communities and cultures; rights and responsibilities; what it means to be human.

**Central Idea:** Self-discovery affects relationships with others.

**Key Concepts:** Perspective, Connection, Responsibility

**Related Concepts:** Culture, Diversity, Ethnicity, Community, Beliefs, Values

**Lines of Inquiry:** How culture shapes your behavior; How to be part of a community  
Self-discovery

## HOW THE WORLD WORKS.

An inquiry into the natural world and its laws; the interaction between the natural world (physical and biological) and human societies; how humans use their understanding of scientific principles; the impact of scientific and technological advances on society and on the environment.

**Central Idea:** People use their scientific understanding of how air and water behave and interact to determine how to use them for the benefit of society and the environment.

**Key Concepts:** Form, Function, Causation, Responsibility

**Related Concepts:** Discovery, Forces, Water, Properties

**Lines of Inquiry:** Science: How does compressing water differ from compressing air? Mechanics: How do hydraulics work? STEAM: What are some inventions that use compressed air and/or water? How can we use knowledge of compressed air/water to help our society/ environment?

## WHERE WE ARE IN PLACE AND TIME.

An inquiry into orientation in place and time; personal histories; homes and journeys; the discoveries, explorations and migrations of humankind; the relationships between, and the interconnectedness of, individuals and civilizations, from local and global perspectives.

**Central Idea:** A community's reverence for its own culture provides an insight into the history and values of the community.

**Key Concepts:** Perspective, Change, Connection

**Related Concepts:** Progress, Community, Innovation, History

**Lines of Inquiry:** Indigenous people of Mesoamerica; Art, agricultural, and math systems  
Art: how jewelry was made and why (make our own to reflect our culture)

## HOW WE ORGANIZE OURSELVES.

An inquiry into the interconnectedness of human-made systems and communities; the structure and function of organizations; societal decision-making; economic activities and their impact on humankind and the environment.

**Central Idea:** Past social inequalities affect present day social systems.

**Key Concepts:** Perspective, Connection, Change

**Related Concepts:** Systems

**Lines of Inquiry:** Unchallenged human made systems  
Connection or oppression of social groups  
Analyzing DEI in character representation in classic literature  
Elements of a biography  
Contributions to world by Black/African American community

## HOW WE EXPRESS OURSELVES.

An inquiry into the ways in which we discover and express ideas, feelings, nature, culture, beliefs and values; the ways in which we reflect on, extend and enjoy our creativity; our appreciation of the aesthetic.

**Central Idea:** Personal expression is unique to each individual.

**Key Concepts:** Form, Function, Perspective

**Related Concepts:** Structure, Rhythm

**Lines of Inquiry:** How we communicate mood with word choice and arrangement  
How we get ideas and inspiration  
Impact of expression on our mood  
The effect of changing tone, beats, or inflection

## SHARING THE PLANET.

An inquiry into rights and responsibilities in the struggle to share finite resources with other people and with other living things; communities and the relationships within and between them; access to equal opportunities; peace and conflict resolution.

**Central Idea:** Conservation and maintenance/ manipulation of our earth's resources affect the natural world.

**Key Concepts:** Responsibility, Causation, Connection

**Related Concepts:** Consequences, Culture

**Lines of Inquiry:** Life cycles of plants and butterflies  
How humans today affect the natural world  
How native tribes affected the land