

Westwood Program of Inquiry Overview

September 2008-2009

Grade	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.	Where We Are in Place & 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.	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.	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.	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.	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.
K	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Me, Myself, and I</i></p> <p><i>Each family is composed of unique individuals.</i> * individual uniqueness * the roles of the individuals * family structure</p> <p>(Self and Families) Aug/Sept</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>The More We Get Together</i></p> <p><i>The application of the attitudes and attributes of the learner profile develop international-mindedness.</i> * attitudes * attributes * respecting and appreciating others (Contributes to Global Citizenship, relationships between individuals) Jan/Feb</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Express Yourself</i></p> <p><i>People communicate verbally and non-verbally.</i> * verbal communication * nonverbal communication * creative forms of expression</p> <p>(Discovery, feelings, enjoy our creativity) Dec</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Patterns All Around</i></p> <p><i>Identifying and understanding patterns predicts future events.</i> * generating patterns * comparing and contrasting patterns * predicting patterns Inventions (Natural world, biological) April/May</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Let Me Help You!</i></p> <p><i>The work people do affects a community.</i> * community helpers * jobs and services * how jobs and services affect the community <i>Live event/Entrepreneurship</i> (Interconnected communities, impact on human kind, function of organization) Oct/Nov</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Reduce, Reuse, Recycle</i></p> <p><i>Personal choices affect the environment.</i> * natural and manmade resources * the natural world * conservation of resources</p> <p><i>Live event and invention</i> Feb/March (Responsibilities, struggle to share finite resources)</p>
1st	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pebble in the Pond</i></p> <p><i>People have rights and responsibilities within their school community.</i> * all people have rights and responsibilities within their school * the roles of people within the school community * the importance of essential agreements</p> <p>(Community, Rights & Responsibilities, & Friends) Aug/Sept</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Celebrate Good Times</i></p> <p><i>Celebrations create and result from community.</i> * reasons people celebrate * the similarities and differences between celebrations * people who are celebrated</p> <p>(Interconnectedness of individuals) Nov/Dec</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>In My Mind's Eye</i></p> <p><i>Works of art are unique creations inspired by personal experience.</i> * artists from different cultures * fine arts * the creation of works of art</p> <p>(Nature, appreciation of the aesthetic culture) Jan/Feb</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Balancing Act</i></p> <p><i>Force, balance and motion affect everything around us.</i> * the effects of force on motion * factors that influence balance * the characteristics of motion</p> <p>(Physical, understanding science principles, laws) Sept/Oct</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Money Makes the World Go Round</i></p> <p><i>Economics impacts a community.</i> * economic terms and patterns * the impact of tourism on communities * how money flows through communities</p> <p><i>Event</i> (Economic activities, societal decision making) April/May</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>The Unbroken Circle</i></p> <p><i>Cycles help us understand how the world functions.</i> * formation of cycles * types of cycles * change within a cycle</p> <p>(Struggle to share finite resources with living things) March/April</p>
2nd	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Choose Wisely</i></p> <p><i>Choices impact human health.</i> * the aspects of balanced nutrition * options for exercise and recreation * safety awareness</p> <p><i>Event</i> (Personal and Physical Health & Mental Health) Aug/Sept</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Ancient Gifts</i></p> <p><i>Ancient cultures leave behind a legacy.</i> * history and culture of ancient people * contributions of ancient cultures * the utilization of the contributions of ancient cultures in modern society</p> <p>(Orientation in place and Time and Interconnectedness of civilizations) Oct/Nov</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Common Threads</i></p> <p><i>Culture impacts fictional patterns.</i> * story elements in fairy tales * versions of the same fairy tale * culture's affect on the story elements of fairy tales</p> <p>(Culture's beliefs and values, express ideas) Nov/Dec</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Can You Hear Me Now?</i></p> <p><i>Manipulation of energy changes perception.</i> * how light and sound travel * how light and sound are perceived * how light and sound are generated</p> <p>(Interaction b/t natural world, Technological advances on the environment) Jan/Feb</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>From the Ground Up</i></p> <p><i>Decisions shape human communities.</i> * structure of community * decision making within a community * change in a community</p> <p>(Interconnectedness of community structure, functions of organizations) Entrepreneurship March/April</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>On The Brink</i></p> <p><i>Disruptions change populations and communities.</i> * extinction * adaptation * survival</p> <p>(Communities and the relationships) April/May</p>
3rd	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Patchwork Quilt</i></p> <p><i>Cultures influence behaviors and attitudes.</i> * the social and spiritual health of cultures * the affects of cultures' influence on behaviors and attitudes * the mental health of culture</p> <p>(Mental, Cultures, Social and Spiritual Health) Aug/Sept</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Risky Business</i></p> <p><i>Exploration changes perspectives.</i> * the world's view of historic journeys and exploration * the impact of space discoveries and explorations * the continuing exploration of Earth</p> <p>(Exploration connects humans to the world, historic, journeys, discoveries, explorations) Jan/Feb</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Once Upon a Story</i></p> <p><i>Cultures use language to express themselves and make connections.</i> * the way we discover and express ideas * the impact of culture on the way we express beliefs and values * the way language is used to make connections</p> <p>(Express native cultures, beliefs, values) Dec</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Push, Pull, Lift</i></p> <p><i>Interactions of machines and behaviors change lives.</i> * how humans use their understanding of scientific principles * the impact of scientific and technological advances on society * famous inventors</p> <p>(Laws, scientific principles, technological advances on society) Inventions- March/April</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Eventful!</i></p> <p><i>Planning events involves processes.</i> * choosing an appropriate event * group decision making and role allocation * resources available for planning a successful event</p> <p><i>Event</i> (Societal decision making, economic attitudes impact on humankind and the environment) May</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Money, Money, Money</i></p> <p><i>Finite resources create global interdependence.</i> * the rights and responsibilities of communities to share finite resources * the access of equal opportunities between global communities * finite resources</p> <p>(Rights and responsibilities in the struggle to share finite resources, access to equal opportunities) Oct/Nov</p>
4th	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Show and Tell</i></p> <p><i>Communication builds understanding of human identity.</i> * similarities and differences between primary children worldwide * collection, display, and interpretation of data * communication across distances</p> <p>(Community, Social, what it means to be human) Nov./Dec.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Location, Location, Location</i></p> <p><i>Regional development impacts civilizations.</i> * formation of regions (political, economic, geographic) * similarities and differences between regions * the interdependence of individuals and regions</p> <p>(Homes, interconnectedness of individuals, local and global) Jan./Feb.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Community Contributors</i></p> <p><i>People who affect change alter the course of history.</i> * entrepreneurs, philanthropists, inventors * people in positions of power * contributions of ordinary people</p> <p>(Express ideas, values, beliefs) entrepreneurship) Oct./Nov.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Rain or Shine</i></p> <p><i>Humans predict, impact, and adapt to climate patterns.</i> * the impact of climate patterns over time * ramifications of human action on climate * weather related technologies</p> <p>(Scientific and environment, Technology and environment interact to create new compositions) April/May</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Making Connections</i></p> <p><i>Functions of a system depend on interconnected components.</i> * functions of systems * structures of systems * systemic failure</p> <p>(Structure and function of organizations, interconnectedness of human systems, societal decision making) Sept./Oct.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Life on the Edge</i></p> <p><i>Humans have a responsibility for the equilibrium of the planet.</i> * water use and reclamation * production of power * human impact on the environment</p> <p><i>Live Event- March/April</i> (Rights & responsibilities in the struggle to share finite resources with other people, peace and conflict)</p>
5 th	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Finding Balance</i></p> <p><i>The cycle of change and conflict impacts behaviors.</i> * people's beliefs and values contribute to conflict * types of conflict * the similarities and differences between conflicts * compromises and sacrifices as part of change (Beliefs and Values and human relationships including cultures) Jan/Feb</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>From There to Here to Everywhere</i></p> <p><i>Nations change when people immigrate and migrate.</i> * the reasons for immigration * the effects of migration on indigenous population * the evolution of cultures because of migration</p> <p>(Migrations of humankind and personal histories) Nov/Dec</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Adventures in Deciphering</i></p> <p><i>Humans communicate in a variety of ways.</i> * types of communication * how communication has changed over time * relationships between culture and communication</p> <p><i>Exhibition- Jan- May</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Elements Matter</i></p> <p><i>Elements interact to create new compositions.</i> * the elements and their interactions * the physical properties of the states of matter * the physical and chemical changes of matter</p> <p>(Scientific principles and natural world and laws) March/April</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>What's in Your Wallet?</i></p> <p><i>Changing financial systems impact humankind.</i> * financial systems * global markets * marketing and profit</p> <p><i>Entrepreneurship</i> (Interconnectedness of human-made system and community) Aug/Sept</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Origins</i></p> <p><i>Interactions within and among living systems cause changes in matter and energy.</i> * cell structures and functions * relationships of communities that make up ecosystems * connections among the ecosystems of the planet <i>Live Event</i> (Community and relationship within and b/t them) Oct/Nov</p>

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