

University School Program of Inquiry

revised 4/6/16

	Who We Are	Where We Are in Place and Time	How We Express Ourselves	How the World Works	How We Organize Ourselves	Sharing the Planet
P	<p>August-September <i>Incredible Me!</i> Central Idea: Every day I learn more about who I am and what I can do. Lines of Inquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - five senses - how the human body works - importance of friends and families 		<p>October-November <i>Stop, Look and Listen</i> Central Idea: Signs and symbols tell us about people, places and things. Lines of Inquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - how symbols communicate rules and expectations - how symbols help us to travel - how signs and symbols help us to share ideas 	<p>March- mid April <i>Tool Time</i> Central Idea: Investigations allow us to discover and learn about living things in the world. Lines of Inquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - tools used in investigation - how we explore living things - taking responsibility for our materials and ourselves 		<p>Mid April - May <i>It's a Small World After All</i> Central Idea: The waste we produce and what we do with it impacts our environment. Lines of Inquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - importance of caring for the earth - definitions of reduce, reuse, recycle - actions we take to help the environment
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K	<p>September <i>This is Me!</i> Central Idea: Roles change according to relationships and responsibilities within our various communities. Lines of Inquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - our roles with family - our roles with friends - our roles in the community 	<p>October-November <i>Harvest Time</i> Central Idea: Based upon geography and other factors, humans rely on others for food production. Lines of Inquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - where foods come from - how foods are produced and distributed - seasonal harvests, local and global 	<p>May <i>Express Yourself!</i> Central Idea: Experiences and feelings are expressed through the written word. Lines of Inquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - various outlets of expression - what inspires authors - what inspires me and how I can express it 	<p>February-March <i>Toys!</i> Central Idea: Understanding the way materials behave and interact determines how people use them. Lines of Inquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - materials used to make toys - the design and function of toys - the choices made by toy designers 	<p>August <i>Know It and Show It!</i> Central Idea: Rules and procedures impact communities. Lines of Inquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - why rules and procedures are in place - manners and behavior in various settings - consequences of our actions 	<p>April <i>Animals 2 x 2</i> Central Idea: Humans share resources and space with animals. Lines of Inquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - needs of various animals - characteristics of animals - how humans can protect animals

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1	<p>August-September <i>We Are the World</i> Central Idea: People make choices that affect the community. Lines of Inquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the importance of rules in society - consequences of choices - healthy habits 	<p>Mid Sept.-early Nov. <i>Right Place, Right Time</i> Central Idea: People and places change over time. Lines of Inquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - how maps work - how timelines work - how people's lives and places change over time 	<p>Mid Nov.-December <i>Be Yourself</i> Central Idea: Folklore explores cultural customs and traditions. Lines of Inquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - what traditions are - similarities and differences within cultural celebrations - how folktales communicate lessons 	<p>February-mid March <i>By Land or By Sea</i> Central Idea: The earth is covered in water and land that is studied and classified. Lines of Inquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the ways in which materials are alike and different - soil components and properties - how soil and water are used as natural resources 	<p>January <i>Take Me Home</i> Central Idea: Groups share resources. Lines of Inquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - identifying needs and wants in a family - types of natural resources - where goods come from 	<p>April-May <i>My Island</i> Central Idea: Earth's living and non-living things are used for survival. Lines of Inquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - living vs. non-living things in various habitats - needs of plants and animals for survival - how habitats support plant and animal life
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2	<p>October- mid November <i>Vote for Me</i> Central Idea: The elective process is a right, and our decisions are influenced by beliefs and values. Lines of Inquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - foundations and functions of governments - roles of citizens - choosing leaders 	<p>Mid February-March <i>Then and Now</i> Central Idea: Various features contribute to change within the community. Lines of Inquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the change in cities over time - causes of change - what makes cities unique 	<p>Mid November-Dec. <i>Celebrate Good Times</i> Central Idea: Holidays and celebrations tell about a community and foster a sense of belonging. Lines of Inquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - community celebrations - symbols and traditions - significant celebrations around the world 	<p>January-early February <i>Moving Right Along</i> Central Idea: Force, balance, and motion affect things around us. Lines of Inquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - how gravity and magnetism affect balance - the ways in which objects move - how applied force changes the motion of objects 	<p>April-May <i>Our Little Town</i> Central Idea: Economic choices impact the roles we play in the world. Lines of Inquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - goods and services - roles of producers and consumers - the three types of resources : human, natural and capital 	<p>August-September <i>Things Go Round and Round</i> Central Idea: The natural world is made up of cycles that affect each other. Lines of Inquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the life cycle of plants and animals - comparing and contrasting various cycles of nature - observing the patterns of cycles in nature

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3	<p>August-September <i>Pay It Forward</i> Central Idea: People take risks to ensure equal opportunities. Lines of Inquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - understanding equal rights and opportunities - how people take risks to secure freedoms - how individual actions can improve our community 	<p>Mid March-April <i>Moving On</i> Central Idea: People immigrate in response to opportunities and challenges. Lines of Inquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - factors that affect human movement - historical and contemporary immigration - how immigrants affect communities and adapt to their new place 	<p>January-February <i>Sound Off!</i> Central Idea: People produce and manipulate sound to express ideas and emotions. Lines of Inquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - physics of sound - how cultures use sound to communicate - how humans can manipulate sound to express emotion 	<p>November-December <i>Rocks Rock!</i> Central Idea: People use science and technology to explore the physical environment. Lines of Inquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - properties of rocks and minerals - formation and classification of rocks - uses of rocks 	<p>May <i>World Market</i> Central Idea: The manufacture, distribution, and purchase of goods are interconnected globally. Lines of Inquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - where various goods and commodities are produced - factors that motivate and drive global trade - how global trade affects economies 	<p>October <i>Citizens Unite!</i> Central Idea: People create government systems to help communities. Lines of Inquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - how local services improve communities - structures of government - how citizens can take part in government
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4	<p>May <i>It Is My Right</i> Central Idea: People's rights and responsibilities incite change in the world. Lines of Inquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - human rights - how citizens can participate in government - how beliefs and values lead to action 	<p>Mid October-November <i>From Backwater to Frontier</i> Central Idea: Early humans migrated for a variety of reasons and have left behind mysteries for us to solve. Lines of Inquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - causes of migration - adaptation and survival - why cultures move and why cultures stay 	<p>December-early Jan. <i>Conveyors of Innovation</i> Central Idea: Human creativity engineers change. Lines of Inquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - how an idea is brought to life - using creativity and scientific method in engineering - effect on social change by industrial and technological advances in global industry 	<p>Late August-early Oct. <i>Movers and Shakers</i> Central Idea: Natural systems change conditions on earth. Lines of Inquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - geological regions - geological events - geological change over time 	<p>Mid January-February <i>Settling In</i> Central Idea: Humans organize and construct systems to maintain order. Lines of Inquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - establishment of community - governmental structure of a settlement - function of governmental structure 	<p>Mid March-April <i>What Goes Around Comes Around</i> Central Idea: Earth provides resources that are shared by all living organisms. Lines of Inquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - structures and functions of life - needs of living organisms - how living organisms use the natural resources of the planet

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5	<p>May <i>Feeling Great</i> Central Idea: Choices affect one's physical, emotional, intellectual and social health. Lines of Inquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - healthy habits and routines - living a socially and emotionally healthy life - goal setting 	<p>January- February <i>Where in the World ...?</i> Central Idea: Exploration and colonization change the world. Lines of Inquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - how the availability of natural resources determines success or failure - motivations of explorers and colonists - impacts of exploration and colonization on people, animals, and environments 	<p>March-April <i>Live Free or Die</i> Central Idea: Throughout time, people have expressed differing beliefs, values, and ideas which have caused change. Lines of Inquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - reasons for and against revolution - impact of voice and persuasion - outcomes of revolution 	<p>November-December <i>Adaptation Advantage</i> Central Idea: Living things adapt to their environments. Lines of Inquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Native Americans and natural resources - plant and animal adaptations - habitats, ecosystems and biomes 	<p>October <i>Movin' and Groovin' Government</i> Central Idea: Government systems provide order and are present in our daily lives. Lines of Inquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - foundations of government - functions of government - the ways in which government is active in our daily lives 	<p>Mid Aug.- Mid Sept. <i>Choose Your Own Adventure</i> Central Idea: Individuals and groups of people have made a difference to the world. Lines of Inquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - motivations for action - actions by individuals that create change - ways in which kids can make a difference
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6	<p>May <i>My Digital Footprint</i> Central Idea: Choices made in one's digital life impact current and future relationships. Lines of Inquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - definition of digital citizenship - responsible use of social media - impact of social media on relationships 	<p>August – early Nov. <i>What's Old is New Again</i> Central Idea: The development of modern societies is supported through understanding our place in relation to past civilizations. Lines of Inquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the rise of ancient civilizations - cultural achievements - comparison and connections to today 	<p>February - Mid March <i>The Rebirth of Knowledge</i> Central Idea: Adversity has brought about discovery and cultural change. Lines of Inquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - influences on the Age of Enlightenment - individuals' contributions to Renaissance cultural universals - impact of Renaissance culture 	<p>Mid Nov. - December <i>Physics' Next Top Model</i> Central Idea: Models provide an understanding of intangible systems. Lines of Inquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - how properties of matter can be represented by models - forms and transformations of energy - conservation of mass and energy 	<p>Mid March-April <i>Bulls and Bears</i> Central Idea: Human systems and economic activities provide interconnected services to meet people's needs. Lines of Inquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - international trade and currency exchange - comparing global standards of living - ways in which different economic systems answer basic economic questions 	<p>January <i>Biodiversity: the Circle of Life</i> Central Idea: Biodiversity relies on maintaining the interdependent balance of organisms within systems. Lines of Inquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - relationships between organisms - effects of changes caused by organisms - Carrying Capacity