

Programme of Inquiry

Morris Jeff Community School 2016-2017

	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
	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.	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.	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.	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.	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.	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.
Pre-K	Relationships include the ways we help and care for each other.	Understanding our communities can help us meet our wants and needs.	Nature has many roles in our world.	Objects move in different ways and for different reasons.	**PK does 4 units each year.	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Types of relationships • Helping in different cultures • Responsibilities to others Key Concepts: Form, Perspective, Responsibility Related Concepts: roles, cooperation, values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wants and needs • Community helpers • Mapping our community Key Concepts: Form, Function, Connection Related Concepts: resources, geography	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nature all around us • Plants as celebration • Plants as food Key Concepts: Connection, Perspective, Form Related Concepts: structure, relationships, tradition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Different ways objects move • Why objects move in different ways • Things in our world that move Key Concepts: Function, Causation, Connection Related Concepts: movement, consequences, transportation		

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Kindergarten	Our personal choices affect our bodies and how we feel.	We reflect and connect by sharing personal histories	Observation is a tool for considering other perspectives and for self-expression.	The activity of living things is usually connected to the Earth's natural cycles.	Having shared responsibilities can help us more effectively work together in building a community.	People can establish practices in order to sustain and maintain the Earth's resources.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *How the parts of my body work *Food choices *Personal health choices Key Concepts: Function, Causation, Change Related Concepts: Behavior, impact, growth, transformation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *All About Me and My Family *How We Are All Connected *The History of Me Key Concepts: Form, Connection, Reflection Related Concepts: identity, relationships, similarities, differences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Different forms of observation *Considering other perspectives *Recording and expressing our observations Key Concepts: Form, Perspective, Reflection Related Concepts: interpretation, discovery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Natural cycles *How people are affected by natural cycles *How living things are affected by natural cycles Key Concepts Form, Change, Connection Related Concepts: Pattern, interaction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Different types of communities *Building communities through responsibility *Making contributions to our family, school and city, and world Key Concepts: form causation, responsibility Related Concepts: rules, citizenship	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Limited nature of the Earth's resources *Reduce, Reuse, Recycle! *Personal choices that can help sustain the environment Key Concepts: Change, Responsibility, Reflection Related Concepts: conservation, impact
First Grade	Our body systems work together to help us function and interact with the world.	Discoveries can lead to inventions in a society.	Different traditions of storytelling help people communicate.	All living organisms go through a process of change.	Communities consume and produce the resources needed to survive.	Some community members make choices in an effort to bring about peace.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *How we interact with the world *Our body systems *How our body systems work together Key Concepts: Connection, Form, Function, Related concepts: structure, systems, wellness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *The meaning of discovery and invention *Inventions can change society over time *Inventions can solve problems Key Concepts: Form, Change, Responsibility Related concepts: progress, innovation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Different ways stories can be told. *The elements all stories have. *How I like to tell stories Key Concepts: Reflection, Connection, Perspective Related Concepts: patterns, variation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *What living organisms need *Growth and development of living organisms *How the cycles of all living organisms are connected Key Concepts: Function, Change, Connection Related Concepts: living things, growth, interdependence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Wants and Needs *Community resources *Exchanging and trading Key Concepts: Function, Connection, Perspective Related Concepts: production, exchange	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Communities build structures. *Creating peaceful communities. *Community members' choices Key Concepts: Connection, Responsibility, Causation Related Concepts: impact, cooperation, justice

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Second	Place influences people.	People, inventions, and events can impact history.	Poetry can help us express our big feelings and big ideas.	Scientific inquiry helps us learn about our world.	Citizens can make decisions that affect their community.	All living things are interconnected in the environment.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *What makes me who I am *The unique features of our city. *How literature connects people, place, and culture. Key Concepts: Perspective, Causation, Connection Related Concepts: values, culture, similarities/differences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *The desire for freedom *What makes a leader *Then and now Key Concepts: Perspective, Form, Change Related Concepts: rights, transformation, impact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * How words and phrases supply rhythm and meaning * Poem structure * Performance Key Concepts: Form, Function, Connection Related Concepts: structure, communication	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * How and why scientists communicate. * Physical properties of objects and materials. * Earth and space systems Key Concepts: Reflection, Form, Function Related Concepts: Properties, cycles, evidence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Government and responsibility of citizens *Interactions between community members *Citizens choosing their leaders Key Concepts: Responsibility, Connection, Perspective Related Concepts: role, opinion, goods/services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *The structure of plants *How habitats support life *How our world habitats are changing. Key Concepts: Function, Change, Connection Related Concepts: consequences, interdependence
3 rd Grade	Our minds, bodies, relationships and experiences affect who we are.	The movement of people transforms communities and individuals over time.	Identity and heritage affect cultural expression.	People and time contribute to environmental changes.	Availability of resources affects where and how organisms live.	The gain and loss of power affects our everyday lives.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Sharing and appreciating personal stories *Taking care of the body and its systems *Interconnectedness of people Key Concepts: Function, Connection, Reflection Related Concepts: communication, interactions, diversity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *How and why people migrate *Connecting the past to the present *Cultural symbols Key Concepts: Causation, Connection, Perspective Related Concepts: pattern, interdependence, beliefs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Written and musical expression *Costuming traditions *Culture as industry Key Concepts: Form, Causation, Function Related Concepts: values, style, interpretation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Environmental adaptations *Components of wetlands *Natural and human effects on the wetlands Key Concepts: Change, Form, Responsibility Related Concepts: habitat, survival, initiative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Geography of the different places we live. *Industries and resources *Reasons to live in different communities. Key Concepts: Causation, Form, Connection Related Concepts: region, impact, natural resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Creation of power *Use and misuse of power *Power to make changes Key Concepts: Causation, Change, Perspective Related Concepts: Authority, citizenship, energy

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4 th Grade	People have taken a stand throughout history for many reasons and with many effects, but all to make a difference.	Conflict occurs when different needs, desires and personal ideologies exist in a society.	Scientific tools and processes help us understand changes in energy.	Organisms and the environment change in response to each other.	Producers and consumers make decisions that affect society.	Water is a finite resource, central to all life.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Inequalities, past and present *U.S. Civil Rights Movement *Taking a stand Key Concepts: perspective, causation, function Related Concepts: prejudice, justice, change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Causes of conflict * Living through conflict * Creation of governments Key Concepts: causation, connection, perspective Related Concepts: revolution, independence, power	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Effects of matter on energy *Effects of energy on matter *The Scientific process Key Concepts: change, causation, reflection Related Concepts: transformation, force, pattern	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Layers of environments *The interdependence of organisms *Living in community Key Concepts: form, connection, reflection Related Concepts: adaptation, dependence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Our economic system *Entrepreneurs and our future *Effects on society Key Concepts: function, connection, reflection Related Concepts: goods/services, citizenship, responsibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Water is essential to all life on Earth *Local and international water issues *Water and geographical regions Key Concepts: Function, Form, Responsibility Related Concepts: cycle, community, scarcity
5 th Grade	People fight for rights for different reasons and in different ways.	Exploration and discovery contribute to the transformation of society.	Our relationships in a diverse world influence our identity.	Science helps us appreciate the beauty of our world.	Exhibition: Our beliefs, choices and actions matter because of the interconnectedness of our communities and world.	The success of systems depends on the function of their parts.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *A not-so-promising New World *The Colonial Landscape *Choosing a Side Key Concepts: form, causation, perspective Related Concepts: rights, government, history	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Writing History *Two sides to every story *Successes and Tragedies, Heroes and Villains Key Concepts: reflection, perspective, change Related Concepts: interpretation, truth, competition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Our story *Differing perspectives on our world *Influences on identity Key Concepts: reflection, perspective, connection Related Concepts: diversity, geography, networks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Force and motion *Structure and expression *The Physics of Poetry and the Poetry of Physics Key Concepts: change, function, connection Related Concepts: properties, creation, transformation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Cause and effect *Moral obligation *Personal action Key Concepts: form, connection, responsibility Related Concepts: values, initiative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Nature's systems: big and small *A balancing act *The human's responsibility Key Concepts: function, connection, responsibility Related Concepts: ecosystems, balance, interdependence