Cassingham Elementary Grade 1 Units of Inquiry 2014-2015

Revised 5/21/14

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|  | **Transdisciplinary Theme** | Topic | Dates | Central Idea, Concepts (*Key & Related*), & LoI |
| 1 | Who We AreAn inquiry into the nature of the self; beliefs and values; personal, physical, mental, social & spiritual health; human relationships including families, friends, communities and cultures; rights & responsibilities; what it means to be human.Special Guests/Field Trips/Activities:Be sure to schedule with Sarah G. early on for intentional guidance lessons. | Relationships | Aug. 13-Sept. 195.5 weeks | **Central Idea:***As citizens, we try to respect others’ perspectives and communicate our own.***Lines of Inquiry:***-types of relationships**-acknowledging others perspectives**-developing and maintaining relationships***Key Concepts:***Perspective, responsibility, reflection***Related Concepts*:****-citizenship**-rules**-respect* |
| 2 | Sharing the planetAn 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.Special Guests/Field Trips/Activities:Three Creeks/Ohio Wildlife Center | Living, Non-LivingNeeds of Living Things Animals/Plants and habitats | Sept. 22–Oct. 306 weeks | **Central Idea:***Living things share earth’s limited resources to survive.***Lines of Inquiry:***-natural resources**-needs of living things**-scarcity (intro)***Key Concepts:***-causation, connection, responsibility***Related Concepts:***-consequences**-interdependence**-cooperation**-recycling* |
| 3 | How we organize ourselvesAn 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.Special Guests/Field Trips/Activities: | Bexlandia, Needs and Wants (then and now) | Nov. 5–Dec. 186 weeks | **Central Idea:***Wants and needs drive our decisions and actions.***Lines of Inquiry:***-needs of living things (connection)**-how communities are organized (causation)**-changes in how communities meet needs over time (change)***Key Concepts:***Causation, connection, perspective***Related Concepts:***-decision making**-beliefs**-values* |
| 4 | Where We Are in Place & TimeAn inquiry into orientation in place & time; personal histories; homes & journeys; the discoveries, explorations and migrations of humankind; the relationships between and the interconnectedness of individuals and civilizations, from local and global perspectives.Special Guests/Field Trips/Activities:Slate Run | Timelines, Geography | Jan. 5-Feb. 136 weeks | **Central Idea:**People use tools to determine where they have been, where they are, and where they are going.**Lines of Inquiry:**-Time, past/ present/ future-Maps/models-Interaction with physical environment**Key Concepts:***Form, connection, causation***Related Concepts:***-Chronology**-geography* |
| 5 | How the world worksAn inquiry into the natural world and its laws; the interaction between the natural world (physical & 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.Special Guests/Field Trips/Activities:The Works | Scientific Method | Feb. 16-Apr. 36 weeks | **Central Idea:***People may use the scientific method to observe and understand the natural world and its laws.***Lines of Inquiry:***-scientific method**properties/behavior of materials**-position/ location***Key Concepts:***Function, change, reflection***Related Concepts:***-observation**-physical properties*-questioning |
| 6 | How We Express OurselvesAn inquiry into the ways in which we discover and express our ideas, feelings, nature, culture, beliefs and values; the ways in which we reflect on, extend and enjoy our creativity; our appreciation of the aesthetic.Special Guests/Field Trips/Activities:Columbus Art Museum | Self-Expression  | April 6-May 227 weeks | **Central Idea:**People communicate thinking/ideas, feelings and or culture through different modes of self-expression.**Lines of Inquiry:**-modes of self-expression**Key Concepts:**Form, Function, Reflection**Related Concepts:***-art, music**-beliefs**-traditions* |