Cassingham Elementary Grade 2 Units of Inquiry 2015-2016

Revised: 5/18/15

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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:**Slim Goodbody (in March)Preschool Health Fair | Fit for Life | Aug. 12-Sept. 185.5 weeks | **Central Idea:**Choices people make can change their personal health and environment **Lines of Inquiry:**-Daily habits and routines (keep you balanced) (responsibility)-effect of personal choices on wellness (causation)-reflecting upon ourselves and setting personal goals (reflection)-interpersonal relationships (responsibility/reflection)**Key Concepts:**-responsibility, causation, reflection**Related Concepts:**-balance, nutrition, safety, disease, open-mindedness |
| **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:**Zoo | Animals and Environments | Sept. 21-Nov. 66.5 weeks | **Central Idea:**Living things interact with their environment in order to survive.**Lines of Inquiry:**- ways living things function and interact with their physical environments (connection/causation)- changing environments (change)- How plants and animals adapt or respond to environmental conditions (causation)**Key Concepts:**-Change, causation, connection**Related Concepts:**-adaptation, extinction, cycle |
| **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:** | Citizenship and Economics | Nov. 9-Dec. 175.5 weeks | **Central Idea:**Characteristics of an environment can influence organization.**Lines of Inquiry:**-goods and services (form)-human and physical characteristics of an environment (causation)-how resources are used (function)-jobs and income (connection)**Key Concepts:**-Responsibility, connection, causation**Related Concepts:**-citizenship, economics, resources, mapping |
| **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: | Notable People | Jan. 4-Feb. 126 weeks |  **Central Idea:**Peoples’ actions have shaped the world in which we live. **Lines of Inquiry:**• Interconnectedness of people (connection)•Time can be recorded and shown in different ways (function/form)•Changes in technology (change)**Key Concepts:**Function/Form, Change, Connection **Related Concepts:**Notable, timelines, biographies |
| **5** | 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:**Vets Memorial Field Trip – Grimm’s Fairy TalesRL Stine Grant: Art, Music, Movement, Playwrite | Stories | Feb. 19-April 16 weeks | **Central Idea:**Cultures can express their beliefs and values through stories and literary archetypes. **Lines of Inquiry:**- message, lesson or moral (determine in stories) *reflection*- two or more versions of the same story (compare and contrast) *perspective*- story structure (archetypes) *form***Key Concepts:**-Perspective, form, reflection**Related Concepts:**-story elements, morals, culture, patterns |
| **6** | How the World WorksAn 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.**Special Guests/Field Trips/Activities:**COSI | Forces and Motion/Weather | April 4-May 207 weeks | **Central Idea:**People use patterns to predict changes in the natural world**Lines of Inquiry:**-contact forces (push, pull, friction)/non-contact forces (magnets, gravity) (function)-cause/effect, predictable outcomes, patterns (causation)-writing like a scientist (perspective)**Key Concepts:**function, causation, perspective**Related Concepts:**magnets, weather, force, energy, motion, prediction, cause/effect, patterns  |