

Program of Inquiry ~ Whittier International School ~ Boulder, Colorado ~ USA

Updated 11-20-04, LB

Grades	Who we are	Where we are in time and place	How we express ourselves	How the world works	How we organize ourselves	Sharing the planet
	<i>An exploration of the nature of the self; of our beliefs and values; of personal, physical, mental, social and spiritual health; of our families, communities, and cultures; of our rights and responsibilities; of what it means to be human.</i>	<i>An exploration of our orientation in place and time; of our personal histories; of history and geography from local and global perspectives; of our homes and journeys; of the discoveries, explorations and migrations of humankind; of the contributions of individuals and civilizations.</i>	<i>An exploration of the ways in which we discover and express our nature, ideas, feelings, beliefs, and values through language and the arts.</i>	<i>An exploration of the physical and material world; of natural and human-made phenomena; of the world of science and technology.</i>	<i>An exploration of human systems and communities; of the world of work, its nature and its value; of employment and their impact.</i>	<i>An exploration of our rights and responsibilities as we try to share finite resources with other people, with other living things; of communities and of the relationships within and between them.</i>
K	Title: My Senses and Me Central idea: <i>We know our world through our senses.</i> An inquiry into: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The information each sense gives us ▪ Body parts and the senses ▪ When a sense doesn't work 	Title: Continents Central idea: <i>People live on continents.</i> An inquiry into: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Continents ▪ People on the continents ▪ A comparison of Antarctica and Africa 	Title: Celebrations Central idea: <i>People celebrate for different reasons.</i> An inquiry into: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Different celebrations around the world ▪ The reasons people celebrate 	Title: Wood Central idea: <i>People use wood.</i> An inquiry into: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ What is wood? ▪ Types of wood ▪ Different uses for wood 	Title: School RULES! Central idea: <i>Rules help people work together.</i> An inquiry into: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Our classroom ▪ Classroom rights ▪ Classroom responsibilities ▪ Rules in the school 	Title: Trash or Treasure Central Idea: <i>Things we use can be recycled.</i> An inquiry into: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ways to recycle ▪ What people recycle
Specialists	P.E. – Blind Fold Game Music – Song repertoire, body percussion and movement	Music - Song repertoire, videos: music of cultures, music history	Music: Heritage Night: songs of other cultures & languages, seasonal & holiday song repertoire	Library	Music: Word songs, rules songs	Art & Library Music: Recycle raps, Earth day song repertoire
1	Title: My Family and Me Central idea: <i>Families affect who you are.</i> An inquiry into: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Families are different ▪ Families change ▪ Families' needs 	Title: Personal Histories Central idea: <i>Our past and present are connected.</i> An inquiry into: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Personal History ▪ Generations ▪ Heritage 	Title: Nothing more than Feelings. Central idea: <i>People can show their feelings through the arts.</i> An inquiry into: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Oral expression of stories, poems, and songs ▪ Showing your feelings ▪ Drama 	Title: Worms Central idea: <i>Worms have similar needs to other living things.</i> An inquiry into: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ What worms need ▪ The characteristics of worms ▪ How to investigate something 	Title: Going to the Market Central idea: <i>People go to markets to get things they need and want.</i> An inquiry into: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Making choices at a market ▪ Why people go to a market ▪ What is at a market 	Title: Pets Central Idea: <i>Pets have needs.</i> An inquiry into: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Pets' rights ▪ Taking care of a pet ▪ Pets in different cultures
Specialists	P.E.: Family Exercise and Habits Music: Songs	Library: Research Music: Multicultural listening, videos and songs	Music: Songs, performances P.E.: Dance	Music: Poetry, composition, songs repertoire, instruments	Music: Work songs	

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2	<p>Title: Who's Who? Central idea: <i>Understanding ourselves enables us to understand others.</i> An inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unique backgrounds and experience Healthy bodies support healthy communities 	<p>Title: Heroes and Heroines Central idea: <i>Individuals positively affect civilizations over time.</i> An inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Biographical studies of influential individuals Categorization of human achievements Local vs. global contributors 	<p>Title: Writing to Express Ourselves Central idea: <i>People use writing to express themselves.</i> An inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> How people write to share factual information. How people write to express their feelings. Authors convey moral messages Fairy tales create a common link in world literature 	<p>Title: Arthropods Central idea: <i>Arthropods are vital to life.</i> An inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What an Arthropod is The life cycle of an Arthropod Arthropod's connection to other organisms Impact of insecticides on the environment 	<p>Title: Community Elements Central idea: <i>Members of a community are interdependent.</i> An inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Members work, live and depend on each other Necessary elements of a functioning community Communities expressing and preserving their identities Communities changing over time 	<p>Title: Above and Below Central Idea: <i>People's lives are affected by the region in which they live.</i> An inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Native people adapting to their environment are using natural resources Ways settlers adapt and modify their environment Changes in societies that affect the connection between each other and the natural world
Specialists	P.E.: Heart Healthy Info Music: Movement to Music		Music: Poetry, limericks, composition, song repertoire	Music: Performance, song repertoire		Music: Song repertoire
3	<p>Title: We Can Work It Out Central idea: <i>Conflict is part of life. We have a responsibility to resolve conflict positively.</i> An inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conflict has different forms How people resolve conflicts 	<p>Title: Where in the world are we? Central idea: <i>Maps and globes have been used through history as tools for people to locate themselves on the planet.</i> An inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> How to interpret maps and globes Where we are in relationship to others Physical and human characteristics of places and how these define a region 	<p>Title: Message in Media Central idea: <i>People use many forms of media to communicate.</i> An inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Forms and types of media The effects of media Uses of media Change over time Evaluation of messages 	<p>Title: Good Vibrations Central idea: <i>Sound is a universal phenomenon.</i> An inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sounds are caused by vibrations Sounds are transmitted by many materials The way sound is used to communicate 	<p>Title: International Rights of a Child Central Idea: <i>Every child has rights and responsibilities.</i> An inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The rights of each child Children who do and don't experience basic rights The relationship between rights & responsibilities How each person can make a difference Ways to celebrate rights of the child and UN day 	<p>Title: Prairie to Peak Central Idea: <i>Characteristics of each zone on earth support the life forms that exist there.</i> An inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> How life forms differ from zone to zone How people's lives are defined by the zone they live in What adaptations plants and animals need How to form a demand for water is unique to each zone
Specialists	Music: Tension/release, examples: listening, singing, instrumentation		Art: Kachina Doll Library: Legends, Video Music: Reflections of society in music: ballads, protest songs, folk songs, musicals, etc.	Music: Keyboards, instruments, listening	Library: Videotaped Rights Music: Song Repertoire	Music: Song Repertoire

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4	<p>Title: Revolution</p> <p>Central idea: <i>Revolution can lead to changes in society and culture.</i></p> <p>An inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Differing perspectives of involved parties ▪ How beliefs and values affect our choices of values ▪ Case study: the U.S. Revolution 	<p>Title: Our Place in Space</p> <p>Central idea: <i>Conditions on Earth are affected by our location in space.</i></p> <p>An inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The history of space exploration ▪ The elements and history of our solar system ▪ How our place in space creates seasons, days, months, years, and the ability to sustain life 	<p>Title: You Don't Say</p> <p>Central idea: <i>People express themselves through movement.</i></p> <p>An inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Body language and its cultural differences ▪ Sign language ▪ Dance 	<p>Title: May the Force Be With You</p> <p>Central idea: <i>Electricity and magnetism are natural forces with predictable behaviors.</i></p> <p>An inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Examples of electricity and magnetism in nature ▪ Predictable behaviors of electricity and magnetism ▪ Human inventions using electricity and magnetism 	<p>Title: Exploration to Colonization</p> <p>Central idea: <i>People explore and colonize "new lands" for many reasons and with varying results.</i></p> <p>An inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reasons people explore and colonize ▪ Survival issues for explorers and colonies ▪ International effects of exploration and colonization ▪ Case study: The 13 U.S. colonies 	<p>Title: Food as a Resource</p> <p>Central idea: <i>Food is a limited resource.</i></p> <p>An inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Why different people eat different foods ▪ Why and how food production changes ▪ The effects of changes to food production
Specialists	Music: Music of revolution		P.E.: Dance Music: Music & Movement		Music: Music Repertoire	
5	<p>Title: Human Growth and Development</p> <p>Central idea: <i>Understanding our body systems provides a necessary foundation for making responsible choices in our health habits and social behavior.</i></p> <p>An inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The systems of the human body ▪ Physical, emotional, and sexual health ▪ Factors that allow us to nurture the health and safety of our own, and others' bodies 	<p>Title: Immigration</p> <p>Central idea: <i>The world is impacted by people who leave their home counties to live in new locations.</i></p> <p>An inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reasons for emigration, historically and today ▪ Impact on immigrants, and their new country ▪ Past and present perspectives on immigration 	<p>Title: PYP Exhibition</p> <p>Central idea: <i>Accumulated knowledge can be applied and presented in a meaningful way.</i></p> <p>An inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ How our knowledge can impact others ▪ How knowledge can be applied in an unfamiliar setting ▪ How we can involve family & community in our learning through action ▪ Creative and comprehensive presentation of acquired skills, attitudes, and knowledge 	<p>Title: Variables</p> <p>Central idea: <i>Components of a system may be varied or controlled in order to predict or influence the outcome of an interaction.</i></p> <p>An inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How to design and carry out scientific investigations • How energy is transferred • How interactions produce changes in a system • How human beings affect the world through science 	<p>Title: The Price is Right</p> <p>Central idea: <i>People choose different economic values and principles to guide their decisions in a world with limited resources.</i></p> <p>An inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Economics and historic events ▪ A comparison and a contrast between different economic systems used throughout the world ▪ Economics principles 	<p>Title: The Water Planet</p> <p>Central idea: <i>Humans have rights and responsibilities based on their knowledge of water as a finite resource and as a habitat.</i></p> <p>An inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ States, characteristics and processes of water ▪ Uses of water ▪ Water politics ▪ Interdependence between humans and water
Specialists	P.E.: Workouts	Music: Ethnic Music				