



Notre Dame Academy
Programme of Inquiry 2015- 2016



	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, of beliefs and values; personal, physical, mental, social, 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 relationship between 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 relationship within and between them; access to equal opportunities; peace and conflict resolution
Preschool 3						
	Focus: Social Studies/Science	Focus: Social Studies/Science	Focus: Language Arts	Focus: Science		
	<p>Central Idea: Every day I learn about me.</p> <p>Key Concepts: Responsibility, Connection, Form</p> <p>Related Concepts: ownership, change through time, discovery, exploration, progress, interdependence, family, diversity, family roles and traditions</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> physical characteristics feelings likes and dislikes myself as part of my family and my classroom f <p>*Health and Nutrition</p>	<p>Central Idea: People and animals live in different types of homes, have different needs, and houses may be different across climates.</p> <p>Key Concepts: Form, change and Connection</p> <p>Related Concepts: regions, landscape, geography, family and diversity</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> types of shelters people and animal's needs purpose and use of shelters <p>*Insects and Spiders</p>	<p>Central Idea: People use rhymes and play with language</p> <p>Key Concepts: Form, Change, Connection</p> <p>Related Concepts: structure, pattern and consequences</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Composing rhymes playing with language pictures tell stories 	<p>Central Idea: Our world is made up of shapes, colors, numbers, and letters.</p> <p>Key Concepts: Form, Function and Connection</p> <p>Related Concepts: properties and use of materials and structures, dependence and impact</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Types of Shapes and colors Use of shapes, colors and numbers and letters Purpose of shapes, colors, numbers and letters <p>*Trees</p>		

Stand Alones: Oceans, Weather and Spiders

KEY

* - Stand alones incorporated into Units of Inquiry

Stand Alones- listed at bottom of grade level POI

Green- strand covered in theme

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Preschool 4	Focus: Social Studies/Science		Focus: Language Arts	Focus: Science	Focus: Science/Social Studies	
	<p>Central Idea: Everyday I learn about how my body works.</p> <p>Key Concepts: Responsibility, Function & Connection</p> <p>Related Concepts: ownership, change through time, discovery, biology, systems, nutrition, well-being</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Physical characteristics of the body The five senses Function of body parts <p>*Health and Nutrition</p>		<p>Central Idea: People use rhymes and play with language</p> <p>Key Concepts: Form, Causation and perspective</p> <p>Related Concepts: structure, pattern and consequences</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Composing rhymes and poetry playing with language pictures tell stories 	<p>Central Idea: Everything is made of matter</p> <p>Key Concepts: Connection, Form and Responsibility</p> <p>Related Concepts: uses of materials, structures and changes of states</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> materials can be sorted Composition and physical properties of materials use of materials depends on it's properties <p>*Trees</p>	<p>Central Idea: People choose transportation to meet their needs</p> <p>Key Concepts: Form, change and Connection</p> <p>Related Concepts: geography, classification, movement and direction</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Different types of transportation around the world Types of Transportation systems Reasons we use different types of transportation 	

Stand Alones: Oceans and Weather

KEY

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Kinder						
	Focus: Social Studies	Focus: Social Studies/Science	Focus: Social Studies/Art	Focus: Science	Focus: Social Studies	Focus: Science
	<p>Central Idea: We all belong to communities.</p> <p>Key Concepts: Change, Form, Perspective.</p> <p>Related Concepts: Family, Identity, Roles, Interdependence</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> global communities types of communities community helpers and their roles 	<p>Central Idea: The earth is made up of many types of rocks.</p> <p>Key Concepts: Form, causation and change</p> <p>Related Concepts: distinctive features, climate, erosion, properties, landscape and artifacts</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the attributes of rocks and soil natural changes over time earth's surface 	<p>Central Idea: People celebrate important events and holidays.</p> <p>Key Concepts: Function, perspective and reflection</p> <p>Related Concepts: patterns, culture, beliefs and values</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> meaning of celebrations An appreciation of the many kinds of celebrations Similarities and differences between family celebrations Celebrations reflect values that are important in a given culture. 	<p>Central Idea: Day and Night affect living things on earth.</p> <p>Key Concepts: Connection, Function, Change</p> <p>Related Concepts: seasons, space and gravity</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Earth's movement Night and day gravity <p style="text-align: right;">*Gravity and Motion</p>	<p>Central Idea: Signs and symbols are used throughout the world</p> <p>Key Concepts: Connection, perspective and reflection</p> <p>Related Concepts: identity, traditions, communication and roles</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Signs and symbols development of signs, symbols Use of signs and symbols 	<p>Central Idea: All living things have basic needs.</p> <p>Key Concepts: connection, responsibility and causation</p> <p>Related Concepts: Animals, classification, growth, habitat, plants, interdependence</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the difference between living and non-living Similarities and differences between plants and animals. Needs of living things

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Stand Alones- listed at bottom of grade level POI
Green- strand covered in theme

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Grade 1						
	Focus: Social Studies	Focus: Social Studies	Focus: Science	Focus: Science	Focus: Science/Social Studies	Focus: Science
	<p>Central Idea: We learn from and are inspired by individuals from the past and present.</p> <p>Key Concepts: Perspective, reflection and responsibility</p> <p>Related Concepts: conflict, cooperation, justice, discovery, conservation, technological advances</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> contributions of historical figures qualities of heroes how every day life is similar or different among historical figures purpose of folktales 	<p>Central Idea: Cultures are influenced by various factors.</p> <p>Key Concepts: Change, perspective and connection</p> <p>Related Concepts: social organizations, culture, family, traditions, settlements, interdependence and sustainability</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> people move and settle into new areas Impact of people moving Lifestyles of groups of people 	<p>Central Idea: Light and sound are utilized in various ways</p> <p>Key Concepts: Form, Function and change</p> <p>Related Concepts: light, sound, feelings, pitch, tempo, color and contrast</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Properties of light and sound How light and sound are used How light and sound can be changed 	<p>Central Idea: Weather changes all around the world</p> <p>Key Concepts: Change, connection and perspective</p> <p>Related Concepts: climate, seasons, systems, atmosphere, weather</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> different types of weather differences/patterns and changes weather instruments <p style="text-align: center;">*Water</p>	<p>Central Idea: Goods comes from various sources</p> <p>Key Concepts: Connection, function, and change</p> <p>Related Concepts: cooperation, production, dependence, distribution, plants and mechanics</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> origin of different goods stages of production aides in production impact of environmental conditions 	<p>Central Idea: Living things exist in environments</p> <p>Key Concepts: Form, connection and reflection</p> <p>Related Concepts: adaption, ecosystems, habitats, plants and animals</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> plants and animals have features types of environments needs of living things

*Stand Alones: Magnets

KEY

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Stand Alones- listed at bottom of grade level POI
Green- strand covered in theme

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Grade 2						
	Focus: Social Studies	Focus: Social Studies	Focus: Social Studies	Focus: Science	Focus: Science	Focus: Science
	<p>Central Idea: Societies organize themselves through systems.</p> <p>Key Concepts: Connection, perspective and reflection</p> <p>Related Concepts: government, freedom, justice, legislation, citizenship, diversity, rights, history, geography and wealth</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The concept of government and its basic functions Roles of elected officials The character traits of historical figures 	<p>Central Idea: Exploration leads to discoveries, opportunities and change.</p> <p>Key Concepts: Causation, change and reflection</p> <p>Related Concepts: conflict, identity, exploration, geography and settlements</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reasons for exploration Consequences of exploration Learning through discoveries 	<p>Central Idea: The groups we belong to guide our lifestyles and responsibilities</p> <p>Key Concepts: Responsibility, causation and perspective</p> <p>Related Concepts: conflict, cooperation, diversity, family, traditions, religion and geography</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> groups we belong to culture and cultural diversity mapping skills Responsibilities of individuals 	<p>Central Idea: We on Earth are part of a much larger system.</p> <p>Key Concepts: Form, change and reflection</p> <p>Related Concepts: climate, atmosphere, seasons, day and night</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the earth's place in the solar system effects of the position of the sun and the moon Stars Gravitational Pull 	<p>Central Idea: Materials exist in different states.</p> <p>Key Concepts: Form, Change and causation</p> <p>Related Concepts: materials, changes in state, gases, liquids, solids, physical changes, properties and uses of materials</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> States and properties of Matter Effects of combining materials How properties of materials change 	<p>Central Idea: There are naturally occurring cycles all around us.</p> <p>Key Concepts: Function, change and responsibility</p> <p>Related Concepts: growth, animals and plants</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The life cycles of different organisms The impact of humans and weather on the natural cycles Similarities and differences between different life cycles. <p style="text-align: right;">*Weather Watching</p>

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Grade 3						
	Focus: Social Studies	Focus: Social Studies	Focus: Science	Focus: Science/Social Studies	Focus: Science	Focus: Science
	<p>Central Idea: Members of a free market have social and economic responsibilities.</p> <p>Key Concepts: Causation, perspective, and connection</p> <p>Related Concepts: beliefs/values, communication, design, interpretation, research, production, distribution, consumption of goods/services and perception</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beliefs and values influence economic decisions • Interdependence of consumers and producers • Personal spending and saving choices • Advertising's purposes and impact 	<p>Central Idea: Discovery can bring about change.</p> <p>Key Concepts: Connection, perspective and causation</p> <p>Related Concepts: forces, systems, traditions, roles, beliefs, and ancient civilizations</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reasons for exploration • Historical figures in exploration • We learn from explorations and our past 	<p>Central Idea: Actions impact our environment.</p> <p>Key Concepts: Responsibility, Causation, Reflection</p> <p>Related Concepts: Beliefs/values, perceptions, communication, representation, production, interpretation, design, stereotype</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Impact of our actions • Human use of the environment • Responsibility towards our Earth 	<p>Central Idea: Living and nonliving things can be classified</p> <p>Key Concepts: Form, causation and change</p> <p>Related Concepts: systems, animals, adaptations, organisms and habitats</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biomes of the world • The dependence of organisms on their habitat. • Attributes of living and nonliving things. <p>*Fossils</p>	<p>Central Idea: Energy may be converted and transformed.</p> <p>Key Concepts: Form, causation and responsibility</p> <p>Related Concepts: forces, chemical & physical changes, conduction, connection, efficiency, forms of energy, transformation of energy</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forms of energy sources • Sustainable energy • How energy is used 	<p>Central Idea: Water is an essential resource.</p> <p>Key Concepts: Function, change, causation</p> <p>Related Concepts: sustainability, climate, resources, changes of state</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sources and uses of water • The water cycle • Weather

*Stand Alones: Sound

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Grade 4						
	Focus: Social Studies	Focus: Social Studies	Focus: Science	Focus: Science	Focus: Social Studies/Science	Focus: Science
	<p>Central Idea: Humans all have rights but those rights are not upheld in all societies.</p> <p>Key Concepts : Connection, perspective and reflection</p> <p>Related Concepts: conflict, diversity, consequences, prejudice and interpretation</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Various points of view • Types of civil unrest • Causes, effects and contributions of civil unrest 	<p>Central Idea: Conflicts and revolutions are influenced by beliefs and values.</p> <p>Key Concepts: Causation, Connection, and perspective</p> <p>Related Concepts: conflict, interdependence, justice, identity, networks, prejudice, rolls, traditions, impact and chronology</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What conflicts have arisen because of differences? • How are decisions made concerning our beliefs and values? • How have resolutions from conflicts affected us now? • What were some of the contributions of key individuals in the American Revolution? 	<p>Central Idea: Color and Light can be used in many ways</p> <p>Key Concepts: Form, Function, change,</p> <p>Related Concepts: spectrum, transparent, translucent, opaque, reflection and refraction</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Properties of color and light • How color and light are used • How color and light can be changed 	<p>Central Idea: Electricity and magnetism impact our life.</p> <p>Key Concepts: Function, causation and responsibility</p> <p>Related Concepts: forms of energy, magnetism, power, innovation and technological advances, conservation</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Characteristics and properties of electricity • The link between electricity and magnetism • Conductors, insulators and circuits • People who contributed to the field of electricity and magnetism 	<p>Central Idea: How humans and geographical features impact each other</p> <p>Key Concepts: Form, causation and change</p> <p>Related Concepts: geography, borders, regions, landscape and settlements</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mapping the world • Geographical features of countries • How people interact with the environment • Changes to features of the earth 	<p>Central Idea: Living things change and adapt.</p> <p>Key Concepts: causation, responsibility and connection</p> <p>Related Concepts: pattern, consequences, interdependence, ecosystems, organisms, producers, consumers and decomposers</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Properties of ecosystems and environments. • human interaction with the environment • the role of producers, consumers and decomposers • survival or extinction of organisms

*Stand Alones: Forces/Motion (simple machines)

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Grade 5			EXHIBITION			
	Focus: Social Studies	Focus: Science/Social Studies	Focus: Art/Lang Arts/Social Studies/Science	Focus: Science	Focus: Social Studies	Focus: Social Studies/Science
	<p>Central Idea: Organizations evolve based on a need.</p> <p>Key Concepts: Function, responsibility, perspective and causation.</p> <p>Related Concepts: government, freedom, justice, legislation, citizenship, communication, rights, diversity, history, inherited traits, learned behavior</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Documents evolve as needs change • Individuals bring predetermined qualities/ideas into their society • Individuals are influenced/molded by their social environment 	<p>Central Idea: Curiosity and challenges encourage exploration.</p> <p>Key Concepts: Form, causation, Change</p> <p>Related Concepts: discovery, exploration, innovation, space, systems (solar) technological advances and singularity</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Human exploration of our universe over time. • Human inquiry leads to exploration. • Consequences of exploration. 	<p>Central Idea: Humans have the ability to act on their beliefs and values to improve local and global communities.</p> <p>Key Concepts: Reflection, Causation, Responsibility</p> <p>Related Concepts: culture, health and safety, nature.</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Action to improve health through medical research, physical/mental activity air/water quality and food/gardening. • Action to improve the environment and energy conservation. • Action to improve equal treatment through education. • Action to improve the lives of animals. • Action to improve lives of displaced people. 	<p>Central Idea: Properties of matter and changes therein provide both opportunities and challenges.</p> <p>Key Concepts: Causation, form, function</p> <p>Related Concepts: changes of states, chemical and physical changes, density, solids, liquids and gases</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Different forms and properties of different matter. • Practical applications of physical and chemical changes and the resulting effects. • Ethical dilemmas associated with manufacturing operations and the resulting material. 	<p>Central Idea: How economy drives personal and societal decision making.</p> <p>Key Concepts: Connection, Function, Responsibility</p> <p>Related Concepts: Conflict, civilization, culture, health and safety, nature, systems, role, interdependence and initiatives</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economic Systems meet the needs of consumers and producers. • Entrepreneurs take risks to develop goods and services. • Competition, markets, and prices influence people's behavior. 	<p>Central Idea: Conflict occurs when different needs, desires, and personal ideologies exist in a society.</p> <p>Key Concepts: Perspective, Responsibility, Causation</p> <p>Related Concepts: conflict, prejudice, ownership, revolution and borders</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The effect of conflict on small groups or individuals. • The government's role in the creation of resolution of conflict. • Relationships between changing societies. • Make connections between current and past conflict.

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