

Speas Global Elementary School

Programme of Inquiry 2023-2024

	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
Transdisciplinary Theme	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.
KG 5-6 year olds	<p>1) Date is TBD Aug. 28 - Oct. 6</p> <p>Central Idea: <i>Cooperation depends on citizens possessing unique roles.</i></p> <p>Key Concepts: Responsibility, Connection</p> <p>Related Concepts: relationships, citizenship, rules, emotions, similarities, differences, consequences</p> <p>Lines of inquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fair play and friendship Feelings and ways of expressing them Rules for safety and fairness Comparing the similarities and differences of people in our classroom 	<p>2) Date is TBD Oct. 9 - Nov. 21</p> <p>Central Idea: <i>Reflecting on the past creates an understanding of change.</i></p> <p>Key Concepts: Change, Form Connection</p> <p>Related Concepts: Weather, patterns, seasons, cycles</p> <p>Lines of inquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ways people change over time Daily and seasonal weather changes Events that have shaped history Life in the past and life today (home, schools, communities, and around the world) 	<p>6) Date is TBD Apr. 29 - June 7</p> <p>Central Idea: <i>Cultural practices connect communities.</i></p> <p>Key Concepts: Perspective, function</p> <p>Related Concepts: Culture, Beliefs and Values, Comparisons</p> <p>Lines of inquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cultural practices in local communities and around the world Comparing the elements of various cultures How different cultures view animals 	<p>4) Date is TBD Jan. 29 - Mar. 8</p> <p>Central Idea: <i>Human activity reflects the Earth's natural cycles.</i></p> <p>Key Concepts: Causation, Change, Connection</p> <p>Related Concepts: Weather, patterns, cycles</p> <p>Lines of inquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Observing and comparing the weather Seasonal changes and weather patterns Effects of weather on how people dress, live, work, etc. How the environment influences people to move from place to place. 	<p>5) Date is TBD Mar. 11 - Apr. 26</p> <p>Central Idea: <i>Models of the Earth provide systems to investigate our world.</i></p> <p>Key Concepts: Form, Function</p> <p>Related Concepts: symbols, systems</p> <p>Lines of inquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Representations of land and water features on maps and globes Terms used to describe locations, positions and motions of objects (and animals) Different types of the same animal and where they live on the Earth (North American focus with global connections) 	<p>3) Date is TBD Nov. 27 - Jan. 24</p> <p>Central Idea: <i>Living things depend on resources for survival.</i></p> <p>Key Concepts: Responsibility, Causation</p> <p>Related Concepts: Natural resources, Needs and wants, Goods and services</p> <p>Lines of inquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Living and nonliving things Basic needs and wants and goods and services Ways people use natural resources
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1st Grade 6-7 year olds	<p>1) Date is TBD Aug. 28 - Oct. 6</p> <p>Central Idea: <i>Choices we make in daily routines affect our way of life.</i></p> <p>Key Concepts: function, connection, responsibility</p> <p>Related Concepts: authority, relationships, roles, behavior, citizenship</p>	<p>2) Date is TBD Oct. 9 - Nov. 21</p> <p>Central Idea: <i>Events impact the geography of neighborhoods and communities over time.</i></p> <p>Key Concepts: Function, causation</p> <p>Related Concepts: representations, properties</p>	<p>6) Date is TBD Apr. 29 - June 7</p> <p>Central Idea: <i>Celebrations express the traditions of a culture.</i></p> <p>Key Concepts: Form, Change, Perspective</p> <p>Related Concepts: patterns, diversity, culture, values, beliefs</p> <p>Lines of inquiry:</p>	<p>3) Date is TBD Nov. 27 - Jan. 24</p> <p>Central Idea: <i>Energy exists in different forms and is used in many ways.</i></p> <p>Key Concepts: Causation, Change, Connection</p> <p>Related Concepts: Energy, basic needs, force, motion</p> <p>Lines of inquiry:</p>	<p>5) Date is TBD Mar. 11 - Apr. 26</p> <p>Central Idea: <i>People make decisions about how to earn and use money.</i></p> <p>Key Concepts: Form, Connection</p> <p>Related Concepts: Economics</p> <p>Lines of inquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The relationship between 	<p>4) Date is TBD Jan. 29 - Mar. 8</p> <p>Central Idea: <i>Human actions impact Earth's resources.</i></p> <p>Key Concepts: Function, Responsibility</p> <p>Related Concepts: Resources, conservation</p> <p>Lines of inquiry:</p>

	Lines of inquiry: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The importance of rules to a society How culture, values and beliefs influence how disagreements are resolved in classrooms, local communities and the world. The effects of making positive or negative choices in everyday life 	Lines of inquiry: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Characteristics of various landforms and bodies of water and how people interact with them Properties of soil and other Earth materials Tools and symbols used to describe geographic locations Events that change communities and neighborhoods over time 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Patterns of the Earth, moon, and sun system Cultural practices, traditions, and customs around the world Importance of artistic expressions and celebrations and their impact on communities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Forces that are seen and unseen Motion and how it can be changed How animals and plants use energy 	scarcity and limited resources <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The relationship between supply and demand Choices families and communities make based on supply and demand Why people and countries trade goods and services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Needs of animals and plants. How humans and the environment interact. Locations of natural resources.
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2nd Grade 7-8 year olds	3) Date is TBD Nov. 27 - Jan. 24 Central Idea: <i>People advocate for freedom, equality, and democracy.</i> Key Concepts: Responsibility, Perspective Related Concepts: Government, Citizenship, Structure, Groups, Freedom, Equality, Individuals Lines of inquiry: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> How principles of democracy have shaped the United States The role of government in protecting freedom and equality of individuals The structure and function of the three branches of government How various indigenous, religious, gender, and racial groups advocate for freedom and equality (conflict resolution) 	5) Date is TBD Mar. 11 - Apr. 26 Central Idea: <i>Various sources provide perspectives of historical events.</i> Key Concepts: Perspective, connection Related Concepts: sequencing, change, pattern Lines of inquiry: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Natural features that encourage people to settle in certain areas Historical events that have shaped the history of the United States Various people that have impacted American history (including women, indigenous, religious, racial, and other minority groups) Using multiple sources to explore various perspectives of history (primary and secondary sources) 	1) Date is TBD Aug. 28 - Oct. 6 Central Idea: <i>Artistic expressions reflect the culture and history of communities.</i> Key Concepts: Perspective, Function Related Concepts: sound, expressions of culture, beliefs Lines of inquiry: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Various artistic expressions of diverse cultures in our community Sound production and vibrating objects Components of cultural identity 	4) Date is TBD Jan. 29 - Mar. 8 Central Idea: <i>Humans strive to understand and measure the changing Earth.</i> Key Concepts: Function, Causation, Change Related Concepts: weather, states of matter, measurement, patterns Lines of inquiry: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Patterns of weather and factors that affect weather Recording weather patterns daily and over time Patterns of change in the properties of solids and liquids Measuring changes in properties of solids and liquids 	6) Date is TBD Apr. 29 - June 7 Central Idea: <i>Economic decisions depend on resources, community, and the environment.</i> Key Concepts: Causation, connection Related Concepts: geography, resources, economics Lines of inquiry: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The impact of scarcity on economic decisions How the availability of resources impacts the production of goods Interdependence of geography and resources 	2) Date is TBD Oct. 9 - Nov. 21 Central Idea: <i>Living things go through the process of change.</i> Key Concepts: Form, change, function Related Concepts: life cycles, genetics Lines of inquiry: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Characteristics of insects and their adaptation to the environment Comparison of animal life cycles Organisms are similar and different to their parents based on their characteristics
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3rd Grade 8-9 year olds	2) Date is TBD Oct. 10 - Nov. 22 Central Idea: <i>Natural and man-made systems provide structure, protection and support.</i> Key Concepts: Function, Responsibility Related Concepts: Body Systems, Government, Healthy Choices	1) Date is TBD Aug. 29 - Oct. 7 Central Idea: <i>Movement and change influence environments.</i> Key Concepts: Change, perspective, connection Related Concepts: energy, properties of matter, culture, impact	6) Date is TBD May 1 - June 9 Central Idea: <i>Authors portray perspectives through artistic expression.</i> Key Concepts: Perspective, Function Related Concepts: diversity, culture, figurative language Lines of inquiry:	3) Date is TBD Nov. 28 - Jan. 26 Central Idea: <i>Human curiosity creates a need to understand forces, motion and interactions.</i> Key Concepts: Connection, Causation Related Concepts: Patterns, movement, forces, change	5) Date is TBD Mar. 13 - Apr. 28 Central Idea: <i>Entrepreneurs enhance the global economy.</i> Key Concepts: Connection, Causation Related Concepts: economics, inventors, entrepreneurs, supply and demand	4) Date is TBD Jan. 30 - Mar. 10 Central Idea: <i>Living things and habitats possess specific functions and structures.</i> Key Concepts: Function, change, form Related Concepts: Habitats, life cycles, environmental conditions

	Lines of inquiry: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Human body systems (protection, movement, and support) Local community development, structure, and function How people contribute to the well-being of systems The lasting impact historical events have on local communities 	Lines of inquiry: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Multiple perspectives as portrayed through personal experiences and interactions. Characteristics of identity for self, community, school, and governments. How structure and properties of matter can change. How energy is transferred from one object to another 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Word choices in literature Artistic expression of cultures How multiple perspectives are portrayed 	Lines of inquiry: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Major components and patterns observed in the earth/moon/sun system Shadows on the Earth Motion and the factors that affect motion Scientific and technological advances on the local community 	Lines of inquiry: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> How entrepreneurs develop communities Resources that affect the local economy Causes for movement of goods, people, and ideas 	Lines of inquiry: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plants and how they survive in various environments. Structures of the Earth's surface. Harmonious relationships between habitats and living things.
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4th Grade 9-10 year olds	4) Date is TBD Jan. 29 - Mar. 8 Central Idea: <i>Revolution, reform, and resistance shape the modern world.</i> Key Concepts: Connection, Perspective Related Concepts: conflict, revolution, reform, resistance Lines of inquiry: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The role of citizens in local and state government. (reform and connection) North Carolina's role in major conflicts and historical events. (revolution and connection) How the experiences and achievements of minorities, indigenous groups, and marginalized people have contributed to change and innovation. (resistance and perspective) 	1) Date is TBD Aug. 28 - Oct. 6 Central Idea: <i>Expansion and exploration of humankind alters the Earth's surface.</i> Key Concepts: Causation, Change Related Concepts: sequences, pattern, impact, migration, transformation, consequences Lines of inquiry: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Migration and expansion in the United States Actions that impact the environment Weathering and erosion and their effects on the earth Attributes that contribute to the culture and identity of individuals, communities and places 	6) Date is TBD Apr. 29 - June 7 Central Idea: <i>Understanding different cultures, customs, and history builds a sense of pride and acceptance of self and others.</i> Key Concepts: Form, Connection Related Concepts: culture, remembrance, diversity, influence Lines of inquiry: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The moon's significance on the earth The ways in which values and beliefs influence identity The significance of historical symbols from various perspectives 	5) Date is TBD Mar. 11 - Apr. 26 Central Idea: <i>Energy takes various forms and affects the motion of objects.</i> Key Concepts: Connection, Function Related Concepts: Energy, forces, motion Lines of inquiry: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Basic forms of energy (light, sound, heat, electrical, energy of motion) Various forces that affect motion of objects (magnets and electricity) Procedures which help us solve problems 	3) Date is TBD Nov. 27 - Jan. 24 Central Idea: <i>Interdependence requires people to make choices.</i> Key Concepts: Responsibility, Connection, Causation Related Concepts: Interdependence, scarcity, choice, healthy lifestyle, decisions Lines of inquiry: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> How economic decisions and resources affect the economy The impact of scarcity and choice on decisions Problem solving in real world contexts Healthy choices (for your body and for your financial health) 	2) Date is TBD Oct. 9 - Nov. 21 Central Idea: <i>Living things struggle to share the earth's finite resources.</i> Key Concepts: Causation, change, responsibility Related Concepts: dependence, conservation, pattern, adaptation Lines of inquiry: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Surviving in changing habitats The first inhabitants (American Indians in NC) Explorers and settlers (in North Carolina) Life in the carolina colony
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5th Grade 10-11 year olds	3) Date is TBD Nov. 27 - Jan. 24 Central Idea: <i>Various factors shape cultural history and sense of self.</i> Key Concepts: Causation, connection, change Related Concepts: migration, culture, heritage, ecosystems,	5) Date is TBD Mar. 11 - Apr. 26 Central Idea: <i>Interactions and conflicts cause movements which shape civilizations.</i> Key Concepts: Change, Perspective	6) Date is TBD Apr. 29 - June 7 Central Idea: <i>Use of language influences thinking.</i> Key Concepts: Perspective, connection Related Concepts: Patterns	4) Date is TBD Jan. 29 - Mar. 8 Central Idea: <i>Action activates reaction.</i> Key Concepts: Causation, change, connection Related Concepts: Force, motion, friction, inertia, economics	2) Date is TBD Oct. 9 - Nov. 21 Central Idea: <i>People organize to create change.</i> Key Concepts: Function, connection, responsibility	1) Date is TBD Aug. 28 - Oct. 6 Central Idea: <i>Developing an awareness and understanding of finite resources encourages us to take action.</i> Key Concepts: Form, Causation, Responsibility

	<p>Lines of inquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Relationships between organisms in an ecosystem (including humans) Characteristics that are inherited or learned Movement and migration, both voluntary and forced, in the United States Contributions and perspectives of women, minorities, indigenous groups, and marginalized people in the United States. Immigrants contributions and impact to the American Identity 	<p>Related Concepts: Conflict, consequences, transformation, Interdependence</p> <p>Lines of inquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interactions of matter and energy and the changes that occur Movements that promoted change for different Americans How military conflicts changed the United States 	<p>Lines of inquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Layers of meaning in media Uncovering strategies and operations within problems How media influences opinions and perspectives 	<p>Lines of inquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> How forces and mass affect motion How actions affect distance and direction Energy, matter and their interactions People who take action and create change 	<p>Related Concepts: human-made systems, (governments) measurement, fractions, body systems</p> <p>Lines of inquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Structure and systems of organisms and the human body Structure and function of government How different groups use their voices to advocated for change 	<p>Related Concepts: cycles, patterns, conflict, sequences, identity</p> <p>Lines of inquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> How heating and cooling affects materials and cycles on the earth Conflicts caused by the struggle to share finite resources What it means to be a resident in the United States
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