



# Erie Day School

*Learning today, leading tomorrow.*

## Program of Inquiry

2015-16

Units of Study	<b>Who We Are</b> <i>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.</i>	<b>Where We Are in Place and Time</b> <i>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.</i>	<b>How We Express Ourselves</b> <i>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.</i>	<b>How We Organize Ourselves</b> <i>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.</i>	<b>How the World Works</b> <i>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.</i>	<b>Sharing the Planet</b> <i>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.</i>
<b>Preschool and Pre-Kindergarten</b>	<b>Focus:</b> Social Studies, English Language Arts  <b>Central Idea:</b> Each day I can learn more about who I am and what I can do  <b>Key Concepts:</b> Function, Change, Connection, Responsibility, Perspective  <b>Related Concepts:</b> Identity, Relationships  <b>Lines of Inquiry:</b>		<b>Focus:</b> Social Studies, English Language Arts  <b>Central Idea:</b> We express ourselves through play  <b>Key Concepts:</b> Function, Connection, Perspective  <b>Lines of Inquiry:</b> An inquiry into communications through play  An inquiry into using		<b>Focus:</b> Science, Social Studies, Health and Wellness  <b>Central Idea:</b> Climate change and weather affects my decisions and lifestyle  <b>Key Concepts:</b> Change, Connection  <b>Related Concepts:</b> Cycles, Interaction  <b>Lines of Inquiry:</b> An inquiry into night and	<b>Focus:</b> Science, Social Studies, Health and Wellness  <b>Central Idea:</b> Living things grow and have life cycles  <b>Key Concepts:</b> Causation, Change, Responsibility  <b>Related Concepts:</b> Cycles, Interaction, Systems  <b>Lines of Inquiry:</b> An inquiry into the needs of living things

	<p>An inquiry into my physical characteristics</p> <p>An inquiry into human relationships including our families, friends, communities and cultures</p> <p>An inquiry into my feelings, likes and dislikes</p> <p>An inquiry into how am I growing and changing</p> <p>An inquiry into the responsibilities I share in the classroom and at school</p>		<p>my imagination</p> <p>An inquiry into cooperation and respect for others</p>		<p>day cycles (dark and light)</p> <p>An inquiry into weather patterns and changes</p> <p>An inquiry into health and safety decisions as related to climate changes</p>	<p>An inquiry into the habitats of living things</p> <p>An inquiry into my responsibilities to living things</p>
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<b>Kindergarten</b>	<p><b>Focus:</b> Science, Social Studies, English Language Arts, Health and Wellness, Foreign Language Learning</p> <p><b>Central Idea:</b> Understanding ourselves will help us connect to the world</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> Perspective, Connections, Causation, Reflection</p> <p><b>Related Concepts:</b> Change, Similarities and Differences</p> <p><b>Lines of Inquiry:</b> An inquiry into how my actions affect others</p> <p>An inquiry into what it means to be human</p> <p>An inquiry into solving</p>	<p><b>Focus:</b> Social Studies, English Language Arts, Foreign Language Learning</p> <p><b>Central Idea:</b> People live and go to school in different places for different reasons</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> Function, Connection, Reflection</p> <p><b>Related Concepts:</b> School and community safety</p> <p><b>Lines of Inquiry:</b> An inquiry into shelters, homes and schools around the world</p>	<p><b>Focus:</b> Social Studies, English Language Arts</p> <p><b>Central Idea:</b> Literature allows people to connect with characters, heroes, historical figures, settings, cultures and time periods in history</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> Function, Change, Causation, Connection</p> <p><b>Related Concepts:</b> Self expression, Literature connections, Role play, Fiction vs. Nonfiction</p> <p><b>Lines of Inquiry:</b> An inquiry comparing</p>	<p><b>Focus:</b> Science, Social Studies, Math</p> <p><b>Central Idea:</b> How people respond to seasons</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> Form, Causation, Function, Connection</p> <p><b>Related Concepts:</b> Cultural celebrations</p> <p><b>Lines of Inquiry:</b> An inquiry into cultural traditions related to the months of the year</p> <p>An inquiry into time brings change</p> <p>An inquiry into how</p>	<p><b>Focus:</b> Science, Social Studies, Math, English Language Arts, Health and Wellness</p> <p><b>Central Idea:</b> Animals adapt and change in environments over time</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> Function, Change, Causation, Responsibility, Connection</p> <p><b>Related Concepts:</b> Growth, Adaptations, Climate, Seasonal Change, Interdependence, Sustainability</p> <p><b>Lines of Inquiry:</b> An inquiry into animals basic needs and habitats</p> <p>An inquiry into</p>	<p><b>Focus:</b> Science, Social Studies, Health and Wellness</p> <p><b>Central Idea:</b> Ecofriendly decisions can help me take care of my classroom, home and planet</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> Function, Causation, Responsibility, Connection</p> <p><b>Related Concepts:</b> Recycling, Reusing, Composting, Caring for self and others, Sustainability, Interdependence</p> <p><b>Lines of Inquiry:</b> An inquiry into environmentally responsible decisions in the classroom, at home</p>
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	<p>problems</p> <p>An inquiry into respecting the beliefs, cultures, religions and actions of others</p>	<p>An inquiry into where I live in relationship to others</p> <p>An inquiry into the people and friends of Erie Day School</p> <p>An inquiry into the emergency and safety procedures of my school and home</p>	<p>text-to-text connections with characters, heroes, historical figures</p> <p>An inquiry into making text-to-self connections with characters and cultures</p> <p>Text-to-world inquiries with places, cultures and time periods</p>	<p>people celebrate seasons and holidays worldwide</p>	<p>interdependence and relationships between humans and animals</p> <p>Survival plays a role in the life of every animal</p> <p>Animals and environments change over time</p>	<p>and in my neighborhood</p> <p>An inquiry into the adverse effects of disregard for the environment</p> <p>An inquiry into the 3Rs (i.e. reduce, reuse, recycle)</p>
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<b>Grade One</b>	<p><b>Focus:</b> Social Studies, Foreign Language Learning, English Language Arts</p> <p><b>Central Idea:</b> Family relationships and experiences influence who we are</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> Function, Causation, Connection</p> <p><b>Related Concepts:</b></p> <p><b>Lines of Inquiry:</b> An inquiry into family structure</p> <p>An inquiry into how culture and heritage influence families</p> <p>An inquiry into family celebrations</p>	<p><b>Focus:</b> Science, Math, Social Studies, English Language Arts</p> <p><b>Central Idea:</b> What can happen over time</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> Causation, Perspective, Change</p> <p><b>Related Concepts:</b> Measurement, Folktales</p> <p><b>Lines of Inquiry:</b> An inquiry into the different ways to measure time</p> <p>An inquiry into how plants change as they grow</p> <p>An inquiry into how stories transition over time</p> <p>An inquiry into how life differs today than</p>	<p><b>Focus:</b> Social Studies, Science, Math, English Language Arts</p> <p><b>Central Idea:</b> Imagination enables us to think, invent, create and express ourselves</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> Causation, Perspective, Reflection</p> <p><b>Related Concepts:</b> Inventors in History, Genres: Biography, Fantasy</p> <p><b>Lines of Inquiry:</b> An inquiry into how imagination can help us solve problems</p> <p>An inquiry into great inventions of the past and present</p> <p>An inquiry into using</p>	<p><b>Focus:</b> Social Studies, English Language Arts, Health and Wellness</p> <p><b>Central Idea:</b> A community is impacted by the involvement of its members</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> Function, Responsibility, Causation</p> <p><b>Related Concepts:</b> Relationships, Community Helpers, Map Skills</p> <p><b>Lines of Inquiry:</b> An inquiry into student roles and contributions in school and at home</p> <p>An inquiry into the process of decision-making</p> <p>An inquiry into</p>	<p><b>Focus:</b> Science, Math</p> <p><b>Central Idea:</b> People investigate scientific properties to better understand their world.</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> Function, Causation, Change</p> <p><b>Related Concepts:</b> Motion, Balance, Force, Gravity</p> <p><b>Lines of Inquiry:</b> An inquiry into how objects move</p> <p>An inquiry into the effect of force on an object</p> <p>An inquiry into gravity and motion</p>	<p><b>Focus:</b> Science, Social Studies</p> <p><b>Central Idea:</b> Investigating how animals, people and insects work together</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> Connection, Form, Reflection</p> <p><b>Related Concepts:</b> Pollination, Service Work</p> <p><b>Line of Inquiry:</b> An inquiry into the needs of living things</p> <p>An inquiry into how people work with animals</p> <p>An inquiry into how the work of insects affects humans</p>
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		in the past	imagination to demonstrate creativity and originality	meeting the needs of a community  An inquiry into the roles and responsibilities of community helpers  An inquiry related to reading and writing maps and directions		
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<b>Grade Two</b>	<p><b>Focus:</b> Social Studies, English Language Arts, Foreign Language Learning</p> <p><b>Central Idea:</b> Citizens have roles and responsibilities in relationship to their classroom, city, state and nation</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> Causation, Responsibility, Connection, Perspective</p> <p><b>Related Concepts:</b> Gender and Racial Equity, Individual Differences and Similarities, Civic-Minded Citizens, Genre: Autobiography</p> <p><b>Lines of Inquiry:</b> An inquiry into the characteristics of citizenship</p> <p>Investigating the purpose of government</p> <p>An inquiry into active and responsible citizenship in the school community</p>	<p><b>Focus:</b> English Language Arts, Social Studies, Health and Wellness</p> <p><b>Central Idea:</b> Journal writing can connect us with feelings, thoughts, ideas and a time in our personal history</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> Causation, Connection, Form, Change, Reflection</p> <p><b>Related Concepts:</b> Artistic and written expression</p> <p><b>Lines of Inquiry:</b> An inquiry into the understanding that how I choose to write, paint, draw, think and act defines me as a person</p> <p>An inquiry into documented personal histories of notable figures in history</p> <p>Teachers make anecdotal</p>	<p><b>Focus:</b> Social Studies, English Language Arts, Foreign Language Learning</p> <p><b>Central Idea:</b> Community is shaped by the diversity of its people</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> Causation, Perspective, Responsibility</p> <p><b>Related Concepts:</b> Diversity, Identity, Relationships, Communication</p> <p><b>Lines of Inquiry:</b> An inquiry into how diversity affects a community</p> <p>An inquiry into the creation of an inclusive community</p> <p>An inquiry into how I express myself as a member of a diverse community</p>	<p><b>Focus:</b> Social Studies, Math, Economics, English Language Arts</p> <p><b>Central Idea:</b> People are connected through economics</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> Connection, Function, Responsibility</p> <p><b>Related Concepts:</b> Economy, global economy</p> <p><b>Lines of Inquiry:</b> An inquiry into trading for goods and services</p> <p>An inquiry into the responsibilities of a producer and consumer (earning, spending, saving)</p> <p>Investigating supply and demand</p>	<p><b>Focus:</b> Science, Health and Wellness</p> <p><b>Central Idea:</b> Human survival is affected by the changes on Earth over time</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> Causation, Connection, Change</p> <p><b>Related Concepts:</b> Erosion, Tectonic Plates, Geology, Movement</p> <p><b>Lines of Inquiry:</b> An inquiry into predator vs. prey</p> <p>An inquiry into the different components of the earth and how they are interrelated</p> <p>Inquiring how the earth has changed and continues to change</p> <p>An inquiry into human responses to earth changes</p>	<p><b>Focus:</b> Science, Social Studies, English Language Arts, Health and Wellness</p> <p><b>Central Idea:</b> The actions of individuals affect living organisms</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> Causation, Connection, Responsibility</p> <p><b>Related Concepts:</b> Food Chain, Alternative Energy,</p> <p><b>Lines of Inquiry:</b> An inquiry into the life cycle of organisms</p> <p>An inquiry into human interactions with the environment: help or harm</p> <p>An investigation of natural resources</p>
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	An inquiry into leadership and the attributes of a leader	records on my progress as a student  An inquiry into how the choices I make affects my personal growth				
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<b>Grade Three</b>	<p><b>Focus:</b> Social Studies, English Language Arts, Foreign Language Learning, Health and Wellness</p> <p><b>Central Idea:</b> My family’s ancestry has an effect on the way I look, speak, live and experience the world</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> Responsibility, Connection, Perspective</p> <p><b>Related Concepts:</b> Open-mindedness, Acceptance, Awareness</p> <p><b>Lines of Inquiry:</b> An inquiry into the names and dates of ancestry and lineage</p> <p>An inquiry into the cultures of my family</p> <p>An inquiry into the hemisphere, continent, country, state, city, town, village or township of my ancestors</p> <p>An inquiry into family legacy</p>	<p><b>Focus:</b> Social Studies, Science, English Language Arts, Health and Wellness</p> <p><b>Central Idea:</b> Communities change over time</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> Connection, Form, Perspective</p> <p><b>Related Concepts:</b></p> <p><b>Lines of Inquiry:</b> An inquiry into the change in the uses of economic resources</p> <p>An inquiry into the changing social roles of children and adults in families</p> <p>An inquiry into the effects of global economic changes and roles of adults in the workplace</p>	<p><b>Focus:</b> Social Studies, Physical Education, Health and Wellness, Visual and Performing Arts, English Language Arts</p> <p><b>Central Idea:</b> Humans interpret their ideas, feelings, and beliefs through various forms</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> Function, Perspective, Reflection</p> <p><b>Related Concepts:</b></p> <p><b>Lines of Inquiry:</b> An inquiry into self-expression across the curriculum and cultures</p> <p>Self-interpretation</p> <p>Comparing and contrasting personal points of view</p>	<p><b>Focus:</b> Social Studies, Health and Wellness, English Language Arts</p> <p><b>Central Idea:</b> Citizens and governments work together to make change</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> Function, Form, Responsibility, Causation</p> <p><b>Related Concepts:</b></p> <p><b>Lines of Inquiry:</b> An inquiry into government systems</p> <p>An inquiry into government decisions</p> <p>An inquiry into citizenship, rights and laws</p> <p>An inquiry into roles and responsibilities of elected officials</p>	<p><b>Focus:</b> Science, Social Studies, Health and Wellness</p> <p><b>Central Idea:</b> Humans seek to compliment, understand and interact with the natural world</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> Causation, Responsibility, Connection</p> <p><b>Related Concepts:</b> Activism, Environmental Sustainability</p> <p><b>Lines of Inquiry:</b> An inquiry into the connection between soil, plants and compost</p> <p>An inquiry into states of matter</p> <p>An inquiry related to human responsibility to the natural world</p>	<p><b>Focus:</b> Science, Social Studies</p> <p><b>Central Idea:</b> Water is a finite resource shared among communities</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> Reflection, Causation, Perspective</p> <p><b>Related Concepts:</b> Conservation</p> <p><b>Lines of Inquiry:</b> An inquiry into basic needs and natural resources</p> <p>An inquiry into supply and demand</p> <p>An inquiry into water cycles on earth</p> <p>An inquiry into how humans affect water as a resource</p>
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<p><b>Grade Four</b></p>	<p><b>Focus:</b> Social Studies, English Language Arts, Math</p> <p><b>Central Idea:</b> Active citizens in a government share roles and responsibility</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> Responsibility, Function, Reflection</p> <p><b>Related Concepts:</b> Cause and effect, Data collection and analysis</p> <p><b>Lines of inquiry:</b></p> <p>An inquiry into the three branches of government</p> <p>An inquiry into symbols and structures</p> <p>An inquiry into decision making practices</p> <p>An inquiry into the rights and responsibilities of citizens</p>	<p><b>Focus:</b> Social Studies, Science, English Language Arts, Health and Wellness</p> <p><b>Central Idea:</b> Exploration, migration, and settlement have resulted in today's diverse population</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> Causation, Connection, Reflection</p> <p><b>Related Concepts:</b> Migration, Human condition, Human experience</p> <p><b>Lines of inquiry:</b></p> <p>An investigation into the history of major groups of early immigrants, their influences and roles in conflict</p> <p>An inquiry into the methods of migration</p> <p>Inquiring about the impact of immigrants in the past and present</p> <p>An inquiry related to the Industrial Revolution</p> <p>An inquiry into the factors that continue to influence diversity</p> <p>An inquiry into the relevance of statues, monuments, symbols, and buildings</p> <p>An inquiry into the human conditions related to migration and settling</p>	<p><b>Focus:</b> English Language Arts</p> <p><b>Central Idea:</b> People share their beliefs, feelings, discoveries and ideas through poetry</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> Perspective, Reflection, Form, Connection</p> <p><b>Related Concepts:</b> Poetic expression, Rhythm, Rhyme, Meter, Alliteration</p> <p><b>Lines of inquiry:</b></p> <p>An inquiry into how written expression is affected by feeling</p> <p>An inquiry into how communication is conveyed in varying forms</p> <p>An inquiry into the structure and form of writing various types of poetry</p>	<p><b>Focus:</b> Science, Social Studies, Math</p> <p><b>Central Idea:</b> Resources help support economic interdependence</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> Function, Form, Connection, Responsibility</p> <p><b>Related Concepts:</b> Taxation, Enterprise, Imports/exports, Responsible citizenship</p> <p><b>Lines of inquiry:</b></p> <p>An investigation into the impact of natural, human, and capital resources</p> <p>An inquiry into how resources are used in the world around us</p> <p>An inquiry into the purposes of organizations on local, state, region, country or global levels</p> <p>An inquiry into the needs of consumers</p>	<p><b>Focus:</b> <b>Central Idea:</b> Interactions with the natural world and the development of human made materials influence the way we live</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> Connection, Causation, Perspective, Change</p> <p><b>Related Concepts:</b> Technology</p> <p><b>Lines of inquiry:</b> An inquiry into the effects of technology in the lives of people past and present.</p> <p>An inquiry into magnetism and electricity</p> <p>An inquiry into how magnetism and electricity are used in technology</p> <p>An inquiry into the integration of technology into our daily lives</p>	<p><b>Focus:</b> Science, Social Studies, Health and Wellness, Math</p> <p><b>Central Idea:</b> Through conservation, a positive influence on human life can result</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> Change, Responsibility, Causation, Perspective, Connection</p> <p><b>Related Concepts:</b> Research writing, Energy, Data</p> <p><b>Lines of inquiry:</b> An inquiry into alternative means of power</p> <p>An inquiry into changing and modifying energy sources</p> <p>Investigating conservation and the impact it could make on human conditions and the economy</p> <p>An inquiry into local, regional and global energy changes that could impact the future</p>
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