

Waldo International School Program of Inquiry

| Age Grade | 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 |
|---------------|--|---|---|--|--|--|
| | <p>Who we are 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.</p> | <p>Where we are in place and time 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.</p> | <p>How we express ourselves 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</p> | <p>How the world works 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.</p> | <p>How we organize ourselves 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.</p> | <p>Sharing the planet 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.</p> |
| 3-4 PreK 3 | <p>Central Idea We are all unique and that makes us special.</p> <p>Key concepts Form, perspective</p> <p>Related concepts Identity</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our physical, emotional and social characteristics • Our personal abilities and interests • How our identity is similar or different to others | | <p>Central Idea People belong to families who celebrate together.</p> <p>Key concepts Form, responsibility, perspective</p> <p>Related concepts Tradition, culture, roles</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Different types of families • Roles and responsibilities of family members • Traditions and celebrations families share | <p>Central Idea Daily and seasonal patterns affect the way people live.</p> <p>Key concepts Form, change, connection</p> <p>Related concepts Pattern, cycle</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our daily routines • Patterns in our environment (Seasonal, weather, day / night) • How we respond to natural cycles | <p>Central Idea People develop transportation systems for faster movement.</p> <p>Key concepts Form, function, connection</p> <p>Related concepts Systems, movement</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Types of transportation systems • How transportation systems are built and work • Why transportation systems are important | <p>Central Idea Living things grow and change.</p> <p>Key concepts Form, causation, change</p> <p>Related concepts Cycles, living vs nonliving</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Characteristics of living and nonliving things • What living things need to grow • How living things change |

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| 4-5 PreK 4 | <p>Central Idea People's relationships with each other can have an impact on well-being.</p> <p>Key concepts Form, connection</p> <p>Related concepts Interaction, diversity</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diversity of relationships • How we develop and maintain our relationships • How relationships affect us | | <p>Central Idea We use our imagination to express ourselves.</p> <p>Key concepts Form, perspective</p> <p>Related concepts Imagination, expression</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Different types of creative expression • Sources of inspiration (our emotions, ideas, experiences, culture) • How people share and respond to art | <p>Central Idea Materials can be changed for different purposes.</p> <p>Key concepts Form, change</p> <p>Related concepts Properties, creation</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Properties of materials • How properties of materials can be changed • Manipulation of materials for new purposes | <p>Central Idea People rely on each other in a community.</p> <p>Key concepts Function, connection, responsibility</p> <p>Related concepts Roles, community, interaction</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People's roles within a community • How people work together effectively within a community • Importance of rules and routines in our communities | <p>Central Idea We have a responsibility to care for the environment.</p> <p>Key concepts Form, connection, responsibility</p> <p>Related concepts Properties, system, interdependence</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Living and nonliving things in the environment • How different parts of the environment are interdependent • Ways we can care for our environment |

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| 5-6 K | <p>Central Idea Self-identity develops through awareness of personal characteristics.</p> <p>Key concepts Form, perspective, connection</p> <p>Related concepts Identity, relationships, diversity</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Physical, social, and emotional characteristics Recognizing similarities and differences between myself and others How our experiences influence us | <p>Central Idea Homes reflect personal identity, culture and local materials.</p> <p>Key concepts Form, perspective, connection</p> <p>Related concepts Diversity, needs, identity, properties</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What constitutes a home How the local environment influences where people live How homes reflect personal identity and culture | <p>Central Idea People recognize important events through celebrations and traditions.</p> <p>Key concepts Form, perspective</p> <p>Related concepts Beliefs, values, culture</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What traditions are How and why people celebrate Similarities and differences between various celebrations | <p>Central Idea All living things go through cycles of change.</p> <p>Key concepts Change, connection</p> <p>Related concepts Cycles, patterns, system</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What living things need to survive How living things change over time The relationship between the environment and living things | <p>Central Idea Our school is a community where we can play and learn.</p> <p>Key concepts Function, connection, responsibility</p> <p>Related concepts Community, systems, roles</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The jobs and roles people have in their school community The role of rules in a school community How physical space within a school contributes to the school community How a school community is similar to other kinds of communities | <p>Central Idea The Earth's environment is influenced by human use and natural cycles.</p> <p>Key concepts Responsibility, connection, causation</p> <p>Related concepts Cycles, resources, choices</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The impact of the Earth's natural cycles on the environment How people interact with their environment The impact of people's choices on the environment |

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| 6-7 1st | <p>Central Idea The choices people make affect their health and well-being.</p> <p>Key concepts Responsibility, causation, perspective</p> <p>Related concepts Choice, influence, balance</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What it means to have a balanced lifestyle • How the choices we make affect our health • Different sources of information that helps us make choices | <p>Central Idea The Earth's physical geography has an impact on communities.</p> <p>Key concepts Form, causation, connection</p> <p>Related concepts Geography, community, location</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Variability of physical geography around the world • The relationship between location and communities • Impact of human interaction on the physical environment | <p>Central Idea Imagination helps us to create and innovate.</p> <p>Key concepts Form, connection, perspective</p> <p>Related concepts Imagination, innovation, creativity</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How we express our imagination through different art forms • How imagination is connected to innovation • How technology and imagination work together • How imagination is used to widen our perspective | <p>Central Idea The natural world is composed of different forms of matter, which can be transformed.</p> <p>Key concepts Form, change, causation</p> <p>Related concepts Properties, transformation</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • States of matter and their properties • How states of matter can be transformed • Natural occurrences of states of matter and transformations | <p>Central Idea Communities create different systems to help meet its people's needs.</p> <p>Key concepts Connection, responsibility</p> <p>Related concepts Systems, needs, cooperation</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Different systems in our daily lives • How systems are organized to meet the needs of people • The role of decision making in systems | <p>Central Idea Plants and animals have different structures that allow them to survive.</p> <p>Key concepts Form, function, connection</p> <p>Related concepts Structure</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Structures of plants and animals • How animals and plants use their body parts to grow and survive • How humans mimic properties of animals and plants to improve our lives |

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| 7-8 2nd | <p>Central Idea People's actions impact mankind.</p> <p>Key concepts Perspective, connection, responsibility</p> <p>Related concepts Identity, impact</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attributes of individuals who have had an impact on mankind Ideas and perspectives that have changed the world Ways we can impact the world | <p>Central Idea Family histories provide an insight into cultural and personal identity.</p> <p>Key concepts Change, perspective</p> <p>Related concepts Chronology, history, traditions</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Family ancestry Artifacts, heirlooms, or traditions that have meaning in a family Similarities and differences between generations within a family | <p>Central Idea Cultures express their beliefs and values through folktales.</p> <p>Key concepts Form, connection, perspective</p> <p>Related concepts Communication, culture, self-expression</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Beliefs and values of different cultures Connection between culture and folktales Representations of folktales in multiple mediums | <p>Central Idea People apply their understanding of force and motion to invent and create.</p> <p>Key concepts Form, function, causation</p> <p>Related concepts Invention, force, motion</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Properties of force and motion How simple and complex machines function Application of our understanding of force and motion | <p>Central Idea Changes in the Earth's atmosphere have an impact on the communities that people create.</p> <p>Key concepts Form, change, connection</p> <p>Related concepts Patterns, community</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Weather patterns throughout the seasons Manmade changes to the Earth's atmosphere How communities are affected by weather | <p>Central Idea When interacting with natural habitats, people make choices that have an impact on other living things.</p> <p>Key concepts Form, causation, responsibility</p> <p>Related concepts Habitat, diversity</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Natural habitats and their locations around the world How plants and animals use the environment to survive Human impact on natural habitats |

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| 8-9 3rd | <p>Central Idea The actions and responsibilities of citizens and governments affect communities.</p> <p>Key concepts Function, responsibility, perspective</p> <p>Related concepts Citizenship, systems</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The structure of various governments The role of governments in communities The rights and responsibilities of citizens and how they support the community | <p>Central Idea Exploration leads to discoveries, opportunities and new understandings.</p> <p>Key concepts Causation, form, perspective</p> <p>Related concepts Geography, discovery, consequences</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reasons for exploration Methods of navigation The consequences of exploration | <p>Central Idea People use light and sound to express themselves.</p> <p>Key concepts Form, perspective, change</p> <p>Related concepts Energy, expression</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Properties and sources of light and sound How people perceive light and sound in their environment How people manipulate light and sound to invent and create | <p>Central Idea The Earth is constantly changing.</p> <p>Key concepts Causation, change, connection</p> <p>Related concepts Geology, movement</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> How the different components of the Earth are interrelated How and why the Earth has changed and is continuing to change Human response to the Earth's changes | <p>Central Idea The global economy relies on the production and exchange of goods and services.</p> <p>Key concepts Connection, causation</p> <p>Related concepts Economy, system, interdependence, production, resources, consumer, globalization, choice</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interdependence of producers and consumers in an economic system How nations are economically interdependent The role of economic decision-making | <p>Central Idea Over time, living things need to adapt in order to survive.</p> <p>Key concepts Change, connection</p> <p>Related concepts Pattern, adaptation</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Concept of adaptation Circumstances that led to adaptation How plants and animals adapt or respond to environmental conditions |

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| 9-10 4th | <p>Central idea: Body systems must effectively interact to ensure health and survival.</p> <p>Lines of inquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The functions and interactions of the body systems. How human body systems are similar and different to systems of other living organisms. Consequences of lifestyle choices on the body <p>Key concepts Function, form, causation</p> <p>Related concepts Systems, interdependence, choices</p> | <p>Central Idea Migration leads to new opportunities and challenges.</p> <p>Key concepts Causation, perspective, connection</p> <p>Related concepts Migration, opportunity, adaptation, settlement</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reasons why people migrate Challenges people face when they migrate Effects of migration on communities, cultures and individuals | <p>Central Idea Observation and interpretation of the changing sky contributes to the creation of myths and legends.</p> <p>Key concepts Form, function, perspective</p> <p>Related concepts Pattern, beliefs</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Patterns in the sky Scientific observation of space How scientific data, myths and legends are used to explain natural phenomena | <p>Central Idea Energy can be transformed and used in different ways.</p> <p>Key concepts Form, function, connection</p> <p>Related concepts Energy, conservation, transformation</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Different forms of energy The storage and transformation of energy Renewable and sustainable energy Conservation of energy | <p>Central Idea People create interconnected communities in different regions.</p> <p>Key concepts Form, connection</p> <p>Related concepts Regions, cooperation, diversity</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Different regions of the United States and their features The origins of United States regions How regions are interconnected | <p>Central Idea Children worldwide have equal rights which must be protected.</p> <p>Key concepts Perspective, function, responsibility</p> <p>Related concepts Equality, rights</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Child rights issues and how these children respond Ways in which organizations and nations work to protect children from risk Our responsibility in protecting human rights |

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| 10-11 5th | <p>Central Idea Many people struggle for rights and freedoms.</p> <p>Key concepts Perspective, change, responsibility</p> <p>Related concepts Rights, initiative</p> <p>Lines of inquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> How people struggle for rights around the world Civil rights movements around the world Our role as global citizens | <p>Central Idea Earth's systems interact to affect the way people live.</p> <p>Key concepts Connection, change, form</p> <p>Related concepts System, interaction</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Features of Earth's major systems (geosphere, hydrosphere, atmosphere, biosphere) How Earth's systems interact How human settlements impact Earth's systems | <p>Central Idea Technology allows people to communicate and express themselves with others.</p> <p>Key concepts Change, function, perspective</p> <p>Related concepts Communication, self-expression, technology</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Different forms of technology used for communication How technology can be used to express ourselves Different points of view on the use of technology | <p>Central Idea Materials can undergo changes that may provide both opportunities and challenges.</p> <p>Key concepts Form, change, responsibility</p> <p>Related concepts Properties, transformation, innovation, ethics</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Different forms and properties of matter Practical applications of change in materials and its implications Impact of industrialization on people and the environment | <p>Central Idea Conflict throughout history can cause changes in society.</p> <p>Key concepts Causation, perspective, change</p> <p>Related concepts Conflict, consequences</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Causes of conflict Opportunity and/or loss resulting from conflict The shaping of present day systems | <p>Central Idea The balanced interdependence of living and non-living things contributes to the well-being of an environment.</p> <p>Key concepts Form, connection, change</p> <p>Related concepts Interdependence, equilibrium, systems</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The components of an environment The relationship between living and nonliving components in an environment Balance and imbalance in an environment |