

**Kate Sessions Elementary School  
Program of Inquiry  
Kindergarten**

<b>Unit</b>	<b>Theme</b>	<b>Central Idea</b>	<b>Concepts</b>	<b>Inquiries</b>
<b>How We Express Ourselves</b>	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.	Around the world people tell stories a variety of ways		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li></li> </ul>
<b>How We Organize Ourselves</b>	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.	People have always had roles and responsibilities to help us live and work together	Function Connection Responsibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>being a responsible citizen</li> <li>people and communities working together</li> <li>maps, symbols and icons</li> </ul>
<b>How the World Works</b>	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.	Our world is made of scientific ideas that explain how the world works	Change Causation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>materials and properties of common objects (make-up, size, color, shape, texture, taste, touch, position, description of observation)</li> <li>daily and seasonal changes</li> <li>properties of water</li> </ul>
<b>Where We Are in Place and Time</b>	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.	Through historical figures, events and places we learn about the past and how things change over time which helps us to understand our world	Form Function Connection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>how people show their pride for their country (celebrations, symbols and traditions)</li> <li>how people can learn from stories about the past</li> <li>how the lifestyle of people and places has changed</li> </ul>
<b>Who We Are</b>	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.	Families contribute to our lives	Function Change Connection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>what families and friends are and how they work together</li> <li>the human body and its functions</li> <li>keeping our bodies healthy</li> <li>making healthy choices</li> </ul>
<b>Sharing the Planet</b>	An inquiry into rights and responsibilities in the struggle to share the 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.	All living things have unique characteristics that affect our world	Connection Responsibility Reflection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the similarities and differences of appearance and behavior of plants</li> <li>the similarities and differences of animals</li> <li>the structure of plants</li> <li>the structures of animals</li> </ul>

**Kate Sessions Elementary School  
Program of Inquiry  
First Grade**

Unit	Theme	Central Idea	Concepts	Inquiries
<b>How We Express Ourselves</b>	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.	Cultures express values, feelings and beliefs through literature, visual and performing arts and through our customs, traditions and celebration around the world	Connections Perspective Reflection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• literature and how it expresses beliefs, values and the feelings of a society</li> <li>• visual and performing arts that help to express beliefs, values and feelings of a society</li> <li>• the customs, ceremonies, traditions and societal practices of varied cultures</li> </ul>
<b>How We Organize Ourselves</b>	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.	People share responsibility in a community	Function Perspective Responsibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• roles of democracy: rights and responsibilities</li> <li>• voting, rule-making and Golden Rule</li> <li>• Roles in the community</li> </ul>
<b>How the World Works</b>	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.	Changes in weather affect ourselves and our world	Form Change Connection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How weather conditions can be observed, measured and recorded to reflect changes and patterns over time</li> <li>• How scientists know how to ask questions and conduct investigations</li> </ul>
<b>Where We Are in Place and Time</b>	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.	The way people live and work around the world and how things change over time	Function Change Connection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cultural geography—a study of everyday life of people around the world and a comparison between lifestyles from long ago and today</li> <li>• Physical geography—a study of maps and how they inform us</li> </ul>
<b>Who We Are</b>	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.	Humans make choice that affect health	Causation Responsibility Reflection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Healthy habits</li> <li>• safety</li> </ul>
<b>Sharing the Planet</b>	An inquiry into rights and responsibilities in the struggle to share the 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.		Form Function Change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•</li> </ul>

**Kate Sessions Elementary School  
Program of Inquiry  
Second Grade**

<b>Unit</b>	<b>Theme</b>	<b>Central Idea</b>	<b>Concepts</b>	<b>Inquiries</b>
<b>How We Express Ourselves</b>	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.		Connections Perspective Reflection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>An inquiry into how art expresses theme, mood and personality</li> </ul>
<b>How We Organize Ourselves</b>	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.	Leaders interact to solve problems	Function Connection Responsibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li></li> </ul>
<b>How the World Works</b>	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.	Observing the variety of forces cause objects to move helps us understand how the world works	Form Function Causation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The motion of objects (push/pull, force, gravity, magnetic, vibration)</li> <li>Observing, measuring and locating objects in relation to other objects</li> </ul>
<b>Where We Are in Place and Time</b>	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.	Land has different forms and uses that effect people and environments.	Form Change Causation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Landforms</li> <li>Natural resources</li> <li>Land-use</li> </ul>
<b>Who We Are</b>	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.	Our past makes us who we are	Change Perspective Responsibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Family traditions around the world</li> <li>How daily life is different/same depending on time in history</li> <li>Family trees/family histories</li> </ul>
<b>Sharing the Planet</b>	An inquiry into rights and responsibilities in the struggle to share the 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.	Heroes inspire us to be peaceful negotiators and to resolve conflicts	Function Causation Reflection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Different types of heroes around the world</li> <li>Characters in fiction and poetry that are heroic</li> </ul>

**Kate Sessions Elementary School  
Program of Inquiry  
Third Grade**

<b>Unit</b>	<b>Theme</b>	<b>Central Idea</b>	<b>Concepts</b>	<b>Inquiries</b>
<b>How We Express Ourselves</b>	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.		Causation Perspective Reflection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•</li> </ul>
<b>How We Organize Ourselves</b>	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.	People work together to create a government	Form Function Connection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How governments are organized</li> <li>• Why we need governments</li> </ul>
<b>How the World Works</b>	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.	Predictable patterns help us to explore energy, light and matter	Function Change Causation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How energy comes from the sun and can be stored, carried and converted</li> <li>• How light moves in a straight direction and is seen</li> <li>• States of matter, that is made of atoms and that it can change</li> </ul>
<b>Where We Are in Place and Time</b>	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.	Our lives are influenced by people who come before us	Function Change Connection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How historians learn about the past</li> <li>• American Indian nations</li> <li>• Our local history and the events and people that have changed our city</li> </ul>
<b>Who We Are</b>	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.	Character develops/evolves with human choice and action	Change Perspective Responsibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What character is and how they are emulated in literature</li> <li>• Role of citizenship around the world: locally and globally</li> <li>• Values of humankind</li> <li>• Physical and emotional uniqueness</li> </ul>
<b>Sharing the Planet</b>	An inquiry into rights and responsibilities in the struggle to share the 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.	People take risks to ensure equal rights and opportunities	Perspective Responsibility Reflection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How famous people took risks to secure freedoms</li> <li>• How individuals and families contribute to the development of their communities</li> <li>• Equal rights and opportunities</li> </ul>

**Kate Sessions Elementary School  
Program of Inquiry  
Fourth Grade**

<b>Unit</b>	<b>Theme</b>	<b>Central Idea</b>	<b>Concepts</b>	<b>Inquiry</b>
<b>How We Express Ourselves</b>	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.	Individuals contribute to and communicate the information of a society through different media	Causation Perspective	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How authors express nature, culture, beliefs and values using different forms of folk literature</li> <li>• How to analyze how art plays a role in society and how it reflects our lifestyle</li> <li>• Personal history and biographies of people who made significant contributions</li> </ul>
<b>How We Organize Ourselves</b>	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.	Economic changes affect who we are, where we live and how we are governed	Form Responsibility Reflection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Responsible citizenship (government, voting process and voting responsibilities)</li> <li>• How city budgets are developed and the allocations of funds</li> </ul>
<b>How the World Works</b>	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.	The world around us is influenced by the earth's physical processes and the application of science and technology	Function Change Connection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The origins of electricity (particles, attraction and repelling), how it can be converted and channeled into alternative forms of energy</li> <li>• Properties and behaviors of magnets and their uses in electrical (motor) and non-electrical (compasses) devices</li> <li>• The relationship between rocks and minerals including the properties and methods of rock formation</li> <li>• The processes (rapid/slow) that affect the earth's natural environment</li> </ul>
<b>Where We Are in Place and Time</b>	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.	Diversity in a population is a result of physical, economic, social and political features	Change Connection Perspective	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What is diversity</li> <li>• Migrations and how they affect humankind</li> <li>• Demographic trends and their impacts on humankind</li> <li>• Geographic features of our planet</li> </ul>
<b>Who We Are</b>	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.	Informed consumers evaluate information	Function Perspective Reflection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Having a healthy lifestyle (personal health, peer pressure, personal safety)</li> </ul>
<b>Sharing the Planet</b>	An inquiry into rights and responsibilities in the struggle to share the 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.	All living organisms are interdependent on their environment	Responsibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•</li> </ul>

**Kate Sessions Elementary School  
Program of Inquiry  
Fifth Grade**

<b>Unit</b>	<b>Theme</b>	<b>Central Idea</b>	<b>Concepts</b>	<b>Inquiries</b>
<b>How We Express Ourselves</b>	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.	People express their beliefs and values for a variety of reasons		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•</li> </ul>
<b>How We Organize Ourselves</b>	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.	People develop systems that dictate how they govern themselves	Causation Perspective Reflection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The political, religious, social and economic institutions that influenced colonization</li> <li>• Causes of revolutions</li> <li>• The establishment of organized governments</li> </ul>
<b>How the World Works</b>	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.	Humans investigate the world of science (inquiry) by asking meaningful questions and conducting investigations to make sense of the world	Form Function Connection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The properties of matter and how elements are classified</li> <li>• The scientific process and how it works</li> <li>• The structure of plants and their transport systems</li> </ul>
<b>Where We Are in Place and Time</b>	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.	People explore and move (relocate) for different reasons with varying results	Change Causation Perspective	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exploration and why explorers existed</li> <li>• Impact of exploration on indigenous people</li> </ul>
<b>Who We Are</b>	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.	Decisions we make influence who we are and affect our future	Function Connection Reflection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Human behavior/decisions and the affect on body systems</li> <li>• How to maintain/achieve a lifelong healthy lifestyle through a balanced diet and physical fitness</li> <li>• How the body transport systems work</li> </ul>
<b>Sharing the Planet</b>	An inquiry into rights and responsibilities in the struggle to share the 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.	Our planet has limited resources that are unequally distributed	Change Causation Connection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Water, the water cycle and water conservation</li> <li>• The water cycle and how it impacts our weather patterns and our community</li> <li>• How geography and climate influence the way various nations lived and adjusted to the natural environment</li> </ul>