

Vernon Programme of Inquiry

Age	An inquiry into: Who we are	An inquiry into: Where we are in place and time	An inquiry into: How we express ourselves	An inquiry into: How the world works	An inquiry into: How we organize ourselves	An inquiry into: Sharing the planet
	<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>	<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>	<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>	<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>	<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>	<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>
5–6 K	<p>Central idea Families express their cultures and values through celebrations.</p> <p>Key concepts: form, connection, perspective</p> <p>Related concepts: family, culture, expression</p> <p>Lines of inquiry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Family life and traditions in different cultures There are many types of families Celebrations bring people together <p>November-December</p>	<p>Central idea Humans design transportation to meet specific needs.</p> <p>Key concepts: causation, form, connection</p> <p>Related concepts: movement, survival, organization</p> <p>Lines of inquiry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Transportation gets us from here to there Transportation has a purpose Transportations is different around the world <p>May-June</p>	<p>Central idea We express our thoughts and feelings in different ways.</p> <p>Key concepts: causation, responsibility, reflection</p> <p>Related concepts: creativity, self-expression</p> <p>Lines of inquiry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Emotions and Actions Use of color Art as expression <p>September-October</p>	<p>Central idea The sun impacts life on Earth.</p> <p>Key concepts: function, causation, form</p> <p>Related concepts: systems, energy, survival</p> <p>Lines of inquiry.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Earth is a planet The Earth sustains life The Sun is the center of the solar system The Sun gives light and heat <p>April-May</p>	<p>Central idea People live and work together in a community.</p> <p>Key concepts: function, responsibility, connection</p> <p>Related concepts: resources, structure, geography</p> <p>Lines of inquiry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Types of jobs people do Community jobs depend on each other Geography affects various kinds of work The community is organized to provide for basic needs <p>January-February</p>	<p>Central idea Our actions impact life in habitats.</p> <p>Key concepts: causation, connection, function</p> <p>Related concepts: habitats, systems, discovery</p> <p>Lines of inquiry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planet Earth is covered by oceans The ocean has layers where plants and animals live Human actions can impact the ocean in positive and negative ways. Plants and animals interact in this unique system <p>March-April</p>

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6–7 1st	<p>Central idea Resources affects health Key concepts: change, connection, responsibility</p> <p>Related concepts: health, lifestyle, nutrition</p> <p>Lines of inquiry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Healthy choices Health impacts your emotional, mental, and physical well being Access to resources <p>October/November</p>	<p>Central idea Innovations impact systems</p> <p>Key concepts: reflection, connection</p> <p>Related concepts: PE: community, growth, development Arts: imagination, perspective, creativity, Math: measurement, transformation, organization Literacy: information, research Social studies: discovery, orientation, technology</p> <p>Lines of inquiry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inventions Problems Problem Solvers <p>May/June</p>	<p>Central idea Perspectives inspire expression</p> <p>Key concepts: form, perspective, responsibility</p> <p>Related concepts: rights, equity, culture</p> <p>Lines of inquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Types of expression Cross cultural forms of expression The right and responsibility to express ourselves <p>March/April</p>	<p>Central idea Adaptations support survival</p> <p>Key concepts: function, connection</p> <p>Related concepts: adaptations, survival</p> <p>Lines of inquiry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Living things use adaptations for survival Humans use information from animals to solve problems <p>January/February</p>	<p>Central idea Relationships influence culture</p> <p>Key concepts: causation, perspective, form</p> <p>Related concepts: interdependence, organization</p> <p>Lines of inquiry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> structures and systems the impact of relationship self identity <p>December</p>	<p>Central idea Cooperation solves conflict</p> <p>Key concepts: causation, perspective, responsibility</p> <p>Related Concepts: relationships, conflict, behaviors</p> <p>Related concepts:</p> <p>Lines of inquiry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> causes of conflict problem solving and self management skill living and working together peacefully <p>September</p>

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7–8 2nd	<p>Central idea Choices can create or solve problems.</p> <p>Key concepts: form, responsibility, reflection</p> <p>Related concepts: health, well-being, choice</p> <p>Lines of inquiry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> choices and consequences of them ways to solve problems in a healthy way healthful and harmful stress <p>September/October</p>	<p>Central idea Change happens at different paces.</p> <p>Key concepts: causation, change, connection</p> <p>Related concepts: transformation, erosion, processes</p> <p>Lines of inquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Causes of land formations Change over time How land formation connects to water <p>March/April</p>	<p>Central idea Our actions and words express what we value and believe.</p> <p>Key concepts: causation, perspective</p> <p>Related concepts: heritage, belief, culture, performance</p> <p>Lines of inquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> How what we say and do shows our beliefs and values How we express ourselves through actions (drama/play) <p>January/February</p>	<p>Central idea The world is composed of interconnected parts</p> <p>Key concepts: change, form, causation</p> <p>Related concepts: properties, structure, self, communication, expression</p> <p>Lines of inquiry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The properties of objects Changes that happen to objects Cause of objects changing <p>Nov/December</p>	<p>Central idea Neighborhoods are made of people who come together for a common cause.</p> <p>Key concepts: connection, responsibility, change</p> <p>Related concepts: community, orientation, progress</p> <p>Lines of inquiry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The ways people connect Responsibilities of a neighbor Neighborhoods change over time <p>May</p>	<p>Central idea All living things have unique needs</p> <p>Key concepts: connection, function, responsibility</p> <p>Related concepts: sustainability, balance</p> <p>Lines of inquiry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Purpose of a habitat Habitats have an ecosystem Ways that we can help protect habitats <p>June</p>

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8–9 3 rd	<p>Central idea Communities develop and function when citizens exercise their rights and responsibilities.</p> <p>Key concepts: function, connection, responsibility</p> <p>Related Concepts: governments, legislation, citizenship</p> <p>Lines of inquiry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> parts of a community rights and responsibilities of a citizen development of a community <p>September/October</p>	<p>Central idea Sharing personal histories can help us to connect with other people.</p> <p>Key concepts: connection, function, perspective</p> <p>Related concepts: history, family, diversity</p> <p>Lines of inquiry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understanding personal histories Celebrating cultures and traditions Similarities and differences between family units <p>October/December</p>	<p>Central idea Different styles of art elicit different emotional responses.</p> <p>Key concepts: causation, connection, perspective</p> <p>Related concepts: influence, tone, inspiration</p> <p>Lines of inquiry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> How different forms of art makes us feel Cultural expression in music and dance Traditional and historical songs Ways to describe emotions that art causes <p>May/June</p>	<p>Central idea Cycles promote development</p> <p>Key concepts: causation, reflection, change</p> <p>Related concepts: cycles, ecosystems, growth</p> <p>Lines of inquiry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Life cycles of plants and animals Factors that sustain cycles Different types of cycles <p>February/March</p>	<p>Central idea People use engineering design to organize themselves and address problems.</p> <p>Key concepts: form, function, connection</p> <p>Related concept: population, movement, organization</p> <p>Lines of inquiry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ways cities develop & solve transportation problems Different structures of bridges The relationship between tension and compression <p>January/February</p>	<p>Central idea People share ideas to become aware of and preserve limited resources and manage waste.</p> <p>Key concepts: responsibility, change, connection</p> <p>Related concepts: balance, conservation, sustainability</p> <p>Lines of inquiry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> items that cause a lot of waste the amount of garbage we use limited resources in different areas <p>April/May</p>

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9–10 4 th	<p>Central idea Relationships enrich our lives and require nurturing to develop.</p> <p>Key concepts: perspective, reflective, responsibility</p> <p>Related concepts: community, identity, well-being</p> <p>Lines of inquiry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • why relationships are needed • how relationships help us understand ourselves • how to form/maintain relationships <p>September/October</p>	<p>Central idea Human migration leads to change and requires responsible action.</p> <p>Key concepts: causation, responsibility, change</p> <p>Related concepts: settlement, history, geography</p> <p>Lines of inquiry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Challenges of exploration • Opportunities • Economics of migration • Geography <p>April-May</p>	<p>Central idea People use different forms of art to express their uniqueness.</p> <p>Key concepts: perspective, reflection, connection</p> <p>Related concepts: creativity, audience, meaning</p> <p>Lines of inquiry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How everyone can express their uniqueness through the arts • Different forms of expression • Why we use art to express ourselves <p>November-January</p>	<p>Central idea Humans have a responsibility to understand and respond to the natural world in order to advance society.</p> <p>Key concepts: responsibility, change, form, connection</p> <p>Related concepts: Energy, sustainability, ownership, consequences, influence, transformation</p> <p>Lines of inquiry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The natural world follows certain laws • Human actions and the natural world impact each other • Responsibility of humans to respond sustainably to the world's changing needs <p>October-November</p>	<p>Central idea Groups of people are influenced by their environment.</p> <p>Key concepts: Function, Causation, Connection</p> <p>Related concepts: Cooperation, Citizenship, Supply & Demand</p> <p>Lines of inquiry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • History of Native Americans • Environments influence ways of living • The impact of Native Americans in the Northwest <p>February-March</p>	<p>Central idea People use design to reduce the impact of weather hazards.</p> <p>Key concepts: Function, Causation, Responsibility</p> <p>Related concepts: invention, survival, resources</p> <p>Lines of inquiry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Impact of natural hazards on humans • Use of engineering to protect against natural hazards • Preparing and responding responsibly to natural hazards <p>May-June</p>

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10–11 5 th	<p>Central idea Inquiry leads to self-discovery and action in the community.</p> <p>Key concepts: perspective, connection, responsibility</p> <p>Related concepts: community, connection, interdependence</p> <p>Lines of inquiry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Inquiry Cycle and Action Cycle (what it means to be human) Learner Profile traits (beliefs and values) Social-Emotional Learning and the brain (mental, social, spiritual health) Individual and community rights and responsibilities (rights and responsibilities) <p>September/May</p>	<p>Central idea Regions are defined by patterns and perspectives.</p> <p>Key concepts: connection, change, perspective</p> <p>Related concepts: diversity, patterns, place</p> <p>Lines of inquiry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Human activity is connected to the physical environment Reasons for movement and how it can change a region Perspectives change over time <p>December</p>	<p>Exhibition</p> <p>Central idea People creatively express ideas and values about issues to impact the world.</p> <p>Key concepts: form, function, causation,</p> <p>Change, Connection, Perspective, Responsibility, Reflection</p> <p>Related concepts: creativity, peace, organization</p> <p>Lines of inquiry Exhibition groups will choose three lines of inquiry to research, based on their chosen key concepts</p> <p>February</p>	<p>Central idea Discovery and understanding of natural laws allows humans to innovate.</p> <p>Key concepts: form, function, causation</p> <p>Related concepts: invention, discovery, cooperation</p> <p>Lines of inquiry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understanding natural laws and scientific phenomena Humans harnessing natural forces and phenomena to innovate <p>June</p>	<p>Central idea Human wants and needs influence the structures and function of organizations.</p> <p>Key concepts: function, connection, responsibility</p> <p>Related concepts: Cooperation, Citizenship, Supply & Demand</p> <p>Lines of inquiry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Economic systems and how they work Interconnectedness between supply and demand, needs and wants Individual and organizational roles in society <p>October</p>	<p>Central idea Biodiversity relies on the complex interactions of interdependent systems.</p> <p>Key concepts: connection, responsibility</p> <p>Related concepts: systems, balance, ecosystems</p> <p>Lines of inquiry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interdependence within ecosystems, biomes, and environments Ways organisms are interconnected in nature How human interactions with the environment can affect the balance of systems <p>March</p>

