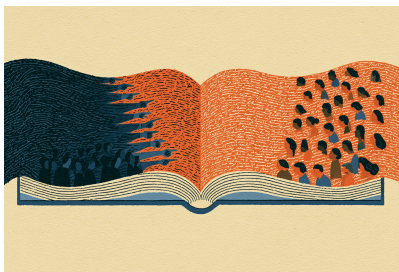


Middle School Year B

Theme: Interconnection : How are we connected in our modern world?

	Human Stories <i>Who we are. Our culture, history, and identity. Where we are in time and place.</i>	Our Shared World <i>community, responsibility, stewardship (based on the SDGs)</i>	Creativity and Expression <i>Creative thinking, artistic expression, music, movement, and the power of storytelling</i>	Innovation & Discovery <i>How people and animals explore & solve problems</i>
				
Expedition	Belonging	The Exchange	Stories and Power	Human 2.0
ASK: Essential Question	Who deserves to belong?	What do we owe the people and places we are connected to?	How can stories shape what a society believes?	Does technology make us more human or less?
Interdependence Question	How does belonging shape our responsibilities to one another?	What responsibilities come from being connected?	How do the stories we tell about others shape how we treat them?	How does innovation change the way we depend on one another?
Unit Overview	Students investigate what it means to belong - to a culture, community, place, and ecosystem. Through Indigenous, immigrant, and refugee experiences alongside ecology, they explore how relationships and interdependence shape belonging. They examine what happens when people or organisms are displaced, excluded, or removed.	Students investigate how exchange connects people, places, and living things. From early trade routes to modern global supply chains, they explore how the movement of goods, ideas, and organisms reshapes societies, environments, and life over time.	Students investigate how stories shape what societies believe and how they treat others. Through witch trials, propaganda, and the Holocaust, they explore how fear, stereotypes, and repeated narratives can lead to persecution - and how testimony and storytelling can preserve truth, dignity, and memory.	Students investigate the possibilities and limits of being human. Through human biology and the history of innovation, they explore how technology can restore, extend, and transform human abilities - and the choices and consequences that come with that power.
INVESTIGATE (Interdisciplinary)	- What does it mean to belong? - How do relationships shape our place within a community? - What happens when someone or something is excluded?	- How does exchange connect and change people, places, and living things? - Who or what benefits or bears the consequences from exchange? - How do our choices create effects in places we may never see?	- How do stories shape what we believe about others? - How can stories be used to influence or manipulate people? - How can storytelling challenge injustice and preserve truth?	- What are humans capable of and what limits us? - How can technology restore or extend human abilities? - How should we decide how far innovation should go?
WRESTLE: competing values	Scientific: Biodiversity ↔ Competition Social / Civic: Belonging ↔ Exclusion Ethical: Individual Identity ↔ Community	Scientific: Adaptation ↔ Extinction Social / Civic: Opportunity ↔ Exploitation Ethical: Connection ↔ Consequence	Scientific: Inheritance ↔ Variation Social / Civic: Truth ↔ Manipulation Ethical: Silence ↔ Witness	Scientific: Restoration ↔ Enhancement Social / Civic: Individual ↔ Collective Ethical: Progress ↔ Consequence

Middle School Year B Humanities Integration

Belonging	The Exchange	Stories & Power	Human 2.0
What students learn: Students explore how migration, identity, borders, laws, and power shape who belongs in a society. They examine Indigenous, immigrant, and refugee experiences and how ideas about citizenship and human rights have changed over time. How this shows up in class: • Studying Indigenous-colonizer relationships • Exploring migration and displacement • Examining borders, citizenship, and human rights • Comparing local, regional, and global perspectives	What students learn: Students explore how trade and exchange have connected societies throughout history. They investigate how the movement of goods, resources, and ideas changes cultures and environments and connects our everyday choices to people around the world. How this shows up in class: • Studying the Silk Road and early trade networks • Exploring the Columbian Exchange • Investigating globalization and modern supply chains • Tracing the story behind everyday products	What students learn: Students explore how stories, media, and propaganda can shape what societies believe. They examine how stereotypes and fear can contribute to exclusion and persecution and how testimony and storytelling can challenge harmful narratives and preserve memory. How this shows up in class: • Studying propaganda and the rise of Nazism • Learning about WWII and the Holocaust • Examining stereotypes, evidence, and manipulation • Exploring resistance, testimony, and remembrance	What students learn: Students explore how innovation and technology have changed what humans can do and how we live, work, and connect. They consider both the opportunities and unintended consequences of new technologies. How this shows up in class: • Exploring the Scientific and Industrial Revolutions • Studying medical and biotechnological innovation • Investigating the Digital Revolution, automation, and AI • Considering who benefits from new technologies and who may be left behind

Middle School Year B Science Integration

Belonging	The Exchange	Stories & Power	Human 2.0
What students learn: Students study ecology through the lens of where do we belong within our ecosystem? Students explore how organisms depend on one another and their environment. They study food webs, biodiversity, adaptations, and what happens when species enter, leave, or disappear from an ecosystem. How this shows up in class: • Exploring Greater Yellowstone food webs • Studying wolves and other keystone species • Investigating local species adaptations • Exploring biodiversity, species loss, and reintroduction	What students learn: Students explore a parallel of the humanities exchange unit through an ecological lens of how do organisms and environments shape one another over time? They investigate natural selection, genetic variation, heredity, extinction, and how humans can influence populations and evolutionary change. How this shows up in class: • Investigating natural selection • Exploring Greater Yellowstone adaptations • Studying invasive species and ecosystem impacts • Examining domestication and selective breeding	What students learn: Students explore cells and genetics as a scientific context for examining false ideas about racial hierarchy. They investigate how cells work and how genetic information is passed from one generation to the next. They explore cell structure and function, DNA, heredity, genetic variation, and disease. How this shows up in class: • Using microscopes to study cells • Exploring cell structure and function • Investigating DNA and inherited traits • Connecting cells and genetics to disease and medicine	What students learn: Students explore how body systems work together and what limits human performance. They investigate how medicine and technology can restore or extend human abilities. How this shows up in class: • Investigating human body systems • Exploring the nervous and musculoskeletal systems • Studying human performance and sensory perception • Exploring prosthetics, assistive technology, and medical innovation