Middle School Collaboration Lab

Year 1 Inquiry: How can I make a meaningful change in a community I belong to?

Understanding who we are and the communities we belong to helps us see how our choices and actions can create needed change.

In this yearlong exploration, students will examine what change means, beginning with an understanding of themselves and the communities they belong to. They will investigate how change happens, learn from people who have made a difference, and identify ways they can contribute to a community. As the unit progresses, students will question assumptions, consider competing perspectives, and connect ideas across disciplines. They will gather evidence, collaborate with others, and revise their thinking as they uncover new information. Students will apply these skills to investigate a community need, propose or carry out an action, and reflect on its impact.

Curriculum Framework

WHO AM I ?

Explore strengths, interests, values, perspectives. Understand what makes us who we are and what communities we belong to.

WHAT IS CHANGE?

Examine different objects that embody a theme of change and develop a working definition. Examine changes in a school or community over time. Distinguish intended from unintended effects and consider how experiences can be different.

HOW DOES CHANGE HAPPEN?

Investigate the 4 pillars of change and research social change movements throughout history. Compare approaches to change.

WHO ARE CHANGE MAKERS?

Investigate people and groups that have impacted change. Consider collaboration, setbacks, revision, and evaluation of impact. Design a project that highlights a chosen change maker and the four pillars of change.

HOW CAN I BE A CHANGE MAKER?

Identify a need within one of our communities. Examine evidence, consider potential consequences and impact, and generate a proposal for a change that will address that need.