## **World of ABC Program of Inquiry**

Age Grade	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.	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.	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	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.	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.	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.
3-4 PreK 3	Central Idea Families help make us who we are.  Key concepts Form, responsibility, connection  Related concepts Similarities and differences, belonging, roles  Lines of Inquiry  The diversity of families Roles and responsibilities within the family Traditions and celebrations shared within families	Not Taught in PreK-3	Central Idea People perceive the world and express themselves creatively by using their senses.  Key concepts Function, connection, perspective  Related concepts Systems, perception, self- expression, creativity  Lines of Inquiry  How we use the five senses to perceive the world How we use the five senses to create How people perceive the world differently	Central Idea The world around us is influenced by natural cycles.  Key concepts Change, connection, reflection  Related concepts Cycles, interaction, pattern  Lines of Inquiry  Natural cycles (i.e.,, day/night, weather patterns, seasons, growth cycles) How people respond to natural cycles  Patterns of behavior in living things related to Earth's natural cycles	Central Idea Communities depend on its members to cooperate and take responsibility.  Key concepts Form, function, causation  Related concepts Community, rules, interaction  Lines of Inquiry  Various communities we belong to Roles of people who are part of our communities How people use structure and space in their communities Our responsibilities in our communities	Central Idea Our personal choices can affect living things in our environment.  Key concepts Form, responsibility, connection  Related concepts Characteristics, needs, choice, conservation  Lines of Inquiry  Characteristics of living and nonliving things Our responsibility in taking care of the environment Positive and negative impact of our actions

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4-5 PreK 4	Central Idea People's relationships with each other can have an impact on well-being.  Key concepts Form, responsibility, reflection  Related concepts Cooperation, friendship, balance  Lines of Inquiry  Diversity of relationships How we develop and maintain relationships How relationships affect us	Central Idea People connect with each other in places around the world.  Key concepts Form, connection, causation  Related concepts Interaction, communication, geography  Lines of Inquiry  Different places around the world, both natural and man-made Ways we connect with people around the world Why people visit other places	Central Idea Stories can engage their audience and communicate meaning.  Key concepts Form, connection, perspective  Related concepts Communication, characterization, expression  Lines of Inquiry  How to construct an effective story What stories can convey How stories are created and shared Feelings and emotions that stories evoke	Central Idea Materials behave and interact in certain ways, which determine how people use them.  Key concepts Function, causation, change  Related concepts Behavior, prediction, innovation  Lines of Inquiry  Behavior of materials  Changing properties of materials  Manipulation and application of materials to new purposes	Not Taught in PreK-4	Central Idea Plants sustain life on Earth and play a role in our lives.  Key concepts Responsibility, change, perspective  Related concepts Interdependence, appreciation  Lines of Inquiry  Caring for plants Products we derive from plants How plants contribute to life on Earth

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5-6 K	Central Idea People have changing needs as they grow and develop.  Key concepts Change, perspective, reflection  Related concepts Identity, similarities and differences  Lines of Inquiry  Human life cycle Physical, social, and emotional needs of people and how they change with age Ways that make people unique	Central Idea Homes reflect cultural influences and local materials.  Key concepts Form, perspective, connection  Related concepts Culture, needs, ownership, identity, properties and uses of materials  Lines of Inquiry    What constitutes a home  Homes around the world How homes reflect local culture How homes reflect local materials	Central Idea Celebrations and traditions are expressions of shared beliefs and values.  Key concepts Form, connection, perspective  Related concepts Beliefs, values, belonging, culture  Lines of Inquiry  • Why people celebrate  • Features of traditions and celebrations • Symbolic representations of celebrations and traditions  • What meaning people assign to celebrations and traditions	Central Idea Animals have many similarities and differences.  Key concepts Form, function, connection  Related concepts Animals, needs, habitats  Lines of Inquiry  Structure and behavior of different animals Basic needs of animals The influence of the natural environment on animals	Central Idea Our school is a community where we can play and learn.  Key concepts Function, connection, responsibility  Related concepts Community, roles, space  Lines of Inquiry  The jobs and roles people have in their school community How everyone's responsibilities contribute to the functioning of the school How physical space within a school contributes to the school community  How a school community  How a school community is similar to other kinds of communities	Central Idea The Earth's natural resources are influenced by human use and natural cycles.  Key concepts Change, causation, reflection  Related concepts Cycles, resources, conservation  Lines of Inquiry  Limited nature of Earth's natural resources  The impact of the Earth's natural cycles on the environment The impact of people's choices on the environment The balance between meeting human needs and the use of natural resources

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6-7 1st	Central Idea The choices people make affect their health and wellbeing.  Key concepts Reflection, causation, perspective  Related concepts Choice, influence, balance  Lines of Inquiry  • 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	Central Idea The Earth's physical geography has an impact on human interactions and settlements.  Key concepts Form, causation, connection  Related concepts Geography, settlement  Lines of Inquiry  Different geographic features around the world and their properties How people use the natural geography and its resources to create settlements Impact of human interaction on the natural environment	Central Idea Our culture and heritage influence how we express ourselves.  Key concepts Connection, perspective, reflection  Related concepts Culture, heritage, perception, self-expression  Lines of Inquiry  How culture and heritage connect people around the world How people perceive and portray their world differently How people enjoy and appreciate the work of others	Central Idea The natural world is composed of different forms of matter, which can be transformed.  Key concepts Form, change, causation  Related concepts Properties, transformation  Lines of Inquiry  States of matter and their properties How states of matter can be transformed Natural occurrences of states of matter and transformations	Central Idea Communities create different systems to help meet its people's needs.  Key concepts Function, connection, responsibility  Related concepts Systems, needs, cooperation  Lines of Inquiry  Different kinds of systems and their functions How systems are organized to meet the needs of the people The role of decision making in systems	Central Idea Plants and animals have different structures that allow them to survive.  Key concepts Form, connection, change  Related concepts Cycles, structure  Lines of Inquiry  • Structures of plants and animals • How plants and animals obtain water and food from their habitats • How living things grow and change

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		individuals and civilizations, from local and global perspectives.		advances on society and on the environment.	humankind and the environment.	and conflict resolution.
7-8 2nd	Central Idea People make contributions that may impact the beliefs and values of individuals and societies.  Key concepts Causation, reflection, perspective  Related concepts Identity, peer pressure, opinion  Lines of Inquiry  Contributions of people around the world What determines our beliefs and values Influence of other people on our choices and actions	Central Idea Learning about previous generations helps us understand the relationship between the past and the present.  Key concepts Causation, change, connection  Related concepts Time, continuity, heritage  Lines of Inquiry  Ways to find out about the past How aspects of the past still influence us today  Why some behaviors and practices have changed or remained the same over time	Central Idea Cultures express their beliefs and values through folktales.  Key concepts Form, connection, perspective  Related concepts Communication, culture, self-expression  Lines of Inquiry  Beliefs and values of different cultures  Connection between culture and folktales  Representations of folktales in multiple mediums	Central Idea People apply their understanding of force and motion to invent and create.  Key concepts Form, causation, change  Related concepts Ingenuity, force, motion  Lines of Inquiry  Properties of force and motion How understanding force and motion helps inventors create Circumstances that led to the creation of important inventions How inventions have changed over time	Central Idea Changes in the Earth's atmosphere have an impact on the communities that people create.  Key concepts Form, change, connection  Related concepts Interaction, climate, community  Lines of Inquiry  Weather patterns throughout the seasons  Manmade changes to the Earth's atmosphere  How communities are affected by weather	Central Idea When interacting with natural habitats, people make choices that have an impact on other living things.  Key concepts Connection, causation, responsibility  Related concepts Habitat, adaptations, diversity  Lines of Inquiry  Natural habitats and their locations around the world How plants and animals use the environment to survive Human and environmental impact on natural habitats

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8-9 3rd	Central Idea The actions and responsibilities of citizens and governments affect communities.  Key concepts Function, responsibility, perspective  Related concepts Citizenship, systems, rights  Lines of Inquiry  • The rights and responsibilities of citizens and how they support the community • The structure and responsibility of government and how it supports the community • What it means to be a global citizen	Central Idea  Exploration leads to discoveries, opportunities and new understandings.  Key concepts Causation, change, reflection  Related concepts Impact, navigation, colonialism, power  Lines of Inquiry  Reasons for exploration (historical and personal) How explorations have taken place over time The consequences of exploration	Central Idea People use light and sound to express themselves.  Key concepts Form, perspective, change  Related concepts Energy, expression  Lines of Inquiry  • 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	Central Idea The Earth's surface is constantly changing.  Key concepts Form, change, connection  Related concepts Cycles, impact, geography  Lines of Inquiry  The properties of Earth's materials and how they form  Natural and human changes to the Earth's surface How natural and human changes work together to shape places and regions	Central Idea The global economy relies on the production and exchange of goods and services.  Key concepts Connection, perspective, causation  Related concepts Interaction, production, equality  Lines of Inquiry  How the availability of resources influences a region's production of goods and services  The interconnectedness of the global economy  How people and the environment are affected by economic conditions	Central Idea Living things adapt to their environments.  Key concepts Form, causation, responsibility  Related concepts Evolution, interaction, diversity  Lines of Inquiry  Structures and behaviors of living things (including humans)  Adaptions of living things to the environment How environmental changes affect the survival of living things

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9-10 4th	Central idea: Body systems must effectively interact to ensure health and survival.  Lines of inquiry: 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  Key concepts Function, reflection, responsibility  Related concepts Systems, interdependence, choices	Central Idea Migration leads to new opportunities and challenges.  Key concepts Causation, perspective, connection  Related concepts Migration, challenges, opportunity, adaptation  Lines of Inquiry  Reasons why people migrate Challenges people face when they migrate How people adapt to their new environment	Central Idea Observation and interpretation of the changing sky contributes to the create of myths and legends.  Key concepts Causation, reflection, connection  Related concepts Patterns, beliefs, interactions  Lines of Inquiry  Patterns in the sky Scientific observation of space How scientific data, myths and legends are used to explain natural phenomena	Central Idea Energy can be converted, transformed and used in different ways  Key concepts Form, change, responsibility  Related concepts Energy, conservation, transformation  Lines of Inquiry  Different forms of energy How people use different energy sources Our responsibility in conserving energy	Central Idea People create interconnected communities in different regions.  Key concepts Form, change, connection  Related concepts Regions, cooperation, diversity  Lines of Inquiry  Different regions of the United States and their features. The history of communities in each region. How regions are interconnected.	Central Idea Children worldwide face a variety of challenges and risks.  Key concepts Perspective, reflection, function  Related concepts Equality, rights, conflict  Lines of Inquiry  Challenges and risks that children face How children respond to challenges and risks  Ways in which individuals, organizations and nations work to protect children from risk