



# Middle School Curriculum

Extended learning foci include: American History 1920s to Today, World Hot Spots: Middle East, Korea, Russia, China India, Response to Natural Disasters, Geography and Politics of the Fossil Fuel Industry

*Relevant Field Lessons may include: Bureau of Economic Geology, Houston Museum of Natural Science Planetarium and Gem Hall, The Outdoor School, The Menil Collection, The Cistern, George Observatory, Food Bank, Flight Museum, George Bush Presidential Library, NASA, Sea Center Texas, Waste Management Recycling, Artist Boat, Sea Turtle Hatching Ground, Arizona*

## Reading and Language Arts

*Curriculum Resource: William & Mary School of Education: Mind Your Time*

### Learning Foci

- Develop Analytical and Interpretive Skills in Literature
- Demonstrate Creative, Persuasive, and Expository Writing Skills
- Exhibit Linguistic Competency
- Confidently Demonstrate Listening and Oral Communication Skills
- Apply Reasoning Skills to Literary Pieces
- Understand the Concept of Time in the Language Arts

## Mathematics

*Curriculum Resource: Eureka Math*

### Learning foci:

Eureka Math was written by a team of teachers and mathematicians who took great care to present mathematics in a logical progression from grade PK—12. This coherent approach allows teachers to know what incoming students already have learned and ensures that students are prepared for what comes next. When implemented faithfully, Eureka Math will dramatically reduce gaps in student learning, instill persistence in problem solving, and prepare students to understand advanced math.

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## Science

*Curriculum Resource: Stemsscopes*

### Learning foci:

- The Scientific Method
  - Demonstrate Safety during Laboratory Exercises
  - Consistently Implement the Scientific Method for Experiments and Explorations
- Force Motion and Energy
  - Demonstrate and Illustrate Forces which Act on Plants in Everyday Life
- Earth and Space Science
  - Analyze the Characteristics in Our Solar System that Contribute to Life on Earth
  - Define the Contributions of the Atmosphere (including Composition), Proximity to the Sun, and the Presence of Water
  - Describe the Historical Development of Evidence that Supports Plate Tectonic Theory.
  - Relate Plate Tectonics to the Formation of Crustal Features.
- Organisms and Environments
  - Examine Organisms (Insects and Leaves)
  - Identify Organisms Utilizing Dichotomous Keys
  - Recognize Human Dependence on Ocean Systems
  - Explain how Human Activities (runoff, artificial reefs, use of resources) Have Modified Ocean Systems
- Matter and Energy
  - Describe the Structure of Atoms (Masses, Electrical Charges)
  - Learn Locations of Protons, Neutrons, Electrons, and the Electron Cloud

## Social Studies

*Curriculum Resource: William & Mary School of Education: A World Turned Upside Down, A House Divided*

### Learning foci:

- Texas History (Important Events, People, and Impacts)
  - Civil War and Reconstruction (Important Events, People, and Impacts) through 1877
  - Texas Geography and the Impact of Humans on the Land (and vice-versa)
  - Recognize the Changing Geography of the United States and the Human Role in These Changes
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- Government Established with the Texas Constitution, the Changing of the US Constitution, and the Rights of Citizens
- Identify Various Economic Forces and Analyze the Impact of Science and Technology on Economic Forces

## Foreign Language

### Learning Foci:

- - Immersive French/Spanish Language - Class Time is Predominantly Conducted in French/Spanish
  - Intermediate proficiency in Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing
  - Focus on Verb Tenses and Utilizing Proper Gender with Nouns/Articles
  - Respond Verbally and in Writing in French/Spanish with Basic Proficiency
  - Common Expressions, Scenario Based Vocabulary
  - Reading Fluency and Comprehension with Authentic, Age Appropriate Literature
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