

CAACS GLOBE

Cultural Arts Academy Charter School

Inquiry Unit 2 Theme: Where We Are In Place and Time



Cultural Arts Academy Charter School is an International Baccalaureate (IB) candidate school, offering the Primary Years Programme (PYP). Grades 1-5 are currently studying the theme: *Where We Are in Place and Time*, concluding on 12/14. Each class formulated research questions aligned with their grade level's central idea, investigated by reading

nonfiction, and have begun creating their summative writing projects. In this month's newsletter, you will learn about the work being done in each grade level in November.

You will also read how extended learning experiences to Ellis Island, the NY Hall of Science, and Brooklyn Botanical garden have helped us provoke inquiry.

VOL. 3, NOVEMBER 2018

Kindergarten: Who We Are



Cornell and Howard Universities have begun their second unit with the transdisciplinary theme: *Who We Are*.

2

2nd Grade to NY Hall of Science!



Juilliard and Yale Universities traveled to the NY Hall of Science on 11/28 and 12/4 for hands on learning and problem solving.

3

4th Grade to Ellis Island!



Spelman College traveled by boat, passing the Statue of Liberty, on their way to Ellis Island for the interactive tour at the Museum of Immigration.

4

5th Grade's Evidence Based Argumentative Essay



Brown and Dartmouth Universities have begun writing their summative essays for unit 2.

4

"There is a time and place for everything. There is a time and place for talk. And there is a time and place for action." –Carly Fiorina

International Baccalaureate Authorization Update

We received feedback on our International Baccalaureate authorization status this November. We are submitting documentation by the deadline of December 31st to prove our commitment to IB recognized professional development and collaborative planning. We are also submitting an explanation of how mathematics is taught alongside inquiry along with our updated

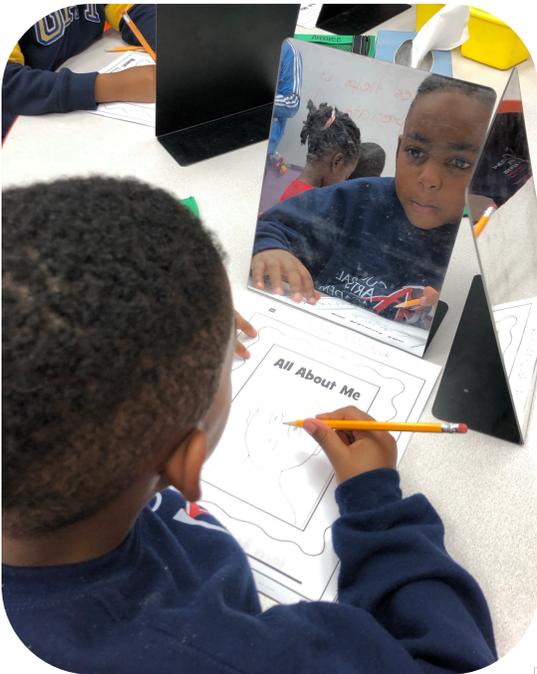
Programme of Inquiry curriculum map.

After our submission of this documentation, we anticipate a four-month time period for IB to review our submission. We expect an answer to our request for authorization by April 2019! We expect to be recognized as an official IB World School, which will give us more opportunities.



Kindergarten Theme: Who We Are

Central Idea: Learning about ourselves helps us appreciate diversity



Scholars in Cornell University create self-portraits in a lesson co-taught by Professor Hong and our visual arts teacher, Professor Crenshaw.

Our Kindergarten classes will conclude their second unit with the theme: *Who We Are* by the end of the second quarter marking period.

IB's descriptor of the theme, *Who We Are*, reads, "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."

Lines of Inquiry:

- Our physical characteristics make us unique.
- We choose our hobbies and interests.
- We can have power over our emotions and actions.
- We all have cultural traditions.

Formative Assessments that Align

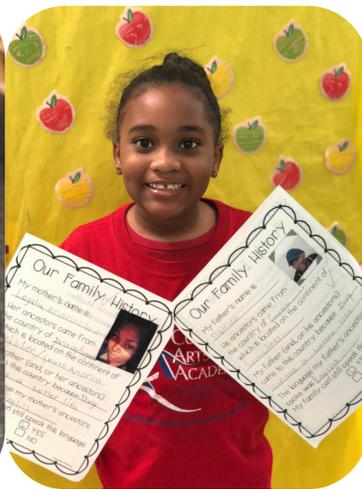
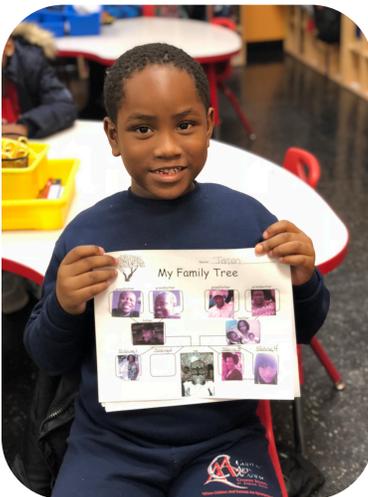
- Line of Inquiry #1: Through collaboration with visual art, scholars will create a self-portrait.
- Line of Inquiry #2: Scholars will create an about me mini-book, detailing their interests.
- Line of Inquiry #3: Scholars will reflect on the actions/reactions of a character from a read-aloud and make text-to-self connections.
- Line of Inquiry #4: Scholars will create an about my traditions mini-book, detailing their personal traditions customs, etc.

First Grade Theme: Where We Are in Place and Time

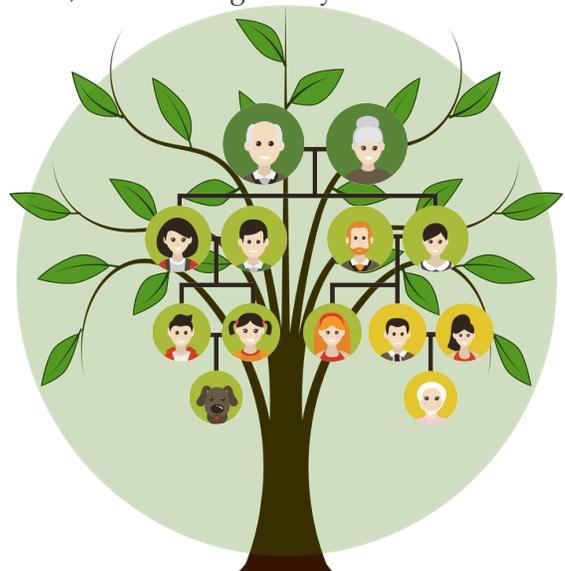
Central Idea: Family Plays and Essential Role in Our Beliefs and Values

FAMILY

Our first grade classes, Brooklyn College and Princeton University, have begun their second inquiry unit about the importance of family. They are sharing family keepsakes with the class, conducting interviews, and creating family trees.



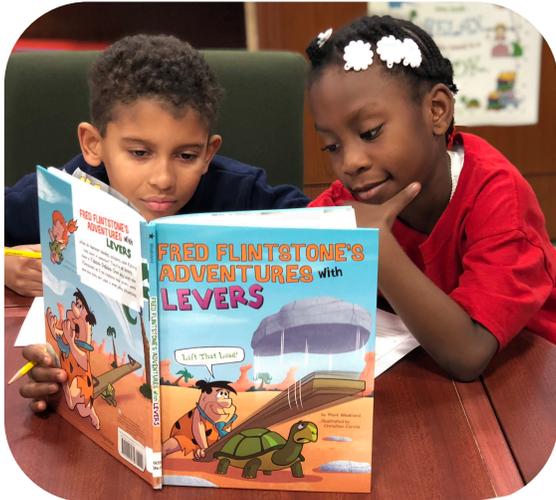
Scholars in Princeton University and Brooklyn College create Family Trees after interviewing their family members over the Thanksgiving recess.



Second Grade Theme: Where We Are in Place and Time

Central Idea: Simple machines have been useful then and now.

The second grade scholars of Juilliard and Yale Universities have each selected a simple machine to research. They will be writing about how the simple machine was used long ago and how it is used today. Finally, they will be presenting their learning along with a 3D model.



Scholars in Juilliard University research the simple machines of their interest in our Makerspace using trade books from the Follet store.



On November 28th and December 4th, scholars of Juilliard and Yale Universities visited the New York Hall of Science in Queens, NY. Our scholars used simple machines in the Sports Challenge exhibit and then created solutions to problems in the Design Lab.



Third Grade Theme: Where We Are in Place and Time

Central Idea: Climate and geography influence life in distant places.



Scholars in New York University complete a See, Think, Wonder sheet to provoke their inquiry about climate zones.



Our third grade classes, New York and Northeastern Universities have been learning all about the climate zones and geography of New York. They have learned that our biome, in New York, is a temperate forest. They have also learned how people interact with the climate and geography in our area. Next, they will select a region with a climate and geography different than our own and identify how people adapt. This project is being completed in class.



Northeastern and New York Universities both visited the climate zone exhibits at the Brooklyn Botanical Garden on Wednesday, November 14, 2018.

Fourth Grade Theme: Where We Are in Place and Time

Central Idea: Cause and effect relationships influence human migrations.

The fourth grade scholars of Spelman and Morehouse Colleges have been creating timelines, researching, writing narratives, and writing scripts about various human migrations.



On November 20th, the scholars of Spelman College took the trip back in time to Ellis Island. Park rangers lead them in a tour called "The Journey," where they imagined they were European immigrants coming to the United States, for the first time, 100 years ago.



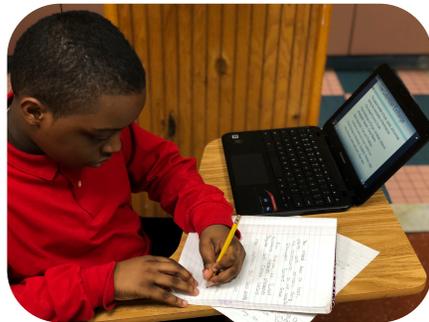
Scholars of Morehouse University post their research questions/wonderings on a new-look thought-bubble Wonder Wall.



Scholars of Spelman engage in discussion about their research findings about the Great Migration.

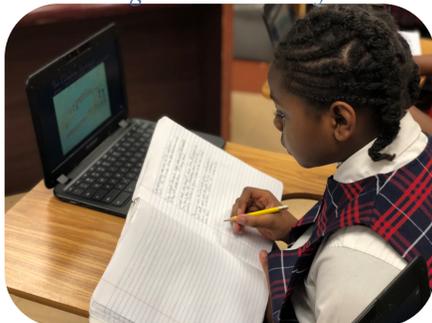
Fifth Grade Theme: Where We Are in Place and Time

Central Idea: People are influenced by the cross culture relationships formed by exploration.

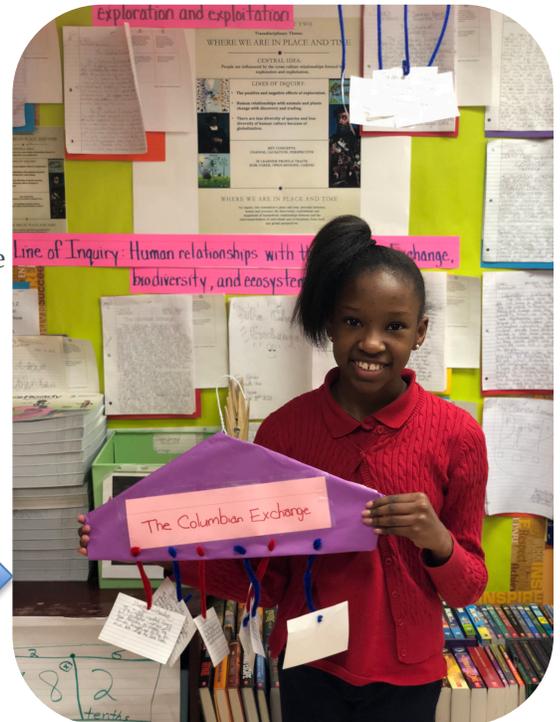


Scholars of Brown University research, in class, for their evidence-based argumentative essays.

Our 5th grade scholars of Dartmouth and Brown University have been working hard in class researching and drafting evidence-based argumentative essays. The argumentative essay skills are being reinforced in their weekly debate class.



Scholars of Dartmouth University create hanging 3D models to demonstrate their learning of the Columbian Exchange.



Cultural Arts Academy Charter School's Attendance

CAACS Attendance Rate for November 2018: 95.6%

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