

Aim High 2023 **CONTENT OVERVIEW**

Humanities

Students read, write, think about & discuss relevant questions to contemporary issues.

Issues & Choices

Students participate in community circle discussions about their communities, identity & well-being. They also explore their college & career goals.

STEM Challenge

Students utilize the design thinking process, scientific inquiry & mathematical practices to address design & real-world challenges.

Access to Water

Driving Question:

How does limited access to clean water impact peoples' lives?

Texts:

A Long Walk to Water by Linda Sue Park and additional non-fiction readings

Product:

Informative PSA about current water conditions in California

Transition to Middle School & Healthy Friendships

Driving questions:

How do I develop healthy friendships and boundaries during my transition to middle school while practicing self-care?

How do I utilize my strengths to successfully transition to middle school?

Product:

My strengths and resources flower

Climate Change

6th

Driving Questions:

How can buildings be designed to mitigate and prepare for the effects of climate change will have on my community?

Scientific Inquiry:

Analyze and evaluate evidence for climate change

Mathematical concepts:

Number Systems
Graphing
Statistics and Probability

Product:

Design a green building

Identity & Stereotypes

Driving question:

How do I tell a story about how to be an advocate or ally for others or myself?

Texts:

American Like Me by American Ferrera (collection of personal narratives)

Product:

Personal narrative around helping others

Identity: Past, Present & Future

Driving Questions:

How do I share my powerful identity story with my community?

How do my strengths and interests connect to my education and career pathway?

Product: Stepping Stones Vision Board and I AM Poem

Humans & the Environment

7th

Driving question:

How can we use our scientific knowledge to survive apocalyptic conditions?

Scientific Inquiry:

Nutrition
Water purification
Understanding terrain

Mathematical concepts:

Rational Numbers
Area of squares/rectangles
Reading and understanding
Graphs

Product:

Apocalypse survival kit



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Humanities

Students read, write, think about & discuss relevant questions to contemporary issues.

Community, Resources & Addressing Challenges in Our Communities

Driving Question:

What are our rights and responsibilities as people living in the USA?

Texts:

Selections from Voice of Witness reader

Product:

Opinion piece about a constitutional issue

Issues & Choices

Students participate in community circle discussions about their communities, identity & well-being. They also explore their college & career goals.

Relationships, Racism, Privilege & Opportunities

Driving Questions:

How do I become a change agent in my community and recognize oppressive societal systems and their impact?

What resources can I utilize to be successful in eighth grade, high school and beyond?

Product:

Senior High School Yearbook Profile Page and High School Opportunity Plan

STEM Challenge

Students utilize the design thinking process, scientific inquiry & mathematical practices to address design and real-world challenges.

Physics, Engineering & Graphing Data

8th

Driving Question:

How can you design a thrilling roller coaster with limited supplies?

Scientific Inquiry:

Newton's Laws of Motion
Use design process and collaboration to create prototypes and models

Mathematical concepts:

Graphing data
Calculating force, speed

Product:

Roller Coaster Prototype

Identity, growth & transition

Driving Questions:

What does it mean to be a hero?
What does quality leadership look like?

Texts:

Non-fiction, short biographical texts and narratives about heroes, both from the past and present.

Product:

Written and visual representation of a personal hero.

Healthy relationships, becoming change agents & transition to high school

Driving Questions:

How do I define healthy relationships and boundaries while developing coping skills and tools to navigate high school and beyond?

What steps can I take in high school to have access to and thrive in an ideal college environment for me?

Product:

High School Road Map

Environmental Justice & Design thinking

9th

Driving Question:

How can we create a product or service that will solve/mitigate a challenge in our community?

Design & Inquiry:

Local environmental issues
Climate Change

Mathematical Concepts:

Functions
Budgeting

Product:

Eco-Business Pitch and Business Plan