

ACMA Middle School Newsletter

“What is a scientist after all? It is a curious man looking through a keyhole, the keyhole of nature, trying to know what's going on.” — Jaques Cousteau



Cycle 2: Exploration

*“Would you tell me please which way I ought to walk from here?”
“That depends a good deal on where you want to get to,” said the Cat.
“I don’t much care where –“ said Alice.*

“Then it doesn’t matter which way to walk,” said the Cat.

Cycle 2 focuses on exploration and how new discoveries enhance our understanding of ourselves and our relationship with the world. Students will discover how they can learn from previously charted paths and continue to question and explore unknown mysteries.

FIELD TRIPS

Students will attend a
Wrinkle in Time on
October 23rd

Students will visit the Ft.
Worth Botanical
Institute November 8th

DONATIONS

We are seeking
donations of
earthworms for our
school garden compost

**PLEASE REMEMBER OUR
UNIFORM POLICY. WE
HAVE SHIRTS AND
SWEATSHIRTS FOR SALE
IF YOU NEED A
WARDROBE UPDATE!**



Fall Festival
At ACMA on
October 20th from
10-2pm



**ACMA PTO
Meeting**
November 13th



**International
Night**
November 2nd
from 6-8pm

Language

In Language, students will engage deeply in studying a master author of literature. Students will work to answer the guiding questions *how can we read like writers in order to learn from the craft of other writers* and *how can we converse with others, even if we can't actually talk to them*. Students will select a mentor author and study and analyze several selections from that author's repertoire. Students will create their own creative writing pieces in the style of their mentor authors. Students will focus on mastering the functions of the colon and the use of first, second, and third person in their writing.

Social World

In Social World, students will work to answer the guiding questions *why do people explore* and *how do you become and educated voter*. Students will examine the exploration of North America by imperialist countries and identify seeds of change that each had a profound global impact. Students will learn about the electoral college and the origins of the United States political parties.

Natural World

In Natural World, our explorations for this cycle will take us into the domains of bacteria, archae and eukarya. These cover all life forms, from the simplest, one-celled organism to complex, multicellular living things. Students will seek to answer *what questions and rules are used to explore living things* and *how does the exploration of the three domains and six kingdoms affect humans?*

Math

Students will focus on two guiding questions: *how do you use the rule of algebra to simplify expressions* and *why do you simplify expressions and solve equations*. Students will work with variables and discover the rules for simplifying and evaluating expressions and solving equations.

Personal World

Students will explore their priorities and values and potential career paths. They will work to understand *how exploring your interests and talents helps you begin with the end in mind* and *how does exploring your priorities help you put first things first?*

TEENAGERS: WHY WHAT THEY EAT IS SO IMPORTANT

A recent study, published in the *Journal of Child Psychology*, examined the relationship between dietary patterns and cognitive functioning: memory and learning. The study showed that adolescents who followed a "Western" diet high in processed foods, meat, sodium, and sugar, showed longer reaction times and higher errors in recall tasks. Alternatively, a diet of fruits and leafy greens showed improved cognitive performance. Emory University conducted a separate study that showed a high fructose diet showed increased symptoms of anxiety and depression. They also observed long-term metabolic changes and stress response reactions.

