

# ACMA Middle School Newsletter

“Who you are speaks so loudly I can’t hear what you are saying.” - Ralph Waldo Emerson



**Field Trip**  
Perot Museum  
February 15th



**ACMA PTO Meeting**  
January 8th  
4:00-5:15pm

## Cycle 3: Identity

*“In the social jungle of human existence, there is no feeling of being alive without a sense of identity.” -Erik Erikson*

Cycle 3 focuses on identity and how we can learn about who we are through our past, our family history, our relationships, our genetics, and even our inner thoughts. Students will work to understand their own identities through their explorations across content areas.



**Cooking with Ms. Sima**  
January 12th  
5:00 - 8:00pm  
\$25/person

### PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Ms. Katrina will be in Houston for ongoing training and development February 11th to 16th.

### INDEPENDENT RESEARCH PROJECT

Students have begun their semester long independent research projects. Please chat with your student about this endeavor!

### TELL YOUR FRIENDS! ACMA OPEN HOUSE

Sunday, January 13th  
ACMA  
2:00 - 4:00pm

## Language

In Language, students will engage deeply in studying forms of poetry including haikus, sonnets, sestinas, and odes. Students will work to answer the guiding questions *what are the benefits of being restricted by forms* and *how does the form affect the writer's purpose*. Students will create their own poems across these formats and work to analyze traditional and contemporary works of poetry resulting in the creation of a poetry anthology. Students will also focus on mastering the functions of the apostrophe in their writing.

## Social World

In Social World, students will work to answer the guiding questions *why do people migrate* and *what are the four waves of migration into North America* and *what are the current and future issues regarding migration in America*. Students will examine immigration in North America and look at their own family histories to see who, when, and why family members came to the United States.

## Natural World

In Natural World, students will explore the concept of identity by looking at genetics. Students will seek to answer the guiding questions *what are the blueprints of life* and *how do genetics determine your identity*. Students will examine their own genetics across three generations and will also study genetic disorders, advances in genetics and human inheritance.

## Math

Students will focus on two guiding questions: *what are the different ways to analyze data* and *what is the difference between probability and relative frequency*. Students will collect and interpret data, create graphs, and demonstrate understanding of ration, rate, proportion, probability, and relative frequency.

## Personal World

Students will explore the concept of identity through the lens of relationships with others. They will work answer the questions *what are appropriate relationships to have with others* and *how does your relationship with others affect identity*.

## CREATING CONFIDENCE

Confidence is a fundamental trait that helps turn our thoughts into actions. It's the force that allows us to do the things that seem hard, scary, or impossible to us, and adolescence is a critical time to develop confidence and take appropriate risks. Acting with confidence requires an individual to chance failure, and it can sometimes be challenging to combat the negative thoughts or fears of social rejection that go along with risk taking. Join us on **January 17th at 5:30 at ACMA** for a workshop and discussion on confidence and how we can foster more confident teenagers.

