



## 2008–09 Learning Expeditions

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### Kindergarten

#### Rivers & Streams

*Room 1, Todd Bohannon*

- \* Spiders
- \* Rivers, streams, water
- \* Thornton Creek watershed
- \* Amazon Basin

#### Frog & Toad at the Beach

*Room 5, Mari Brockhaus*

- \* Frog and Toad—Friendship, feelings, same/different
- \* At the beach—local beaches, sand/rocks, driftwood, tide pools (possibly research tide pool creatures)

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### First Grade

#### Marine Animals of Puget Sound

*Room 4, Crystal Sison*

- \* Tide pools
- \* Comparison of two classes

#### Dinosaurs

*Room 9, Julie Clayton*

- \* What is a dinosaur?
- \* Where did they live? Why?
- \* Researching individual dinosaurs
- \* Sorting dinosaurs
- \* What happened to the dinosaurs?
- \* What animals today are ancestors of the dinosaurs?
- \* Mini dinosaur excavations

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### Second Grade

#### You Are Here:

#### Developing a Sense of Place Through Mapping

*A cartographic expedition in our visual, kinesthetic, and emotional experiences*

*Room 8, Liz*

*Room 14, Nora*

#### Methods of Representation

- \* Three-dimensional models and tool maps
- \* Pictures and murals
- \* Pictorial and panoramic-view maps

#### Scope

- \* Home and school
- \* Neighborhood
- \* Community and watershed

#### Explorations

- \* Three-dimensional classroom model
- \* Searching for a place—making maps that take other children on journeys
- \* Favorite place map
- \* Mapping the route from school to home
- \* Hunting for treasure in the schoolyard
- \* Neighborhood maps
- \* Sound maps
- \* Imaginary worlds
- \* Landscapes in children's literature
- \* Exploring Thornton Creek
- \* Thornton Creek School and our environmental impact

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## Third Grade

### Stories in Stone

*Room 2, Lori Fujimoto*

- \* Rocks and minerals, how they are formed
- \* What rocks and minerals tell us about Earth and its inhabitants
- \* Native plants—identification & uses

### Have I Got a Story for You!!!

*Room 13, Rebecca Rutzeck*

- \* **Study of ourselves.** Personal experiences. “Small moments” and make books. Author study of Cynthia Rylant...When the Relatives Came; Blue...
- \* **Family Stories.** Interview family members. Memorize a family story. Author study of Patricia Polacco.
- \* **Cultural Stories/Folk Tales.** Various Cultures. Cinderella & Anansi & tricksters. Comparative study. Puppet shows of folk tales.

## Self-Contained Classrooms

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### Second–Third Grade

*Room 10, Teresa Swanson*

- \* Monthly themes such as Fabric, Autumn, Safari

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### Kindergarten–First Grade

*Room 3, Katie Zissermann*

- \* Monthly themes such as Transportation, Pets, Sea Life, Gardens

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### Fourth–Fifth Grade

*Room 7, Laura Reed*

- \* Monthly themes such as Apples, Snow, Shapes

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## Fourth Grade

### Elections & Voting Rights

*Room 11, Steve Chavez*

- \* The Presidential Election
- \* Suffrage and voting rights
- \* Grassroots democracy in action (campaign)

### Bamboo:

*History, cultural uses, art, growth, sustainability, “mini-units” on our grant projects*

*Cabin, Sandra Brettler*

- \* Mural project on the south wall
- \* Solar power, photovoltaic cells
- \* Water reclamation, water cycle, water use
- \* Natural light (we’re getting skylights)

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## Fifth Grade

### Rights of the Child, Child Labor

*Room 6, Jo Vos & Liz Neuman*

- \* *United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child*, anchor text
- \* History of Child Labor in the USA (New England textile mills in second half of 1800s and early 1900s)
- \* Current global child labor issues with a possible focus on factories making children’s sports equipment, local (Seattle area) children’s needs not being met (medical, food, housing, education, etc.)
- \* *Lyddie*, anchor text

### Voyage of the Mimi

*Room 17, Rick Lemberg*

- \* Maya, Mexico & Central America research (history, size, capital cities, etc.)
- \* Disabilities
- \* Rain forests and coral reefs
- \* Phases of the moon and sun