7th – 8th Grade Year 1 Overview

Subject	Grade-Level Focus
Mathematics	7th Grade Math: Use mathematics to analyze observational data, generating statistical trends. Reason abstractly and quantitatively using algebraic methods and statistics. Apply mathematics to art using scale, perspective, and geometry. 8th Grade Math: Apply theory of equations to analyze trends and patterns and make predictions. Demonstrate an understanding of mathematics as a language that adheres to rules and uses specific, universal symbols. Explore, create, and design with the fundamental geometric figures of Euclidean Space: the five Platonic Solids.
Science	Use expressions to model situations and analyze data. Apply scientific methodology to investigate and explore questions that seek to find statistical trends and patterns. Apply data analysis and personal experience to make predictions.
English Language Arts	Use appropriate language to engage in conversation, discussion, debate, teaching, learning, and sharing with a variety of audiences and using a variety of expressive techniques. Effectively and creatively craft stories, essays, summaries, and conclusions to communicate using a variety of mediums.
Social Studies	Explore the path of globalization and discovery. Connect events of today to the past. Conceptualize wats to communicate personal truths and experience through correlation with historical facts and varying perspectives.
Outdoor Education	Participates cooperatively in outdoor activities and learning experiences with persons with diverse abilities and backgrounds.
Problem-Solving, Science, and Engineering Practices	Apply grade-level practices for solving problems, inquiry, and engineering solutions.

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Expedition	Expedition Description
Displaced People and Refugees	Students explore globalization, political science, and current events through the lens of displacement and stories of refugees.
Migration	Students expand upon the work done in the previous expedition by looking at migration patterns, prior to colonization, of humans on Earth. These are compared to forced migration paths and connected to the development of refugee camps and reservations. Migration of other animals is studied in labs as groundwork for understanding the concept, function, and paths.
Disease and Epidemics	Students analyze resources to develop background knowledge about epidemics in many forms: historical and current, medical and social. Students use investigation and inquiry to learn about outbreaks and study social and cultural responses to develop a model of how to respond in challenging circumstances. Due to the recent pandemic crisis, students will primarily focus on historical contexts, and apply them to their own analysis of our recent challenge and how we can both respond to and heal from such experiences.
Renaissance Art and Culture	Students explore drama, poetry, song, art, stories, and dance to understand and appreciate renaissance cultural renewal through the Harlem Renaissance. A historical awareness is cultivated through research and investigation and applied to modern contexts and developments.
Art and Science	Students creatively integrate their learning about renaissance art with an environmental twist: upcycling. Students explore ways that art and science can combine to have a voice and promote awareness of societal issues such as recycling.
Chemistry and Thermodynamics	Students take a deep dive into chemistry and thermodynamics through studying recycling methods introduced in the previous expedition. The actual process of recycling, and the life cycle of our consumer products, is analyzed for improvements. Students apply the engineering process to design solutions to consumer waste, and advocate for their solutions by creating a documentary film clip.