# MACFARLANE PARK ELEMENTARY EXHIBITION PROCESS

5th Grade

#### **How We Express Ourselves**

An inquiry into the ways in which we discover and express ideas, feelings, nature, culture, beliefs and values; the ways in which we reflect on, extend and enjoy our creativity; our appreciation of the aesthetic.

### Macfarlane Park Exhibition Overview

**Organization:** Exhibition at Macfarlane Park is a year-long inquiry into the transdisciplinary theme, *How We Express Ourselves*. Although students work on their Exhibition projects throughout the year, explicit learning experiences are delivered via 5 phases of the project, each delivered during the last week of the other 5 IB units. Students work in groups of 3-4 for Exhibition.

**Mentors:** After Exhibition groups have determined their central ideas (usually by late November), all Macfarlane Park Staff members are invited to sign up to mentor one of the groups. Students meet with their mentors 30 minutes per week throughout the year. The duties of the mentor include ensuring their group stays abreast of the project timeline, helping students locate resources for their project, and supervising communication made between the students and community experts, agencies, and organizations for the purpose of gathering research or taking action.

**Documentation:** Every 5<sup>th</sup> grade exhibition group has an exhibition binder. Inside the binder is a student packet that includes directions for each step of the project, rubrics for each step, and reflection journals. Students also use their binders to organize articles, pamphlets, and brochures collected during the research phase. The majority of their project is documented on an online collaboration Padlet. Finally, each group completes a research paper that is housed in the binder and/or on their Padlet.

**Taking Action:** At the heart of each project is action. Taking action may be in the form of writing letters to enact change, raising awareness, volunteering, fundraising, or organizing a supply collection. Students break their action ideas down into the areas of Aid, Activism, and Awareness.

**Community Involvement:** Members of our community help with Exhibition by serving as topic experts, hosting inquiry field trips, and presenting as guest speakers on relevant topics.

**Assessment:** Student groups complete self -assessment and peer feedback rubrics on each phase of the project and are assessed on the same rubric by their teacher. Students conference with their teacher and mentor regularly and periodically complete reflections on the Learner Profile Traits and Approaches to Learning.



# **Exhibition Timeline**

PLANNING	Requirements	Due Date	Done
1. Selecting a Topic	Find issues of local, national and/or global significance and bring articles to class. Explore topics about which you have a passion. Find other students with your same passions. Brainstorm what the local and global connections might be for each of your topics.	Oct. 10	
2. Our Central Idea	Formulate the enduring understanding.  Identify an overall statement that addresses your issue to be studied.  Brainstorm some possible actions you could take in regards to this issue. Just jot down a few ideas.	Oct. 24	
3. Lines of Inquiry	Break down their central idea into specific areas of study.  Identify 3-4 topics of study you will need to research in order to fully explore your central idea.  Make sure your list of topics flow in a logical order.  Look at look at your topic locally, globally, and through the lens of the Exhibition theme, "How We Express Ourselves".	Nov. 3	
4. Key Concept Questions	<ul> <li>Using the IB Key Concept Map as a guide, create 2-3 specific questions you would like to answer under each line of inquiry.</li> <li>These are not the only questions you will answer in your research but they will be the main focus.</li> <li>Make sure your key concept questions help you address your central idea.</li> <li>Make sure to look at your topic locally, globally, and through the lens of the Exhibition theme, "How We Express Ourselves".</li> </ul>	Nov. 9	
RESEARCH/ACTION	Requirements	Due Date	Done
5. Research	Identify resources. Research answers to your key concept questions.  Identify both primary and secondary sources. Record them in your bibliography.  Take note facts on individual sticky notes and place them on your lines of inquiry sheets.  Be sure your research addresses your 3 lines of inquiry.	Note Facts Jan. 20	
6. Plan of Action	Be descriptive in your written Plan of Action and on your Visual Planning Sheet.	Feb. 3	
7. Research Paper	Use information from your sticky notes and graphic organizers to write your research paper in paragraph form.  Complete the graphic organizer planning sheet for each section and convert to paragraph form to create a complete paper.  Research Paper sections include:  Introduction  Background  Problem  Solution  Conclusion	Intro. Feb. 9 Background Feb. 17 Problem Feb. 23 Solution Mar. 1 Final Paper Mar. 8	
8. Visual Planning	Start preparations for the creation of your visual.	Mar. 28	
PRESENTATION	Requirements	Due Date	Done
9. Publicity	Invite relevant special guests and media to our exhibition event. Consider publishing your research findings.	Apr. 5	
10. Visual	Create a visual display to use on Exhibition Presentation Day. The visual may be digital, 2D/3D artwork, dance, drama etc.	May 16	
11. Performance Presentation	Create notes on cards and practice presentation at home and at school.	May 16	
12. Exhibition Day	Let's Celebrate!!!!!!!!!	May 16	

#### Phases of Exhibition

#### Topic Selection

- •Students read a variety of current articles on global issues and discuss how they align to the UN GLobal Goals for 2030, work together to brainstorm possible central ideas, and notice the connection between central and main ideas.
- •Students identify their top 3 topics of interest for exhibition and will form research groups.
- •Students work together to form a central idea for their Exhibition topic.
- •Students develop lines of inquiry that aim to deepen understanding of their central idea.

## Research

- •Students develop key concept questions related to central idea and lines of inquiry of their Exhibition project.
- •Students participate in a lesson on the Independent Investigation Method (IIM) method of taking research notes and how to navigate their group Padlet.
- Media Specialist teaches a lesson on safe internet searches and creating bibliographies.
- •Students listen to a presentation from a local TV reporter regarding the importance of research and how to best conduct an interview.
- •Students research lines of inquiry, synthesize notes and cite sources in an online bibliography.
- •Students complete an informative writing piece summarizing all aspects of their Exhibition project.
- •Students present a synopsis of research completed on their group's global issue. Presentations will be peer and self-assessed using a rubric.

#### Action

- •Students participate in a service learning lesson on the 3 A's of Service (Aide, Activism, and Awareness) and brainstorm possible actions that would fit into each category.
- •Students will listen to a guest speaker talk about being an activist and how students can affect change.
- •Students research 2 to 3 examples of action for Aid, Activism, & Awareness that relates to their global issue.
- •Students complete an action plan, steps needed to complete their action, and a way to determine if their action was successful.
- •Students follow through on their action plan and write a reflection stating their experience and its effectiveness on addressing their global issue.

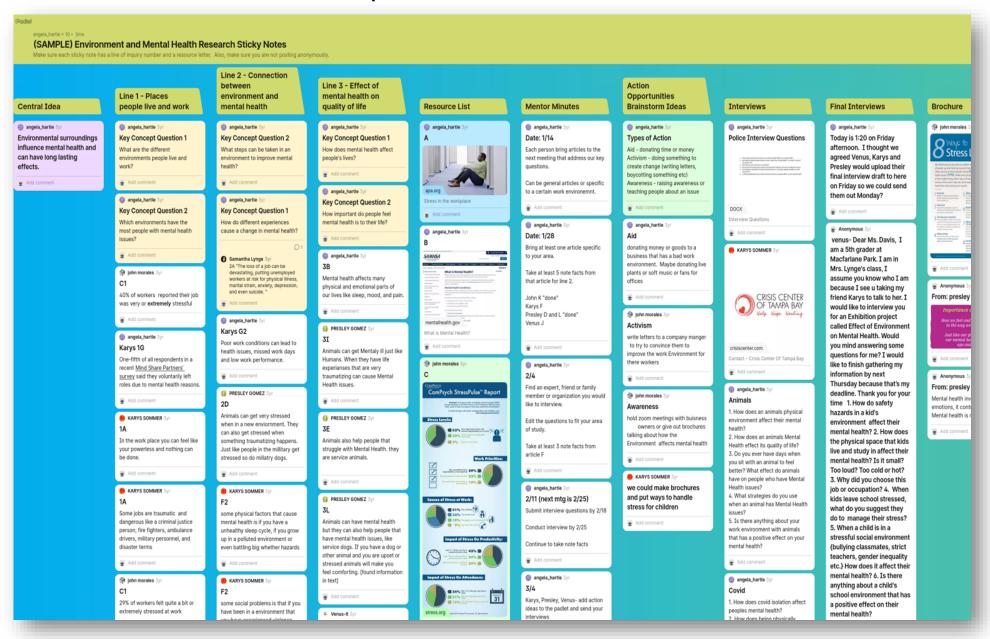
#### Visual Displays

- •Students view a variety of videos depicting global issues and ways in which people choose to bring awareness to those issues.
- •Students meet with a graphic designer, learn how to use Microsoft Publisher to create presentation banners, brochures, flyers etc. as a form of expression, and artistically design their group's visuals.
- •Students will create visual aids to use for their display and presentation on exhibition day.
- •Students will co-construct a rubric for quality visual material to be used during a presentation.

# Expression of Ideas

- •Students interview an event planner about how to create an aesthetically pleasing and informative display for their project.
- •Students will create a video (movie trailer) to raise awareness of their global issue and promote Exhibition Day.

## Sample Exhibition Padlet



## **Exhibition Day!**



Exhibition Day is an event that is highly anticipated by all students. Students from kindergarten to fourth grade can be heard declaring, "I already know what my Exhibition topic is going to be!" Our fifth-grade students view Exhibition as their transitional event to middle school and the last time for them to shine as an IB student at Macfarlane Park.

Exhibition day is entirely planned by our 5<sup>th</sup> grade students. The students look at the list of topics for that year and divide them into four themes. Each theme group holds their Exhibition in a different classroom. Last year's themes included, Animals, Environment, Human Society and Technology.

The groups that fall under each theme meet and discuss how they want their room set up for Exhibition. They decide which section of the room each group will occupy, how they will decorate the door to welcome guests, any sound effects or lighting they want in the room, and how all visuals will be displayed.

Each group designs and creates their own visuals to be displayed at the event. These visuals range from digital presentations, posters, artwork, models, and demonstrations to interactive displays. Each group also has the option to design a professional, full color banner for their display. These banners are purchased by our PTA.

Parents, community members and K-4 students are all invited to attend Exhibition and learn about all of the amazing research and action completed by our fifth-grade students. At the end of Exhibition Day, students complete a reflection sheet and discuss their thoughts on the entire process and the presentation day.







