Enhancing Elementary Excellence
Triple-E in Anne Arundel County Public Schools

Engaging students in project-based, exciting, thematic student-centered learning

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What is Triple-E?
Triple-E allows students to work in teams to collaboratively ask questions, creatively solve problems, and enthusiastically learn through hands-on exploration.

How does this fit into my child’s school day?
An addition of a fifth period in the cultural arts rotation, allows students to work on real-world problems alongside teachers and other professionals from the community. Technology tools are also integrated when needed for researching a topic, calculating a budget, measuring distance or time, creating artistic works, programming robots, and preparing presentations.

Are there other benefits?
Triple-E provides teachers with an additional sixty minutes of planning time each week which we believe will enhance instruction, connect content areas, and increase student achievement.

Will my child miss out on any instruction time?
Like all elementary students in AACPS, children in Triple-E schools will continue to develop a solid foundation in reading, language arts, math, science, social studies, the arts, music, library/media, and physical education.

What are the areas of focus in Triple-E?
Triple-E themes include:
- Arts & Humanities
- Global Studies
- World Culture and Language
- STEM In Society
Arts and Humanities

Through an interdisciplinary approach and curriculum that emphasizes connections and collaboration, the Arts & Humanities theme nurtures the qualities of intelligence and imagination necessary for success in the 21st Century. Rigor and relevance are enhanced for all children through the arts and humanities lines of thought, avenues of exploration, and vehicles for showcasing student understanding.

This theme explores how people process and record the human need to respond to life through the arts and literature. There are four different types of art forms:

- **Dance** is kinesthetic – movement of the physical being.
- **Music** is aural – singing, listening and/or playing an instrument.
- **Theatre** is interdisciplinary – written text, dramatic interpretation and multimedia production.
- **Visual Arts** is spatial – images, structures and tactile works.
Global Studies

This interdisciplinary perspective connects students to the world around them, encourages their natural curiosity, and helps them develop essential thinking and learning skills. In Global Studies, students will develop a sense of responsibility as global citizens, caring about issues that affect humankind, being open to new ideas and other perspectives, and reflecting on processes, skills, and knowledge.

Students also participate in service-learning projects, field experiences, guest speakers, and co-curricular activities while developing the technology skills vital in the 21st Century.
World Culture and Language

In PYP schools, students engage in inter-related questions, a global focus through student-centered problem-oriented inquiry learning that address the academic, social, physical, and emotional needs (whole child) of all students.

IB PYP combines the best research and practices from a range of national systems with a wealth of knowledge and experience from international schools around the world. In the Triple-E classroom at a PYP school, a passion for German, French, Spanish, Italian, etc. is ignited through the study of culture and language.
STEM in Society

In a world that is changing faster than ever before, the STEM in Society theme creates an environment that allows our students to study challenging and meaningful questions related to our world in the 21st Century, *take risks with new ideas* and *become inventors, problem-solvers, and innovators*, whose solutions *make a positive impact on the world around them*.

There is a strong emphasis on STEM methodologies of study, including engineering design, scientific inquiry, computer coding, and more.

The natural curiosity of children will be fostered as students work together on projects and problems found within their homes and communities.
For more information and/or questions, please contact Kris Hanks, Triple-E Initiative Resource Teacher, at khanks@aacps.org