

Explorers Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ's)

What is a Unit Study? Sometimes known as integrated studies or thematic units, their popularity stems from using a hands-on learning approach. Unit studies encourage active learning skills. Unit Studies approach a theme topic from several angles, encouraging activity and love of learning as well as discipline and responsibility.

How does Explorers approach Unit Studies? We like to immerse our students in hands on learning fun. We want them to LOVE what they are learning and to be excited to come each week.

Give me an example: While learning about Benjamin Franklin (within American Patriots), our Columbus class (ages 5-6) made robots that can draw using solo cups, markers, tape, and 9-volt battery. They decorated them with faces (imagine big googly eyes, noses, and lips).

What curriculum do you use? We don't. We are an enrichment group.

What is Enrichment? Explorers is whole heart (caring & cultivating relationships), body (our fun days and play during lunch time and after co-op), and mind (learning, engaging, and piquing their interests) group. Sometimes that doesn't always mean checking off the box for history, science, literature, and art... Sometimes that means showing our children in creative ways what they are capable of especially if they use their imaginations! Teaching them by letting them explore people/products that they are familiar with gives them the ability to connect.

What are some of the units that have been studied in the past?

2014-2015 American Patriots, The Human Body, Coweta County

2013-2014 Heroes of Faith (Katie Davis, C.S. Lewis, Bruce Olson), Hawaiian Islands, Weather

2012-2013 Admiral Byrd, Greece, Chocolate

2011-2012 Outer Space, Homesteading, Oceans

2010-2011 Pioneers, China, Medieval Times

2009-2010 Inventors (Tesla, Gutenberg, Bessemer), Flight, Georgia History

2008-2009 Titanic

My child has learning challenges. Can you make accommodations? Yes, of course and always. We have several children who suffer from sensory processing disorders, auditory processing disorders, attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD), attention deficit disorder (ADD), life threatening

allergies, dyslexia, just to name a few... We love all our students! Our goal is for Explorers to be a safe fun learning environment for all children. Period. **How do we do this?** By being honest and up front, you as the parent have to help educate the Explorers staff on what works for your child and remember to keep communication open at all times.

We do CC (Classical Conversations), KONOS, Soaring Eagles, or Corem Deo. Can we still join Explorers? Yes, of course as long as the academic group that you are a part of does not meet on Tuesdays. Will that be too "much"? You have to assess that for your own family. Explorers will be what you make of it.

We are members of Voyagers. Can we be in Explorers too? Sadly, no. This is an Eagles Nest policy.

Why Explorers? Simply put, we support one another. We love that our kids become friends, not merely classmates, and that we see Explorers families outside of co-op. Once you've been a member, you are always in the family.

Wait, is it all sunshine & rainbows 24/7? No, this is life. Sometimes you are running late or would rather sleep in, but you get up, because you matter to this group and are needed...BED HEAD and all. There may be a day that you just need to vent, cry, or ask for prayers...lots of prayers. The point is, you are not alone and we *GET* it. This journey gets tough and overwhelming sometimes, we know. Some seasons just aren't a lot of fun, we've got your back.