

FOREST SCHOOL

8th Grade



Fall

Stangers in a Strange Land

Themes of Location

In Fall 8th grade begins our journey literally and metaphorically through our history and our year. We examine and question our shared stories and learn how to navigate in strange places and through conflicting accounts.

- Geography: Map Reading/Navigation
- Historical Thought and Investigation
- Engineering and Design: Geometry, Algebra, Shelter Building
- Newtonian Physics and Zoology: Tracking, Bird ID, Canoes and Simple Machines
- Early America to Revolution
- Texts: "In the Shadow of Man", "Chains", "Braiding Sweetgrass", "1491"



Winter

20,000 Leagues

Theme of Structures and Systems

In Winter we focus on systems: Of government, of rules, of knowledges. How do they work? Do they make sense, and could they be better?

- Geography: Geology and Map Making
- Civics: US Constitution, Native American History in Oregon, US post-revolution
- Biology: Natural Selection and Genetics
- Statistics and Linear Algebra
- Blacksmithing and Pottery, Colonial Technology, Oregon Capital tour
- Texts: "Stamped", "Animal Farm", Selections from Indigenous authors.



Winter

The Broken Earth

Theme of Journey

In Spring we look back at how we got here and what the way forward is. What steps led us to now? What don't we like? How can we change it? How do we discover the next step?

- Geography: Orienteering Challenges
- Social Studies: 1812-Reconstruction, Modern Social Justice movements
- Global Warming, Botany, Astronomy
- Functions, Scientific Notation, Algebra
- Trip logistics and planning, canoeing expedition.
- Texts: "Braiding Sweetgrass", "The Postman", "So Many Beginnings"