

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Block: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: 19 August 2019

# FOUNDATIONS

“Cosmic Education is intended to help each of us search for our cosmic task as a species and as individuals. To do this, we must understand ourselves in context. It is only against the background of our place in the universe, our relationships with other living organisms, and our understanding of human unity within cultural diversity, that we can attempt to answer the question, ‘Who am I?’ -Maria Montessori

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## THE RATIONALE! THE “WHY”!

Before we learn anything else this year, we want to know about the most important part of our journey. Not the standards. Not the test scores. Not the rules. You. We want to know about you.

The point of this project is for you to piece together and think deeply about who or what influences you, what you want out of your life, what you value, and how you define yourself. In many ways, you are a draft (we all are), working on yourself and making mistakes and changing and evolving; you’re improving and becoming stronger every day. This project should reflect that process.

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## WHAT WE’LL DO TOGETHER, TO PREPARE YOU FOR THIS BIG WORK:

1. Learn/review more about the process of writing; brainstorm ideas, write draft, revise, edit, finalize draft, and share work
2. Practice writing effectively and with detail about your personal history (family, friends, neighborhood), growth, and goals over time
3. Read and critique autobiographies to help understand effective writing techniques used

## CULMINATING ACTIVITY

Choose at least two components of your Foundation project to share during our Globaco feast. Your presentation may include digital media, music, and/or small, hand-held props.

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## STEPS AND CHECK-IN DATES

Check-Ins.....Due Dates

- ☐ Interview Advice.....Fri, Aug 30
- ☐ Ethnography *and* Map of Neighborhood.....Fri, Aug 30
- ☐ 100-Word Memoirs.....Fri, Sep 6
- ☐ Where I'm From poem.....Fri, Sep 6
- ☐ Cover/Self-Portrait.....Fri, Sep 13
- ☐ How Do I Fit In?.....Fri, Sep 13
- ☐ Soundtrack of your life.....Fri, Sep 20
- ☐ Whose shoulders are you standing on?.....Fri, Sep 20
- ☐ What's your contribution?.....Mon./Tues., Sept 30/Oct 1
- ☐ Globaco.....Mon./Tues., Sept. 30/Oct. 1
- ☐ Final Revisions.....Wed/Thurs Oct 2/Oct 3
- ☐ Globaco Feast Culminating Activity.....Fri, Oct 4

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**Interview Advice****DUE Fri 8/30**

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Did you...

- \_\_\_ Interview three people who love you?
- \_\_\_ Ask each person this question: What's your advice for me right now at this moment of my life?
- \_\_\_ If the answer felt brief or incomplete, ask prompting questions like, "What do you wish you had known at my age?" or "What would make me a happier person in life?"
- \_\_\_ Take notes or voice record the interview on the phone? (Do not share it without permission.)
- \_\_\_ Write it down exactly, word-for-word without your questions and their answers on your Interview page?
- \_\_\_ In 100-200 words, write a reflection on the answers to your questions? If you're stuck, consider answering one or two of these questions in your reflection: What was your favorite piece of advice and why? What advice surprised you and why? Which piece would you pass down to your own children one day and why?

**Teacher initials:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Teacher date:** \_\_\_\_\_

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**Ethnography and/or Map of Neighborhood****DUE Fri, 8/30**

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\_\_\_ Choose to complete one of the following:

1. An annotated map of your neighborhood OR 2. A descriptive prose piece about your neighborhood

If you chose a map, did you...	If you chose a descriptive prose piece, did you...
<p>___ Include the streets, landmarks, wildlife, plants, stores, important people, and details that make your neighborhood personal to YOU?</p> <p>___ Label at least 25 places with descriptive labels? (ex: Not "a tree" but "the tree I used to climb when I was ten until I fell out and my grandma yelled at me because I fell on my brother and broke his thumb")</p> <p>___ Create a neatly drawn map with the use of a ruler?</p> <p>___ Include as many details as possible?</p>	<p>___ Describe not just the literal places in your neighborhood but the memory or the meaning attached to a place?</p> <p>___ Include vivid descriptions of important people from your neighborhood that make your neighborhood what it is?</p> <p>___ Think about the sensorial experience of being in your neighborhood (What do you smell? What does it sound like?) and include that experience in your piece?</p> <p>___ Write anywhere from 350-500 words</p>

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100-Word Memoirs

DUE Fri 9/6

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Did you...

- \_\_\_ Write clearly, concisely, and powerfully. The feeling is that no word is wasted.
- \_\_\_ Attempt interesting narrative techniques (dialogue, sentence variation, internal voices)
- \_\_\_ Convey an experience that is important to *you*
- \_\_\_ Use mentor texts to inspire risks in your own writing
- \_\_\_ Choose the 100-word memoir that best reflects your voice

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Where I'm From Poem

DUE Fri 9/6

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Did you...

- \_\_\_ Consider where you're from in multiple ways: physical places, events, successes, losses, relationships, and even small details
- \_\_\_ Use vivid language to capture your experiences
- \_\_\_ Use line breaks thoughtfully and purposefully
- \_\_\_ Use mentor texts to inspire risks in your own writing
- \_\_\_ Include *enough* for the reader to understand the writer in a better way

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## Cover/Self Portrait

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**DUE Fri 9/13**

Did you...

\_\_\_ Choose one of the following options to design your cover?

Drawn Portrait	A traditional portrait in any medium: pencil, colored pencil, pens, paint, etc.; use any school-appropriate style. Feel free to partner up and draw a peer.
Collage	A cut-and-pasted collage of images, colors, patterns, and/or words that either come together to show your form or represent your identity
Abstract Symbol	A drawing in any medium or photograph that represents something deeply important about you.
Photographic Portrait	A photographic portrait of you; you may take the picture or it may be taken by someone else, but it should be taken specifically for this assignment

\_\_\_ Include your name neatly written on the cover?

\_\_\_ Title the cover something creative that reflects your identity?

\_\_\_ Create a cover that reflects care and effort in its design, clarity, creativity, and neatness?

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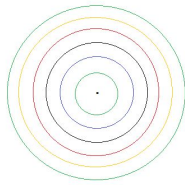
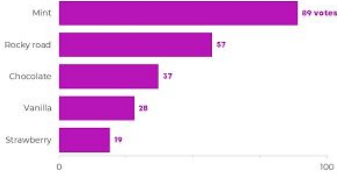
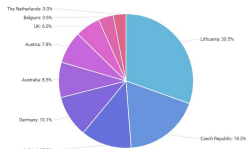
## How Do I Fit In?

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**DUE Fri 9/13**

Did you...

\_\_\_ Create a graphic organizer to show your relationships to the positive groups, activities, or places where you feel like you fit in? Consider using the following choices:

Concentric Circles	Bar Chart	Pie Chart
		

Label the center circle the place/group/activity that makes you feel most like you fit in. Move outward from there.	Create bars to represent places/groups/activities where you feel like you fit in. Label the longest bar the most comfortable place.	Label each slice after a place/group/activity that makes you feel like you fit in. Give the largest slice to the most comfortable place/group/activity.
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\_\_\_ Make each circle, bar, or slice represent a positive place where you fit in at least a little bit?

\_\_\_ Make five to eight circles, bars, or slices? (You can use online resources.)

\_\_\_ Describe the place, group, or activity where you most feel like yourself: you fit in. Be very specific and detailed in your description. Help the reader share your experience. (100-150 words)

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### Soundtrack of Your Life

**DUE Fri 9/20**

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Did you...

\_\_\_ Choose one song from (at least) **four time periods** in your life: before you started school (0-5), your elementary school life (6-11), your middle school life (12-14) and your current life?

\_\_\_ Include song lyrics from your chosen songs that you've thoughtfully and thoroughly annotated?

\_\_\_ Include a paragraph reflection for **each** song that explains the meaning or memories attached to each song?

\*If you one of your songs includes curse words, "star" out the words (\*\*\*) If your song is mostly \*\*\*, consider choosing a different song.

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### Whose Shoulders Are You Standing On? Letter

**DUE Fri 9/20**

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Did you...

\_\_\_ Choose one person (either a relative who came before you or a person from history) whose sacrifices, hard work, and principles gave you a better start in life?

\_\_\_ Write a letter to this person that has three paragraphs (250-300 words)?

\_\_\_ Paragraph 1: Describe this person's sacrifices, hard work, and principles in detail? Make sure you include the hardships this person faced and overcame.

\_\_\_ Paragraph 2: Explain how you (and possibly others) benefit from your chosen person's actions?

\_\_\_ Paragraph 3: Thank this person with words, but explain how your personal thinking

and living might change if you think and live with gratitude for the people who came before you?

\_\_\_ (Optional) Include a photograph or drawing of this person.

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**What's Your Contribution**

**DUE Mon./Tues., Sept 30/Oct 1**

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Did you...

Think?

\_\_\_ Think about your many strengths, gifts, interests?

\_\_\_ Consider how many people support you and care for you?

\_\_\_ Calculate what you owe to the people who came before you?

\_\_\_ Ponder what you might be able to do with all of this power you have?

\_\_\_ Choose a life goal through which you can use your gifts and talents while contributing to this

world in your own positive, powerful way? It can be anything (now or at any point in your life): raising a child someday, majoring in a particular subject, creating a business, inventing a product, healing a break or wound somewhere in your world, etc.

\_\_\_ Write a brief rationale about your choice (100-150 words). Describe this goal; why did you choose it?

\_\_\_ Create a checklist of at least ten concrete, practical, realistic activities you need to accomplish in order to prepare to meet your main goal. Ex: If you want to cure cancer, you should go to medical school. Before that, you should go to college. Before that, get good grades, etc.

\_\_\_ Check the activity you plan to accomplish first. Start it as soon as possible.

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Globaco

DUE Mon./Tues., Sept 30/Oct 1  
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Did you...

\_\_\_ Choose a food that feels like home to you or that reminds you of being a kid

\_\_\_ Write a short reflection 50-100 words that explains your connection to your dish of choice

\_\_\_ Include a visual (i.e. collage or photograph) of your childhood dish

\_\_\_ (optional) make your dish to share with the class on Globaco Feast Day

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**Rubric**  
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Score	Element	Sophisticated 10-9	Competent 8-7	Needs Love 6-5	Let's Chat. 4-0
	<i>Interview Advice</i>	Follows directions but also might exceed expectations or take initiative through creativity.	Meets most expectations and follows most directions.	Meets some of the expectations and follows some of the directions.	Follows few or none of the directions. Work may be missing completely.
	<i>Ethnography/ Map of the Neighborhood</i>				
	<i>100-Word Memoir</i>	Written work meets or exceeds length requirements. All written materials are edited and revised.	Written work meets the length requirements and written materials are mostly edited and revised.	Written work may be shorter than required but has potential.	Written work is substantially shorter than required.
	<i>Where I'm From poem</i>				
	<i>Cover</i>				
	<i>How Do I Fit In?</i>	The content is thoughtful. It reflects effort and	The content is sometimes thoughtful and reflects some effort and care.	The content requires more thought, effort, and care. It feels rushed or incomplete.	The content requires much more thought, effort, and care. It feels rushed or incomplete.
	<i>Soundtrack of Your Life</i>				
				Sentence	



	<i>Whose Shoulders Are You Standing On?</i>	care.  Sentence structure, grammar, and spelling are excellent.  Art and graphics are neat and reflect care.	Sentence structure, grammar, and spelling are good with some grade-appropriate mistakes.  Art and graphics are mostly neat and reflect care.	structure, grammar, and spelling include mistakes that could have easily been fixed with revision.  Art and graphics could use a bit more neatness and care.	Sentence structure, grammar, and spelling include many mistakes that distract from the meaning of the writing.  Art and graphics could use much more neatness and care.
	<i>What's Your Contribution?</i>				
	<i>Globaco: Child Memory Food</i>				
<b>Teacher Notes:</b>					