

# Welcome!

## Grade 5, Unit 9

### Building Up the World: Global Architecture

In this unit, students will explore groundbreaking works of architecture spanning different eras and regions of the world and learn about the internationally renowned architects who designed them.

#### What's the story?

Throughout this unit, students will develop an **understanding of planning, design processes**, and the transformative power of architecture. They will delve into the lives and work of influential architects and figures, such as Frank Lloyd Wright, Madam C. J. Walker, Antoni Gaudí, Diébédo Francis Kéré, and Diana Kellogg. The unit also features iconic architectural wonders like the Louvre Pyramid, early skyscrapers including the Empire State Building, the magnificent Sagrada Familia basilica, the National Museum of the American Indian, the custom-designed homes Fallingwater and Villa Lewaro, and sustainable schools in India and Burkina Faso.

#### What will my student learn?

Students will uncover the stories of renowned architects and gain insight into their revolutionary designs. The curriculum will foster critical thinking skills as students engage with informational texts about these architects, their architectural achievements, and the lasting impacts of their work. Through **collaborative learning experiences**, students will **explore the design process, examine architectural elements**, and understand how architects consider the needs and values of communities in their designs.

Students will work towards completing an informational text writing project. They will **conduct research** on an architect and structure of their choice, **gather relevant information** from several sources, and **synthesize** those findings into an informative text. They are walked through each stage of research from **identifying sources, finding relevant information**, and **developing their research** into an informative text. They will **present their informative text** and an accompanying visual component to guests at a class Architecture Fair.

## Conversation starters

You can jump-start meaningful discussions and ongoing learning with your student by asking questions related to the unit:

1. Who are some of the architects highlighted in this unit, and what are their notable contributions to the world of architecture?  
**Follow up:** How have the structures you learned about shaped and influenced the field of architecture?
2. What are some iconic works of architecture that we will explore?  
**Follow up:** Can you think of any other famous buildings or architectural marvels from around the world?
3. How did architects like Frank Lloyd Wright and Antoni Gaudí showcase innovation and creativity in their designs?  
**Follow up:** In what ways do their designs continue to inspire architects today?
4. What can we learn from sustainable schools like Gando Primary School and Rajkumari Ratnavati Girls School?  
**Follow up:** How can architects consider the needs and values of communities during the design process?
5. Who are some present-day architects making significant contributions to the field?  
**Follow up:** How do their designs reflect changing architectural trends and global influences?