



**E<sup>2</sup>**

**Educational Exploration: Independent Project-Based Learning Program  
New for Spring 2021!**

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**Do you want to learn something new?  
Are you interested in something not taught in classes? E<sup>2</sup> is for you!**

**Educational Exploration**, or **E<sup>2</sup>**, is open to individuals or teams of middle school students and is designed to provide an opportunity to explore a topic, concept, or issue that falls outside the boundaries of typical middle school courses. The purpose of the program is to offer students an opportunity to dive into self-directed learning and explore a topic, develop a new skill, or answer meaningful questions.

To qualify, an **E<sup>2</sup>** project has to be a purposeful learning experience about something you are interested in or based on a question you want to answer. You will achieve a high level of understanding in a given topic, exploring and researching on your own, with the guidance of one or two adults, such as a faculty member, parent, or community member. Your project will result in a unique product, such as an original writing, digital program, a series of works of art, a performance, video, or visual presentation. The possibilities are endless!

Each **E<sup>2</sup>** student accepted into the program will work under the guidance of one or two faculty members and meet regularly with them. Each student or team will be expected to present a completed project in late May to middle school students and faculty. **E<sup>2</sup>** will appear on your schedule and transcript.

Here are some examples of possible **E<sup>2</sup>** projects for inspiration:

- explore an advanced math topic
- research a social or environmental issue and create an action plan
- research local birds, mammals, crustaceans, insects, or fish
- write a musical or play
- write a short novel or series of short stories or poems
- design and construct a terrarium or hydroponic system
- grow vegetables or flowers
- learn a new language
- learn a computer language or code
- build a robot
- design and create clothing
- create digital art around a theme
- create a video documentary on music, a sport, or other activity
- design a computer game or program
- research events in history or a political issue
- interview person(s) of interest to you



**To apply to E<sup>2</sup>, each individual or team needs to submit 3 things by Friday, March 26th. Send to Ms. Boyle ([nboyle@capecodacademy.org](mailto:nboyle@capecodacademy.org)).**

- 1. A Typed Proposal**
- 2. Parent Permission Form**
- 3. Student Pledge**

### **Proposal**

**Please Include:**

**1. What I (we) will explore**

Include the essential question you want to answer or a clear goal you want to achieve.

**2. Why I (we) want to do this project**

Include why this interests you and what you hope to learn.

**3. Who I (we) will work with**

Will you work alone or in a team? Include the names of people in the team. Do you know which adult(s) you will work with or would you like Ms. Boyle to arrange this?

**4. What I (we) will write, make, or create**

Be as detailed and specific as possible.

**5. Three reasons why I (we) know I (we) can work on my (our) own, with guidance**

Include characteristics or experiences you have that show you can self-direct your learning.



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**Parental Permission Form**

I give my permission for my child to participate in **E<sup>2</sup>** this spring. I support his/her self-directed learning project and understand that my child will maintain his/her classwork and grades throughout this program.

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Name \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

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**Student Pledge**

I agree to attend all **E<sup>2</sup>** meetings and communicate with my adult mentor each week. I agree to maintain my regular classwork and grades throughout this program and meet any after-school obligations I have, such as athletics and arts. I agree to abide by Cape Cod Academy's Honor Code in all I do in this program.

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_