

river building architecture tour

Explore the SANAA-designed River building with a Grace Farms Educator. This program will visit several locations throughout the River building that illustrate the intentional design choices architects, engineers, and designers made to create a public space communicating with nature.

Grace Farms is LEED-certified for its building design and construction as well as its operations and maintenance. Get a behind-the-scenes look at how the built and natural environment can work together.

This inquiry-based tour will allow participants to observe the River building and gain new insights into its creation.

curriculum standards

NGSS MS-ETS1-1, HS- ETS1-1,2 & 3, 7.Inq.4.f., MW.Civ.12.a., CG.Civ.6.a.

Inspiration

Take a peek at how architecture at Grace Farms functions in the short video:

[Week at Grace Farms Video](#)

Additional Resources to Explore

[Design for Freedom Report](#)

[Design for Freedom International Guidance & Toolkit](#)

explore more programming at gracefarms.org/events

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grace farms

name _____

functional forms / forming function

SANAA, with principal architects **Kazuyo Sejima** and **Ryue Nishizawa**, were guided by a design brief to create Grace Farms. A design brief is a document that defines the detailed needs of a project, outlining how the building should function, not what it would look like.

Before your visit to Grace Farms, outline your own design brief!
Create a new building for your school.

Create a Design Brief

Before your visit to Grace Farms, outline your own design brief to imagine a new building for your school.

School name and location:	
What should the building do?	
What experience would the building create?	
How could your design create change for the better?	
What kind of ideas do you have about materials?	

name _____

interview with facilities

Now that you have had a chance to visit the River building and learn about its design, construction, and operations, we invite you to learn about another building you spend a lot of time in: your school. Please invite a facilities team member to join you in class for an informal interview.

Suggested Questions

1. What year was the school built? _____
2. How many people are on the facilities team? _____
3. What are the main materials used in the construction of our school?

4. What is the most difficult part of the building to maintain?

5. What type of fuel is used to heat the building? _____

6. Have any additions, renovations, or improvements been made to the structure of the building since it first opened?

7. Are there any sustainability measures incorporated into the operations of the school?

8. Are there any design features that make your job easier?

9. Additional Questions
