



- **How we organize ourselves**

Inquiry into the interconnectedness of human-made systems and communities; the structure and function of organizations; societal decision-making; economic activities and their impact on humankind and the environment

- **Sharing the planet**

Inquiry into rights and responsibilities in the struggle to share finite resources with other people and other living things; communities and the relationship within and between them; access to equal opportunities; peace and conflict resolution.

Each theme is addressed each year by all students. (Students aged 3 to 5 engage with four of the themes each year.)

In addition all PYP students have the opportunity to learn more than one language from the age of seven.

These transdisciplinary themes help teachers to develop a programme of inquiries—investigations into important ideas, identified by the schools, and requiring a high level of involvement on the part of the students. These inquiries are substantial, in-depth and usually last for several weeks.

Since these ideas relate to the world beyond the school, students see their relevance and connect with it in an engaging and challenging way. Students who learn in this way begin to reflect on their roles and responsibilities as learners and become actively involved with their education. All students will come to realize that a unit of inquiry involves them in in-depth exploration of an important idea, and that the teacher will collect evidence of how well they understand that idea. They will expect to be able to work in a variety of ways, on their own and in groups, to allow them to learn to their best advantage.

“The recognition of Seneca Academy as an IB World School delivering the Primary Years Programme, makes me extremely proud of our teachers, staff and parents who have dedicated themselves to helping our students become lifelong learners. By creating an environment where students make connections between what they are learning in the classroom and the world around them, we are creating global citizens who will be well prepared to take leading roles in the world.”

Head of School, Dr. Brooke Carroll, Seneca Academy, USA