

## **Sequoia Elementary School** **Program of Inquiry (POI)**

### What is a Program of Inquiry (POI)?

In an International Baccalaureate (IB) Primary Years Programme (PYP) school, the curriculum is mapped out on a Program of Inquiry, or POI.

The POI encompasses all student activities, academic and non-academic based on standards, a child's natural curiosity, and IB expectations. POI is made up of six units (four for Kindergarten), per grade level, that center on Transdisciplinary Themes. Transdisciplinary Themes help students gain an understanding of themselves and the world around them and include the following:

- Who We Are
- Where We Are In Place and Time
- How We Express Ourselves
- How the World Works
- How We Organize Ourselves
- Sharing the Planet

We invite you to download a copy of the POI document to refer to at home.

## Kindergarten PYP Units of Inquiry

Who We Are: Human relationships including families, friends, communities, and culture	How We Express Ourselves: Cultures, beliefs, and values	How We Organize Ourselves: Interconnectedness of human-made systems and communities	Sharing the Planet: Rights & responsibilities in the struggle to share finite resources with other people and living things
Responsible Kindergartners	Celebrations	Community Helpers	3Rs
<p><b>Central Idea:</b> Relationships contribute to a healthy social environment.</p> <p><b>Lines of Inquiry:</b> * What it means to be a friend * Similarities and differences with others * How actions may make us feel good or bad</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> Connection Perspective Responsibilities</p> <p><b>Related Concepts:</b> Relationships Well-being</p> <p><b>Approaches to learning:</b> Social Skills Communication Skills</p>	<p><b>Central Idea:</b> Cultures around the world celebrate in different ways.</p> <p><b>Lines of Inquiry:</b> * Ways cultures celebrate * Cultures and celebrations share commonalities * Traditions drive celebrations/rituals</p> <p><b>Key Concepts::</b> Form Connection Perspectives</p> <p><b>Related Concepts:</b> Identity Celebration</p> <p><b>Approaches to learning:</b> Thinking Skills Social Skills</p>	<p><b>Central Idea:</b> Communities are designed to meet the needs of their members.</p> <p><b>Lines of Inquiry:</b> * Jobs within a community * Human-made communities/systems are interconnected * How maps help us better understand communities</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> Form Connection Function</p> <p><b>Related Concepts:</b> Community Needs and Wants</p> <p><b>Approaches to learning:</b> Thinking Skills Research Skills</p>	<p><b>Central Idea:</b> Living thing's interactions with the planet impact all living things.</p> <p><b>Lines of Inquiry:</b> * The use and disposal of materials * Reduce, reuse, recycle * How people interact with the environment changes it for better/worse</p> <p><b>Key Concepts::</b> Connection Causation Change</p> <p><b>Related Concepts:</b> Environment Materials</p> <p><b>Approaches to learning:</b> Self Management Skills Thinking Skills</p>

## First Grade PYP Units of Inquiry

Who We Are: What it means to be human	Where We Are in Place and Time: Orientation in Place and Time	How We Express Ourselves: Ways in which we discover and express our ideas	How the World Works: Impact of scientific/technological advances on society & on the environment	How We Organize Ourselves: Societal Decision Making	Sharing the Planet: Communities and the relationships within and between them
Our Five Senses	Changes in the Sky	Creative Expression	Inventions	Teamwork	Animals
<p><b>Central Idea:</b> Senses enable humans to perceive and interpret the world.</p> <p><b>Lines of Inquiry:</b> * Senses keep us safe * Each sense has a unique function * Senses adjust when a sense is lost</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> Function Perspective Causation</p> <p><b>Related Concepts:</b> Role Impression Connectivity</p> <p><b>Approaches to learning:</b> Thinking Skills Research Skills</p>	<p><b>Central Idea:</b> The Earth, Moon and Sun impacts how we organize time.</p> <p><b>Lines of Inquiry:</b> *Cycles of Moon (time) *Earth's Orbit (seasons, day/night) *Relationship between location and time/seasons</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> Change Causation Function</p> <p><b>Related Concepts:</b> Sequences Natural Cycles</p> <p><b>Approaches to learning:</b> Thinking Skills Research Skills</p>	<p><b>Central Idea:</b> Art is a way to express emotions, ideas, and feelings.</p> <p><b>Lines of Inquiry:</b> *How art helps us express our emotions *Artists are intentional in their artistic design *Our response to creativity</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> Perspective Form Function</p> <p><b>Related Concepts:</b> Communication Pattern Subjectivity</p> <p><b>Approaches to learning:</b> Communication Skills Self Management Skills</p>	<p><b>Central Idea:</b> Inventions have changed how people live.</p> <p><b>Lines of Inquiry:</b> *How inventions changed people's interactions *Inventions grow out of perceived needs *Available resources and their impact on design</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> Causation Form Perspective</p> <p><b>Related Concepts:</b> Wants and Needs Innovations Structure</p> <p><b>Approaches to learning:</b> Thinking Skills Research Skills</p>	<p><b>Central Idea:</b> Members of a community work together to achieve goals.</p> <p><b>Lines of Inquiry:</b> *How people work together *How communities make decisions *Individuals and their connection to the community effort</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> Function Connection Form</p> <p><b>Related Concepts:</b> Citizenship Civic Leadership Networking</p> <p><b>Approaches to learning:</b> Social Skills Communication Skills</p>	<p><b>Central Idea:</b> Communities depend on each other for survival.</p> <p><b>Lines of Inquiry:</b> *Young animal survival skills *How animals are dependent at different points in their lives *The relationship between humans and animals</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> Causation Connection Responsibility</p> <p><b>Related Concepts:</b> Relationships Values Interdependence</p> <p><b>Approaches to learning:</b> Social Skills Communication Skills</p>

## 2nd Grade PYP Units of Inquiry

Who We Are: rights & responsibilities	Where We Are In Place & Time: personal histories	How We Express Ourselves: Ways that we discover and express our ideas & creativity	How the World Works: Natural World and it's laws - the interaction between the natural world (physical and biological) and human societies	How We Organize Ourselves: Economic activities and their impact on humankind & the environment	Sharing the Planet: Communities & their relationships within & between them; access to equal opportunities
Our Class Community	Then & Now	FairyTales	Force of Nature	Economics	Rainforest
<p><b>Central Idea:</b> Communities are impacted by the actions of its members.</p> <p><b>Lines of Inquiry:</b> * Individual's choices impact the community * Impact of essential agreements * Design of learning environments</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> Responsibility Function Causation</p> <p><b>Related Concepts:</b> Values Consequences</p> <p><b>Approaches to learning:</b> Social Skills Communication Skills</p>	<p><b>Central Idea:</b> Families are shaped by their traditions and histories.</p> <p><b>Lines of Inquiry:</b> * How traditions provide a link from one generation to the next * Change in daily life * Similarities &amp; differences</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> Connection Change Form</p> <p><b>Related Concepts:</b> Relationships Adaptations Timelines</p> <p><b>Approaches to learning:</b> Social Skills Self-Management Skills</p>	<p><b>Central Idea:</b> Literature connects to our lives and cultures.</p> <p><b>Lines of Inquiry:</b> * How perspective shapes written work * Structure of different genres * The development of character</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> Function Perspective Change</p> <p><b>Related Concepts:</b> Communication Multiculturalism</p> <p><b>Approaches to learning:</b> Thinking Skills Communication Skills</p>	<p><b>Central Idea:</b> Natural forces shape the natural world.</p> <p><b>Lines of Inquiry:</b> * The different forces that change the land * Forms and structures of local landforms and waterways * Composition of the land (rocks, sand, etc)</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> Change Causation Form</p> <p><b>Related Concepts:</b> Transformation Impact Geography</p> <p><b>Approaches to learning:</b> Thinking Skills Research Skills</p>	<p><b>Central Idea:</b> Various factors influence economic systems.</p> <p><b>Lines of Inquiry:</b> * Needs and wants * Outcomes of choices * The different ways people earn money</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> Function Causation Connection</p> <p><b>Related Concepts:</b> Trade Capitalism Systems</p> <p><b>Approaches to learning:</b> Thinking Skills Research Skills</p>	<p><b>Central Idea:</b> Habitats support plants, animals and humans.</p> <p><b>Lines of Inquiry:</b> * The structure of rainforest habitats * Ways people interact with habitats * People who live in the rainforest and equitable access of its resources</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> Responsibility Connection Form</p> <p><b>Related Concepts:</b> Equity Interdependence Structures</p> <p><b>Approaches to learning:</b> Thinking Skills Social Skills</p>

## 3rd Grade PYP Units of Inquiry

<p>Who We Are: Personal, physical, mental, social and spiritual health</p>	<p>Where We Are in Place and Time: The relationships between and the interconnectedness of individuals and civilizations, from local and global perspectives.</p>	<p>How We Express Ourselves: Culture, beliefs and values</p>	<p>How the World Works: Humans use their understanding of scientific principles and the natural world and its laws</p>	<p>How We Organize Ourselves: The structure and function of organization</p>	<p>Sharing the Planet: Struggle to share finite resources with other living things: communities and the relationships within and between them</p>
<p>Healthy Habits</p>	<p>Biographies</p>	<p>The Art of Music</p>	<p>Laws of Motion</p>	<p>Our Actions</p>	<p>Animal Adaptations</p>
<p><b>Central Idea:</b> The choices we make affect our health and well-being.</p> <p><b>Lines of Inquiry:</b> * What the world eats * How exercise affects the body * Food groups/balanced diets</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> Connection Causation Responsibility</p> <p><b>Related Concepts:</b> Homeostasis Access Growth</p> <p><b>Approaches to learning:</b> Self Management Skills Thinking Skills</p>	<p><b>Central Idea:</b> An individual's success can impact the world.</p> <p><b>Lines of Inquiry:</b> * Individual's impact on areas of expertise * Individuals who exemplify the IB LPs experienced success and impacted the world * Fame vs. Lasting contributions</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> Causation Perspective Function</p> <p><b>Approaches to learning:</b> Self Management Social Skills</p>	<p><b>Central Idea:</b> Music is a part of every culture.</p> <p><b>Lines of Inquiry:</b> * Musical features * Traditional music around the world * Self-expression</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> Form Perspective Responsibility</p> <p><b>Related Concepts:</b> Design Creativity</p> <p><b>Approaches to learning:</b> Communication Skills Thinking Skills</p>	<p><b>Central Idea:</b> Forces of motion shape our understanding of the world.</p> <p><b>Lines of Inquiry:</b> * Predictable patterns in nature * Cause and effect dynamic * Impact of shape and size</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> Function Change Causation</p> <p><b>Related Concepts:</b> Behavior Interdependence Pattern</p> <p><b>Approaches to learning:</b> Thinking Skills Research Skills</p>	<p><b>Central Idea:</b> Actions affect communities.</p> <p><b>Lines of Inquiry:</b> * Native tribes had a balanced approach to living with nature * Influences on personal actions * Taking action</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> Causation Responsibility Perspective</p> <p><b>Related Concepts:</b> Consequences Values Sustainability</p> <p><b>Approaches to learning:</b> Social Skills</p>	<p><b>Central Idea:</b> Interdependence of organisms contributes to survival.</p> <p><b>Lines of Inquiry:</b> * Survival within ecosystems * Adaptations * Humans impact survival</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> Change Function Responsibility</p> <p><b>Related Concepts:</b> Adaptations Systems Environmentalism</p> <p><b>Approaches to learning:</b> Research Skills</p>

## 4th Grade PYP Units of Inquiry

Who We Are:: Beliefs and values	Where We Are in Place and Time: The homes, discoveries, explorations, migrations and journeys of humankind	How We Express Ourselves: Ways in which we reflect on, extend and enjoy our creativity	How the World Works: The impact of scientific and technological advances on society and the environment	How We Organize Ourselves: Interconnectedness of human-made systems and communities	Sharing the Planet: Rights and responsibilities in the struggle to share finite resources with other people and other living things: peace and conflict
Transformation of CA	Migration	Poetry	Energy	Missions/Rancheros	Water Systems
<p><b>Central Idea:</b> Innovation transforms the world</p> <p><b>KC:</b> Connection Change Form</p> <p><b>Lines of Inquiry:</b> * Impact of innovative people * Types of discovery/innovation * Access to innovations (infrastructure)</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> Connection Change Form</p> <p><b>Related Concepts:</b> Systems Development Inventions</p> <p><b>Approaches to learning:</b> Thinking Skills Research Skills</p>	<p><b>Central Idea:</b> People move for many reasons.</p> <p><b>Lines of Inquiry:</b> * Factors that change a community * Environmental impact of human's resource use * Drive for a better life</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> Change Perspective Responsibility</p> <p><b>Related Concepts:</b> Growth Bias Rights</p> <p><b>Approaches to learning:</b> Self Management Research Skills</p>	<p><b>Central Idea:</b> Spoken and written language is a form of self-expression.</p> <p><b>Lines of Inquiry:</b> *Forms of poetry *Impact of Author's/Character's/Narrator Points of View * Poetic devices</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> Form Perspective Function</p> <p><b>Related Concepts:</b> Patterns Subjectivity Communication</p> <p><b>Approaches to learning:</b> Communication Skills Thinking Skills</p>	<p><b>Central Idea:</b> Energy transfers and transforms to solve energy needs.</p> <p><b>Lines of Inquiry:</b> * Ways electricity is produced * Different forms of energy * Responsibility to conserve energy</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> Function Causation Responsibility</p> <p><b>Related Concepts:</b> Behavior Transfer Power</p> <p><b>Approaches to learning:</b> Thinking Skills Research Skills</p>	<p><b>Central Idea:</b> Exploration and expansion disrupted existing communities in transformative ways.</p> <p><b>Lines of Inquiry:</b> * Ways people organize their communities * Ways bias informed how people interacted *Changes result from different forms of government</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> Perspective Change Function</p> <p><b>Related Concepts:</b> Equity Transformation Interconnectedness</p> <p><b>Approaches to learning:</b> Social Skills Thinking Skills</p>	<p><b>Central Idea:</b> People use and share natural resources locally and globally.</p> <p><b>Lines of Inquiry:</b> * Ways people interact with water systems * Human impact on waterways *Responsible use of water system</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> Function Change Responsibility</p> <p><b>Related Concepts:</b> Conservation Demand Access</p> <p><b>Approaches to learning:</b> Social Skills Thinking Skills</p>

**5th Grade PYP Units of Inquiry**

Who We Are: Nature of self; rights and responsibilities; human relationships including families and friends	Where We Are in Place and Time: The relationships between and the interconnectedness of individuals and civilizations, from local and global perspectives	How We Express Ourselves: Our appreciation of the aesthetic	How the World Works: Humans use their understanding of scientific principles	How We Organize Ourselves: Interconnectedness of human-made systems and communities	Sharing the Planet: Communities and the relationships within and between them
Human Health	Conflicts	Varying Perspectives	Models as Tools	Fifty States	Kelp Forest

<p><b>Central Idea:</b> Interactions and personal decisions impact well being throughout our lives.</p> <p><b>Lines of Inquiry:</b> * Change as a constant human experience and implications on wellness * Rights in relationships * Effective communication</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> Responsibility Change Perspective</p> <p><b>Related Concepts:</b> Rights Stages of Growth Truth</p> <p><b>Approaches to learning:</b> Self Management Skills Social Skills</p>	<p><b>Central Idea:</b> Conflicts across history are caused by different factors resulting in change.</p> <p><b>Lines of Inquiry:</b> * Causes of conflicts * Changes as a result of conflicts * Conflicts in Early America</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> Causation Change Form</p> <p><b>Related Concepts:</b> Revolution Alliances/Interests Governance</p> <p><b>Approaches to learning:</b> Thinking Skills Research Skills</p>	<p><b>Central Idea:</b> People communicate through art.</p> <p><b>Lines of Inquiry:</b> *Artists use symbolism to convey meaning * Historical context informs how art is perceived * What viewers bring to art</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> Form Perspective Causation</p> <p><b>Related Concepts:</b> Arrangements Opinions Interpretation</p> <p><b>Approaches to learning:</b> Communication Skills Research Skills</p>	<p><b>Central Idea:</b> Models demonstrate understanding.</p> <p><b>Lines of Inquiry:</b> * Scientific principles and design impact function * Process impacts success *Flexibility of models</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> Function Causation Change</p> <p><b>Related Concepts:</b> Design Impact Revision</p> <p><b>Approaches to learning:</b> Thinking Skills Research Skills</p>	<p><b>Central Idea:</b> Countries are organized into federal and regional zones.</p> <p><b>Lines of Inquiry:</b> * Features of States * Cultural influences * Interconnectedness of state and federal governments</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> Function Causation Responsibility</p> <p><b>Related Concepts:</b> Similarities and Differences Citizenship</p> <p><b>Approaches to learning:</b> Thinking Skills Research Skills</p>	<p><b>Central Idea:</b> Individual habitats are interconnected.</p> <p><b>Lines of Inquiry:</b> *Forest habitats have similar attributes across the globe * Systems within habitats sustain life * Links to other habitats</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> Form Causation Connection</p> <p><b>Related Concepts:</b> Physical Features Interdependence Eco-systems</p> <p><b>Approaches to learning:</b> Thinking Skills Research Skills</p>
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One of these units will be replaced by the PYP Exhibition