

**Sheila Tarr Academy of International Studies
IB Programme of Inquiry updated May 2025**

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| Pre-K | <p>1</p> <p>Who We Are An inquiry into identity as individuals and as part of a collective through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ physical, emotional, social and spiritual health and well-being ▪ relationships and belonging ▪ learning and growing | <p>Where We Are In Place and Time An inquiry into histories and orientation in place, space, and time through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ periods, events, and artifacts ▪ communities, heritage, culture, and environment ▪ natural and human drivers of movement, adaptation, and transformation | <p>2</p> <p>How We Express Ourselves An inquiry into systems, structures, and networks through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ inspiration, imagination, creativity ▪ personal, social, and cultural notes and practices of communication ▪ intentions, perceptions, interpretations, and responses | <p>All year</p> <p>How the World Works An inquiry into the understandings of the world and phenomena through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ patterns, cycles, systems ▪ diverse practices, methods, and tools ▪ discovery, design, innovation, possibilities, and impacts | <p>4</p> <p>How We Organize Ourselves An inquiry into systems, structures, and networks through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ interactions with and between social and ecological systems ▪ approaches to livelihoods and trade practices: intended and unintended consequences ▪ representation, collaboration, and decision-making | <p>4</p> <p>Sharing the Planet An inquiry into the interdependence of human and natural worlds through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ rights, responsibilities, and dignity of all ▪ pathways to just, peaceful, and reimagined futures ▪ nature, complexity, coexistence, and wisdom |
| | <p>Central Idea: Awareness of ourselves and others</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry: Alike and different</p> <p>Facial expressions and body language</p> <p>What we look like</p> <p>Key Concepts: perspective, form</p> | | <p>Central Idea: People express feelings in different ways for different reasons.</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry: Communicating our feelings</p> <p>Using appropriate interactions</p> <p>Showing care and respect for ourselves and others</p> <p>Key Concepts: connection, responsibility</p> | <p>Central Idea: Nature and natural cycles can be observed with our 5 senses.</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry: Plants, animals, ourselves</p> <p>Food and plant life cycles</p> <p>Weather</p> <p>Key Concepts: form, causation, change</p> | | <p>Central Idea: Our personal choices can change our environment.</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry: My environment and how I am a part of it</p> <p>Taking care of our environment.</p> <p>People affect the environment in good and bad ways.</p> <p>Key Concepts: function, responsibility, causation</p> |

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| | <p>Central Idea: Discovering Me in the community.</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry:</p> <p>Roles and responsibilities in the classroom</p> <p>People are unique</p> <p>Family</p> <p>LP: Communicator, Open-Minded, Caring, Reflective</p> <p>Specified Concepts: Connection, Perspective, Responsibility</p> <p>Approaches to Learning Skills: Thinking, Social, Self-Mgm, Research, Communication</p> | <p>Central Idea: Weather and climate dictate designs of homes</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry:</p> <p>My physical home</p> <p>How weather and climate dictate the design of a home</p> <p>Homes around the world</p> <p>LP: Inquirer, Knowledgeable, Reflective</p> <p>Specified Concepts: Form, Function, Perspective</p> <p>Approaches to Learning Skills: Thinking, Social, Self-Mgm, Research, Communicating</p> | <p>Central Idea: Colors make meaning in our world</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry:</p> <p>Colors in Nature</p> <p>Colors in the arts</p> <p>Colors affect feelings</p> <p>LP: Communicator, Balanced, Risk-taker</p> <p>Specified Concepts: Connection, Perspective, Change</p> <p>Approaches to Learning Skills: Thinking, Social, Self-Mgm, Research, Communicating</p> | | | <p>Central Idea: Human consumption and action impacts the environment</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry:</p> <p>What plants and animals need to survive</p> <p>Impacts of humans on the local environment</p> <p>Caring for the environment</p> <p>LP: Balanced, Caring, Principled</p> <p>Specified Concepts:</p> <p>Form, Causation, Responsibility</p> <p>Approaches to Learning Skills:</p> <p>Thinking, Social, Self-Mgm, Research, Communicating</p> |

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| | <p>Central Idea: Responsibility within Communities.</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry: Responsible vs. Irresponsible actions</p> <p>Environmental and physical characteristics of our community</p> <p>Roles in the community</p> <p>LP: Communicator, Principled, Reflective</p> <p>Specified Concepts: Function, Connection, Responsibility</p> <p>Approaches to Learning Skills: Self-Mgmt</p> | <p>Central Idea: Culture and tradition build a strong, diverse communities</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry: Cultural practices and family traditions</p> <p>How life has changed over time</p> <p>Diverse people build a strong community</p> <p>LP: Inquirer, Open-Minded, Risk-taker</p> <p>Specified Concepts: Connection, Perspective, Change</p> <p>Approaches to Learning Skills: Social</p> | <p>Central Idea: Patterns can be discovered in the sky</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry: Seasonal patterns throughout the year</p> <p>Predictable patterns of the sun, moon and stars</p> <p>Relationships between the amount of daylight and the time of year</p> <p>LP: Thinker, Inquirer, Communicator</p> <p>Specified Concepts: Form, Function, Causation</p> <p>Approaches to Learning Skills: Thinking</p> | <p>Central Idea: Light and sound help people communicate in our world</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry: How light and sound travel</p> <p>How light affects the illumination of different objects</p> <p>How people have used sound and light to shape our world today</p> <p>LP: Thinker, Inquirer, Communicator</p> <p>Specified Concepts: Form, Function, Causation</p> <p>Approaches to Learning Skills: Thinking</p> | <p>Central Idea: Goods and services in communities</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry: People in the community provide goods and services</p> <p>Roles of banks and businesses</p> <p>Describe how the environment impacts how we live and the work we do..</p> <p>LP: Balanced, Open-Minded, Principled</p> <p>Specified Concepts: Function, Causation, Responsibility</p> <p>Approaches to Learning Skills: Thinking</p> | <p>Central Idea: Plants and animals work together and learn from each other</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry: Explore behavior patterns between organisms and offspring</p> <p>Humans mimic nature to survive</p> <p>Plants and animals have structures to survive</p> <p>LP: Balanced, Open-Minded, Principled</p> <p>Specified Concepts: Function, Causation, Responsibility</p> <p>Approaches to Learning Skills: Thinking</p> |

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| | <p>Central Idea: People are responsible for their choices</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry: Personal accountability and responsibility Outcomes of making choices Setting personal goals</p> <p>LP: Communicator, Open-Minded, Principled,</p> <p>Specified Concepts: Function, Causation, Responsibility</p> <p>Approaches to Learning Skills: Self-Mgm,</p> | <p>Central Idea: Events and experiences shape history</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry: Events that shaped national identity Contributions of historical figures Impact of conflict)</p> <p>LP: Thinker, Communicator, Open-Minded</p> <p>Specified Concepts: Connection, Perspective, Change</p> <p>Approaches to Learning Skills: Research</p> | <p>Central Idea: Identity is expressed through stories and tales</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry: Stories express self How people tell stories How illustrations provide insight into a story</p> <p>LP: Thinker, Communicator, Reflective</p> <p>Specified Concepts: Form, Function, Perspective</p> <p>Approaches to Learning Skills: Self-Mgm, Communicating</p> | <p>Central Idea: Earth changes over time</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry: Objects move as a results of varying earth forces Changes happen quickly and slowly Environmental events shape the land</p> <p>LP: Thinker, Inquirer, Knowledgeable</p> <p>Specified Concepts: Form, Causation, Change</p> <p>Approaches to Learning Skills: Thinking</p> | <p>Central Idea: Availability of resources affect the way we live</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry: Properties of natural resources determine their use Goods and services People move for many reasons</p> <p>LP: Balanced,, Knowledgeable, Reflective</p> <p>Specified Concepts: Function, Causation, Change</p> <p>Approaches to Learning Skills: , Social</p> | <p>Central Idea: The diversity of plants sustain life on earth</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry: Type of action we can take Living things are connected Our responsibility towards living things</p> <p>LP: Caring, Principled, Reflective</p> <p>Specified Concepts: Function, Connection, Responsibility</p> <p>Approaches to Learning Skills: Thinking</p> |

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| | <p>Central Idea: Relationships help us understand ourselves and the world around us</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry:</p> <p>Roles and behaviors within relationships</p> <p>Personal abilities and interests</p> <p>Conflict resolution</p> <p>LP: Inquirer, Communicator, Open-Minded,</p> <p>Specified Concepts: Connection, Perspective, Responsibility, Change</p> <p>Approaches to Learning Skills: Social, Self-Mgm, Communicating</p> | <p>Central Idea: Human movement is a response to challenges, risks and opportunities.</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry:</p> <p>Pushes and Pulls</p> <p>Multicultural awareness</p> <p>Response to Migration</p> <p>LP: Balanced, Open-Minded, Caring</p> <p>Specified Concepts: Form, Causation, Perspective</p> <p>Approaches to Learning Skills: Thinking</p> | <p>Central Idea: Cultures impact each other</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry:</p> <p>Aspects of culture</p> <p>The ways cultures interact and influence each other</p> <p>How culture guides expression</p> <p>LP: Inquirer, Balanced, Open-Minded</p> <p>Specified Concepts: Connection, Perspective, Change</p> <p>Approaches to Learning Skills: Social</p> | <p>Central Idea: Nature's patterns have forces</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry:</p> <p>Weather affects regions around the world</p> <p>Patterns of forces and motion help make weather predictions</p> <p>Preparedness for weather and forces</p> <p>LP: Inquirer, Knowledgeable, Reflective</p> <p>Specified Concepts: Connection, Causation, Responsibility</p> <p>Approaches to Learning Skills: Thinking, Social, Self-Mgm, Research, Communicating</p> | <p>Central Idea: Communities impact economics</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry:</p> <p>Needs vs wants</p> <p>Production and exchange of goods and services</p> <p>Necessary structures for success</p> <p>LP: Communicator, Open-Minded, Risk-taker,</p> <p>Specified Concepts: Connection, Causation, Perspective</p> <p>Approaches to Learning Skills: Thinking</p> | <p>Central Idea: Change cause organisms to adapt</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry:</p> <p>Survival and adaptation</p> <p>Inherited traits</p> <p>How environments change</p> <p>LP: Thinker, Inquirer, Communicator, Balanced, Open-Minded, Caring, Risk-taker, Principled, Knowledgeable, Reflective</p> <p>Specified Concepts: Form, Function, Connection, Causation, Perspective, Responsibility, Change</p> <p>Approaches to Learning Skills: Thinking, Social, Self-Mgm, Research,</p> |

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| | <p>Central Idea: Our choices impact our lives</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry: -Organisms are made of structures and systems -Our responsibility to ourselves -Organisms meet their needs in different ways</p> <p>LP: Thinker, Balanced, Knowledgeable</p> <p>Specified Concepts: Function, Connection, Responsibility,</p> <p>ATL: Thinking, Self-Mgm</p> | <p>Central Idea: Migration and pioneers impact the world</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry: -Change creates adaptation -Causes for migration -Discoveries influence our perspective</p> <p>LP: Open-Minded,, Risk-taker, Reflective</p> <p>Specified Concepts: Causation, Perspective, Change</p> <p>ATLSkills: Social, Self-Mgm, Research, Communicating</p> | <p>Central Idea: Stories can support our thinking and challenge our views</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry: -Why events occur -Actions of others may affect us -How stories have influenced our thinking</p> <p>LP: Thinker, Communicator, Open-Minded, Caring,</p> <p>Specified Concepts: Connection, Perspective, Change</p> <p>ATL: Research</p> | <p>Central idea: Natural phenomenon transforms landscape</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry: -Natural Phenomenon -The effects of changes of landscapes -The impacts of natural earth processes on humans</p> <p>LP: Thinker, Inquirer, Communicator, Balanced, Open-Minded, Caring, Risk-taker, Principled, Knowledgeable, Reflective</p> <p>Specified Concepts: Function, Causation, Change</p> <p>ATL: Self-Mgm</p> | <p>Central Idea: Economic independence</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry: -Cause and effect of the economy - Motivations for trade -The cause and effect of an individual's actions</p> <p>LP: Risk-taker, Knowledgeable Reflective</p> <p>Specified Concepts: Function, Connection, Causation</p> <p>Approaches to Learning Skills: Social, Self-Mgm</p> | <p>Central Idea: Human ingenuity and technology influence our lives</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry: -Types of energy -Transfer of energy -Evolution of technology based on needs</p> <p>LP: Thinker, Inquirer, Communicator</p> <p>Specified Concepts: Form, Responsibility, Change</p> <p>Approaches to Learning Skills: Thinking, Self-Mgm</p> |

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| | <p>Central Idea: Beliefs and values influence societies</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry: Beliefs and values</p> <p>How societies form</p> <p>Earth systems</p> <p>Key Concepts: perspective, causation, connection</p> <p>ATL: Social skills</p> | <p>Central Idea: Exploration may lead to taking action</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry: Taking Action</p> <p>The impact of action on communities</p> <p>Exploration of global issues</p> <p>Key Concepts: connection, perspective, change</p> <p>ATL: Thinking & Self-Management Skills</p> | <p>Central Idea: Natural patterns may influence culture</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry: Natural patterns</p> <p>Culture</p> <p>The influence of patterns on culture</p> <p>Key Concepts: connection, perspective, causation</p> <p>ATL: Communication & Thinking Skills</p> | <p>Central Idea: Organisms impact earth systems</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry: The flow of energy</p> <p>Interdependent relationships within ecosystems</p> <p>Human impact on earth systems</p> <p>Key Concepts: connection, responsibility, function</p> <p>ATL: Communication skills</p> | <p>Central Idea: Organized society consists of structure and cooperation.</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry: Structure of government</p> <p>Roles of cooperation</p> <p>Past experiences shape change</p> <p>Key Concepts: form, function, change</p> <p>ATL: all listed</p> | <p>Central Idea: Perceived social injustices lead to action</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry: Social injustices</p> <p>Taking action</p> <p>The results of actions taken</p> <p>Key Concepts: perspective, connection, responsibility</p> <p>ATL: Social skills</p> |

