

UNITS OF INQUIRY 2009-2010

	<p>An inquiry into Who we are</p> <p>An inquiry into the nature of the self: beliefs, and values; personal, physical, mental, social and spiritual health; human relationships including families, friends, communities, and cultures; rights and responsibilities; what it means to be human.</p>	<p>An inquiry into Where we are in time and place</p> <p>An inquiry into orientation in place and time; personal histories; homes and journeys; the discoveries, explorations and migrations of humankind; the relationships between and the interconnectedness of individuals and civilizations, from local and global perspectives.</p>	<p>An inquiry into How we express ourselves</p> <p>An inquiry into the ways in which we discover and express ideas, feelings, nature, culture, beliefs and values; the ways in which we reflect on, extend and enjoy our creativity; our appreciation of the aesthetic.</p>	<p>An inquiry into How the world works</p> <p>An inquiry into the natural world and its laws; the interaction between the natural world (physical and biological) and human societies; how humans use their understanding of scientific principles; the impact of scientific and technological advances on society and on the environment.</p>	<p>An inquiry into How we organise ourselves</p> <p>An 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.</p>	<p>An inquiry into How we share the planet</p> <p>An inquiry into rights and responsibilities in the struggle to share finite resources with other people and with other living things; communities and the relationships within and between them; access to equal opportunities; peace and conflict resolution.</p>
<p>Grade 5</p>	<p>What's Happening to Me?</p> <p><u>Central Idea:</u> Physical, social and emotional changes during puberty can impact choices.</p> <p>An inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · The physical change at puberty · Personal hygiene · Social pressure and how to deal with it · Informed choices 	<p>Beyond the Castle Walls</p> <p><u>Central Idea:</u> The Middle Ages was a time of upheaval</p> <p>An inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Lives of the people within the different social structures · Significant events and people during this time · The Middle Ages in Northern Europe 	<p>The Fine Art</p> <p><u>Central Idea:</u> Art is an expression of human thought and is open to interpretation</p> <p>An inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · What visual elements constitute art · How using different elements and techniques can help us express ourselves · How artwork can be interpreted by different viewers 	<p>BRIDGES</p> <p><u>Central Idea:</u> The design of buildings and structures is dependent upon the environment and available materials</p> <p>An inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Considerations to take into account when building a structure -How building impacts on the environment -Indigenous architecture 	<p>IB-PYP Exhibition</p>	<p>Give Peace a Chance</p> <p><u>Central Idea:</u> Throughout history people have had difficulty sustaining peace.</p> <p>An inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -The meaning of peace -Conflict and conflict management -Peace keeping agencies
<p>Grade 4</p>	<p>I Believe</p> <p><u>Central Idea:</u> All human societies have belief and value systems.</p> <p>An inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Some major belief and value systems and their origins · The place of moral and ethical values in belief systems · How different belief systems can or cannot coexist and how this can affect society 	<p>Past Civilizations</p> <p><u>Central Idea:</u> Past civilizations have common elements and have continued to have an influence.</p> <p>An inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · The characteristics of past civilizations · How and why those civilizations changed over time · Impact on later times (e.g. surviving artefacts) 	<p>Encore</p> <p><u>Central Idea:</u> Through out history people have used the elements of dramatic arts to communicate stories</p> <p>An inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The elements of dramatic Arts - How dramatic arts communicates stories - The evolution of dramatic arts 	<p>What's Up Down There?</p> <p><u>Central Idea:</u> Beneath the Earth's surface there are changes taking place.</p> <p>An inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · How rocks and minerals are formed · How rocks change over time · Plate tectonics and the forces they create (e.g. earthquakes and volcanoes) 	<p>It's a Done Deal</p> <p><u>Central Idea:</u> Businesses are an integral part of society in providing wants, needs, and opportunities.</p> <p>An inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Characteristics of successful businesses - Owning and operating a business - Meeting peoples needs and wants. 	<p>Power Sources</p> <p><u>Central Idea:</u> Energy may be converted from one form to another and stored in various ways</p> <p>An inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Forms of energy -The storage and transformation of energy -Conservation of energy -Renewable and sustainable energy

<p>Grade 3</p>	<p>My Body, My Job!</p> <p><u>Central Idea:</u> Individuals have the responsibility to ensure a healthy body.</p> <p>An inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The systems of the body and how they work (skeletal, muscular, respiratory, circulatory, digestive and nervous). - What happens if one of these systems fails? - How poor health and disease leads to inability to maintain the systems 	<p>People through time</p> <p><u>Central Idea:</u> Different individuals have impacted the world through their action, ideas and beliefs.</p> <p>An inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Who are some significant individuals from the past and present - How have individuals impacted or changed the past and present? - Why did individuals do what they did? - What ideas changed the world - How can one individual make such an impact on the world? 	<p>Let's Dance</p> <p><u>Central Idea:</u> We can control the movement of our bodies to convey feelings, create patterns, tell stories or imitate people or things.</p> <p>An inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - How we can move our bodies to a range of stimuli: signals, objects, sounds, words and music - The forms and uses of dance. 	<p>Light and Sound</p> <p><u>Central Idea:</u> Much of our experience of the world comes through light and sound.</p> <p>An inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Light energy, its properties and how it travels - Sound energy, its properties, and how it travels - How light and sound are used to learn about the world 	<p>Inventions</p> <p><u>Central Idea:</u> Inventions are ideas designed to solve problems and meet needs.</p> <p>An inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Significant inventions and how they meet a variety of needs - How these inventions have been changed and altered over time to meet changing needs - The possible needs of the future - Future inventions 	<p>It's In our Nature</p> <p><u>Central Idea:</u> Our planet has limited natural resources that are affected by the way we use them.</p> <p>An inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Changes in the environment that are man-made and their effects - Causes and impact of pollution - Our responsibility in using natural resources
<p>Grade 2</p>	<p>Home and Away</p> <p>Central Idea: We each have unique cultural and geographical roots</p> <p>An Inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Aspects of students culture and society -Comparison with Estonia -Respect for differences and similarities -Simple map reading 	<p>What's Out there?</p> <p>Central Idea: the earth is surrounded by space and part of a vast and complex solar system</p> <p>An inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -The parts of the solar system -The reasons for space exploration -A comparative study of planets 	<p>Non-Verbal Communication</p> <p>Central Idea: Humans have various ways of communicating non-verbally</p> <p>An inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Body language -Communicating over distance (Morse Code, Flares, flags) -Using Art and Music to communicate -Symbols and signs (including sign language) are used to communicate) 	<p>What's the Matter?</p> <p>Central Idea- Everything around us is made of matter: it has properties and uses</p> <p>An inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Properties of solids, liquids and gases -The process by which materials change - How to safely conduct different types of scientific experiments 	<p>I need, I want</p> <p>Central idea: people have basic needs to be met in order to survive. These can be identified as different to a person's wants</p> <p>Inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - basic needs - difference between needs and wants - how are the needs of people met 	<p>Going, Going...Gone</p> <p>Central Idea; Once a species is extinct it can never be brought back again.</p> <p>An inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - When species are extinct - Reasons for and theories why certain species became extinct - Endangered animals/plants/people - Our responsibility regarding conservation
<p>Grade 1</p>	<p>Reduce, Reuse, Recycle</p> <p><u>Central Idea:</u> Our personal choices can change our environment.</p> <p>An inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The packaging for different products - How different materials decompose - How different materials can be reused 	<p>Home Sweet Home</p> <p><u>Central Idea:</u> Many things affect the design of people's homes.</p> <p>An inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Homes in different climates - Homes from different cultures - Homes in different locations - Materials used to make 	<p>Just Imagine</p> <p><u>Central Idea:</u> Stories are a universal form of communication transmitted through a variety of media.</p> <p>An inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Common elements in a story - Stories from other cultures - How different media can be used to tell a story 	<p>It's a Balancing Act</p> <p><u>Subject Focus:</u> Science,</p> <p><u>Central Idea:</u> An ecosystem is a community of organisms interacting with one another and with their environment</p> <p>An inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The components of an ecosystem - Where different kinds of ecosystems are found 	<p>Communities</p> <p>Central Idea: Communities provide services and systems that people need.</p> <p>An inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -The similarities and differences between communities -Factors affecting the location of communities -Systems needed to support a community 	<p>Breath in- Breath out</p> <p><u>Central Idea:</u> Air is invisible, all around us and essential to our lives</p> <p>An inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - properties of air - Why it is essential to our lives - Our responsibility to take care of air -

	The steps we can take to reduce, reuse, and recycle our waste in school and at home	homes		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The similarities and differences between two very different ecosystems including the relationship between the producers and consumers in them - The significant events that affect the balance of an ecosystem - 		
Recept.	<p>Is It Safe?</p> <p><u>Central Idea:</u> We make important personal choices to keep ourselves and others safe.</p> <p>An inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> . Safety inside and outside . Stranger danger . People who can help us . How to get help 	<p>We are family</p> <p><u>Central Idea:</u> Families play an important part in our lives</p> <p>An inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> . What is a family? . The importance of family? . How my family has changed? 	<p>Games Children Play</p> <p><u>Subject Focus:</u> Social And personal development</p> <p><u>Central Idea:</u> Children grow through play and games</p> <p>An inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -The history of children's play and games -The purpose and needs of children when involved in play and when playing games -How play and games are influenced by culture <ul style="list-style-type: none"> . -How games and play help children grow. 	<p>Water is Wet</p> <p><u>Central Idea:</u> Water has many different properties and is essential to all life.</p> <p>An inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> . Properties of water . How water is used . How water can change 	<p>From Field to Table</p> <p><u>Central Idea:</u> Food goes through stages of production.</p> <p>An inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> . The origins of food products . The different stages that products go through . Peoples roles in producing food . Food from our home countries 	<p>Circle of Life</p> <p><u>Subject Focus:</u> Science</p> <p><u>Central Idea:</u> All animals have life cycles characterized by physical changes and changing roles.</p> <p>An inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> . The major phases in the life cycle of animals . The similarities and differences between life cycles in different animal species. - The major characteristics of Species, vertebrates and invertebrates
Pre-school 4			<p>SENSE-sational</p> <p><u>Central Idea:</u> People get information through their five senses.</p> <p>An inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The five senses - The uses of the senses . Why are the senses important 	<p>Seasons Change</p> <p><u>Central Idea:</u> Our world is affected by seasons.</p> <p>An inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A year in the life of a tree - How nature changes with the seasons - How we change the way we live with the seasons 	<p>All Aboard!</p> <p><u>Central Idea:</u> There are many different ways that people and goods travel from one place to another.</p> <p>An inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> . Classification of methods of transportation such as land, water, and air . Why people use different kinds of transportation . Transportation of goods and cargo . How people use different kinds of transportation safely 	<p>Our Green Friends</p> <p><u>Subject Focus:</u> Science,</p> <p><u>Central Idea:</u> Plants are an important part of our environment.</p> <p>An inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> . Plants in their environment . Different parts of plants and their purposes . Plant growth
Pre-school 3	<p>Me, Myself and I</p> <p><u>Central Idea:</u> We are alike and different in many ways but all of us are unique.</p>	<p>Let's Get Dressed.</p> <p><u>Central Idea:</u> The clothes people wear depends on the weather, seasons and people's activities.</p>	<p>Once Upon A Time</p> <p><u>Central Idea:</u> We develop imagination and learn about life through stories and rhymes.</p>			<p>Amazing Animals</p> <p><u>Central Idea:</u> We share our world with many types of animals</p>

	<p>An inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> . What I look like . Each child is special . Likes and dislikes . What I can do 	<p>An Inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The kinds of clothes people wear - How weather /seasons affects what we wear - How clothes are made 	<p>An inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Familiar stories and rhymes we have heard at home and school - How stories make us feel - What stories and rhymes can teach us - Acting out stories - Creating and conveying our own stories 			<p>An inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> . Different types of animals . Animal families . What do animals eat . Simple habitats . Our pets
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