

Harvard Elementary School

Programme of Inquiry (POI) – 2014 - 2015

	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.	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.	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.	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.	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.	An inquiry into the 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.
	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
PK	<p><u>Central Idea:</u> Growth and change are unique to each individual.</p> <p><u>Key Concepts:</u> Form Connection Responsibility Change</p> <p><u>Related Concepts:</u> Interdependence Growth Similarities Differences Values</p> <p><u>Lines of Inquiry:</u> Commonalities among individuals</p> <p>Ways in which we are different</p> <p>Being a member of a family</p> <p>- 1 -</p>	<p>PK classes only implement four planners each year.</p>	<p><u>Central Idea:</u> Societies express beliefs and traditions in different ways</p> <p><u>Key Concepts:</u> Function Connection Perspective Reflection</p> <p><u>Related Concepts:</u> Communication Relationships Beliefs Behavior</p> <p><u>Lines of Inquiry:</u> How families celebrate relevant events</p> <p>Similarities and differences celebrating holidays</p> <p>Traditions change over Time and geographical locations</p> <p>- 2 -</p>	<p><u>Central Idea:</u> Environmental factors affect life cycles</p> <p><u>Key Concepts:</u> Form Change Reflection</p> <p><u>Related Concepts:</u> Properties Adaptation Responsibility</p> <p><u>Lines of Inquiry:</u> Properties and characteristics of animals</p> <p>Living and Nonliving things</p> <p>Effects of the environment</p> <p>- 4 -</p>	<p><u>Central Idea:</u> Community helpers influence our lives</p> <p><u>Key Concepts:</u> Form Function Connection Responsibility</p> <p><u>Related Concepts:</u> Structure Role Systems Citizenship</p> <p><u>Lines of Inquiry:</u> Human needs</p> <p>Types community helpers</p> <p>Impact of community helpers in our lives</p> <p>- 3 -</p>	<p>PK classes only implement four planners each year.</p>

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K	<p>Central Idea: School is a place to learn and share information</p> <p>Key Concepts: Connection, Responsibility Form</p> <p>Related Concepts: Relationships Systems Citizenship Structure Similarities Differences</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry: Responsibilities as lifelong learners</p> <p>What school looks like and how school is organized</p> <p>Why, what, and how we learn about our similarities and differences</p> <p>- 1 -</p>	<p>Central Idea: Our lives change through experiences and time</p> <p>Key Concepts: Connection Perspective Change</p> <p>Related Concepts: Relationships Interdependence Subjectivity Transformation Growth</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry: How events change understanding</p> <p>Similarities and differences between personal histories</p> <p>How time affects our growth</p> <p>- 6 -</p>	<p>Central Idea: Societal values, attitudes, and traditions are reflected through literature</p> <p>Key Concepts: Connection Perspective Reflection</p> <p>Related Concepts: Relationships Beliefs Opinion Behavior Responsibility</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry: How PYP traits and attitudes are expressed through literature</p> <p>Fairy tales as a means of understanding cultural lessons and messages</p> <p>How traditions are reflected through literature in different countries</p> <p>- 3 -</p>	<p>Central Idea: Weather affects living things</p> <p>Key Concepts: Connection Function Change</p> <p>Related Concepts: Systems Relationships Pattern Interdependence Adaptation Cycles</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry: Types of weather</p> <p>The relationship between weather and the seasons</p> <p>The effects of weather on living things</p> <p>- 5 -</p>	<p>Central Idea: Communities depend on the people who live in them.</p> <p>Key Concepts: Connection Function Responsibility</p> <p>Related Concepts: Systems Networks Role Citizenship Justice</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry: Types of jobs</p> <p>Purpose of specific roles</p> <p>How jobs are interconnected within our community</p> <p>- 4 -</p>	<p>Central Idea: Living things impact the planet</p> <p>Key Concepts: Connection Causation Responsibility Change</p> <p>Related Concepts: Systems Interdependence Sequences Growth Cycles</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry: Needs of living things</p> <p>Actions that benefit and harm the local environment</p> <p>How living things change over time</p> <p>- 2 -</p>

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	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
1	<p>Central idea: Beliefs and values reflect cultures</p> <p>Key Concepts: Connection Change Perspective</p> <p>Related Concepts: Balance Conflict Rights</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry What a community is</p> <p>How beliefs and values shape our lives</p> <p>The significance of cultural celebrations</p> <p>- 1 -</p>	<p>Central idea: Past events help shape the present and give insight into future possibilities</p> <p>Key Concepts: Perspective Connection Change</p> <p>Related Concepts: Chronology History</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry Lives and activities of historical figures</p> <p>Students' personal histories</p> <p>Timelines</p> <p>Future possibilities</p> <p>- 2 -</p>	<p>Central idea: Creativity offers us the means to express our thought and feelings</p> <p>Key Concepts: Reflection Perspective Connection</p> <p>Related Concepts: Audience Celebration Self-expression Live performance</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry Value of creativity</p> <p>Expressions of creativity through drama, writing, and art</p> <p>Finding our uniqueness through creativity</p> <p>- 4 -</p>	<p>Central idea: Humans create to meet the changing needs of societies</p> <p>Key Concepts: Function Causation Change</p> <p>Related Concepts: Discovery Innovation Progress</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry Reasons inventions are made</p> <p>How technology has changed over time</p> <p>Inventors and their Contributions</p> <p>- 6 -</p>	<p>Central idea: Leaders impact people's lives.</p> <p>Key Concepts: Reflection Perspective Responsibility</p> <p>Related Concepts: Networks Beliefs Initiative</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry Characteristics of effective leaders</p> <p>Leaders past and present</p> <p>Leaders' impact on society</p> <p>People's beliefs and values changing over time</p> <p>- 3 -</p>	<p>Central idea: Water is a basic need, and is a limited resource</p> <p>Key Concepts: Responsibility Form Causation</p> <p>Related Concepts: Conservation Equity Consumption</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry Properties of water</p> <p>Availability of usable water</p> <p>Responsible water usage</p> <p>- 5 -</p>

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2	<p>Central Idea: Membership in a community impacts our role in the world</p> <p>Key Concepts: Perspective Connection Reflection</p> <p>Related Concepts: Beliefs Interdependence Behavior</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry: How people contribute to the community</p> <p>Traditions of families and cultures</p> <p>How citizens think, act, and care for each other</p> <p>- 1 -</p>	<p>Central Idea: Movement of people has been influenced by many factors</p> <p>Key Concepts: Causation Responsibility Change</p> <p>Related Concepts: Relationships Beliefs Behavior</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry: Use of maps Landforms and symbols Personal heritage</p> <p>- 2 -</p>	<p>Central Idea: People communicate their stories and stories of others in a variety of ways</p> <p>Key Concepts: Perspective Form Connection</p> <p>Related Concepts: Subjectivity Values Relationships</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry: Features of fictional stories Ways of communicating stories Interpretation of stories</p> <p>- 4 -</p>	<p>Central Idea: There are properties and patterns for living and nonliving things</p> <p>Key Concepts: Connection Causation Change</p> <p>Related Concepts: Relationships Patterns Cycles</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry: Living and nonliving Classifying the natural world Adaptation and change over time</p> <p>- 3 -</p>	<p>Central Idea: People have needs and wants</p> <p>Key Concepts: Responsibility Function Reflection</p> <p>Related Concepts: Systems Justice Interpretation</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry: Characteristics of needs and wants Income for services Economic systems</p> <p>- 6 -</p>	<p>Central Idea: Human interactions affect our environment</p> <p>Key Concepts: Causation Change Reflection</p> <p>Related Concepts: Consequences Interdependence Rights</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry: Basic needs of living things Positive and negative effects of human interactions on the environment How living things adapt to survive in their environment</p> <p>- 5 -</p>

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3	<p>Central Idea: Beliefs and values reflect cultures.</p> <p>Key Concepts: Connection Perspective Change</p> <p>Related Concepts: Relationships Beliefs Adaptations</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry: What a community is How beliefs and values shape our lives The significance of cultural celebrations</p> <p>- 6 -</p>	<p>Central Idea: People's innovations solve problems</p> <p>Key Concepts: Change Responsibility Causation</p> <p>Related Concepts: Impact Innovation Transformation Initiative</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry: Changes in inventions over time Adapting existing inventions to needs of today Historic figures who have provoked change</p> <p>- 1 -</p>	<p>Central Idea: Humans express themselves and their ideas through art, storytelling, and poetry</p> <p>Key Concepts: Reflection Causation Form</p> <p>Related Concepts: Structure Patterns Interpretation</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry: The influence of writers and artists on self expression The distinguishing characteristics of different types of poetry</p> <p>- 4 -</p>	<p>Central Idea: The solar system is made up of interdependent parts.</p> <p>Key Concepts: Connection Causation Change</p> <p>Related Concepts: Systems Interdependence Properties</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry: The role of the sun and its effect on the planets The planets in comparison to the Earth The Earth's position in relation to the Sun affects time and weather</p> <p>- 2 -</p>	<p>Central Idea: Lifestyles influence business and economy</p> <p>Key Concepts: Connection Function Causation</p> <p>Related Concepts: Role Communication Values Network</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry: The effect of supply and demand on an economy How people earn, spend and save money How a simple business operates</p> <p>- 5 -</p>	<p>Central Idea: Interdependency within an ecosystem is necessary for survival</p> <p>Key Concepts: Change Connection Responsibility</p> <p>Related Concepts: Adaptations Consequences Interdependence</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry: How systems compete for survival How peoples' use of and interaction with resources impact the environment How habitats meet the needs of organisms in an ecosystem</p> <p>- 3 -</p>

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4	<p>Central Idea: A community can be a blending of different cultures</p> <p>Key Concepts: Form Function Connection</p> <p>Related Concepts: Similarities Relationships Differences Behavior</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry: Diverse cultures form the our communities</p> <p>Universal ideas and beliefs are shared by many cultures</p> <p>Different types of communities</p> <p>- 6 -</p>	<p>Central Idea: Exploration and settlement often leads to change</p> <p>Key Concepts: Change Causation Perspective</p> <p>Related Concepts: Adaptations Beliefs Consequences</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry How explorers and immigrants effect social, political, and technological change.</p> <p>Exploration and native peoples</p> <p>The student as an explorer</p> <p>- 1 -</p>	<p>Central Idea: Individuals express themselves in different ways for different reasons</p> <p>Key Concepts: Form Perspective Reflection</p> <p>Related Concepts: Structures Beliefs Interpretation</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry: Different purposes of expression</p> <p>Varied forms of expression</p> <p>Writers' portrayal of feelings and beliefs</p> <p>- 4 -</p>	<p>Central Idea: Energy is changed, stored, and used in different forms</p> <p>Key Concepts: Function Causation Change</p> <p>Related Concepts: Systems Patterns Cycles</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry: States and properties of matter</p> <p>Forms and uses of energy</p> <p>The impact of energy use on the environment and society</p> <p>- 2 -</p>	<p>Central Idea: Government structures impact the way we live</p> <p>Key Concepts: Function Responsibility Causation</p> <p>Related Concepts: Systems Impact Rights</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry: Government structures</p> <p>The election process</p> <p>Judicial systems</p> <p>- 5 -</p>	<p>Central Idea: Conservation impacts life on our planet</p> <p>Key Concepts: Responsibility Function Connection</p> <p>Related Concepts: Interdependence Behavior Justice</p> <p>Lines of Inquiry: The conservation of resources and energy</p> <p>The recycling of waste</p> <p>The impact of limited resources</p> <p>- 3 -</p>

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5	<p><u>Central Idea:</u> People effect change through their actions</p> <p><u>Key Concepts:</u> Perspective Causation Change</p> <p><u>Related Concepts:</u> Prejudice Beliefs Impact Transformation</p> <p><u>Lines of Inquiry:</u> Perspectives of notable persons Impact on societies/communities Cultural perspectives</p> <p>- 4 -</p>	<p><u>Central Idea:</u> Individuals build societies through their explorations</p> <p><u>Key Concepts:</u> Perspective Change Causation Responsibility</p> <p><u>Related Concepts:</u> Impact Beliefs Rights Growth</p> <p><u>Lines of Inquiry:</u> Reasons people choose to explore new worlds The impact of migration through exploration</p> <p>- 1 -</p>	<p><u>Central Idea:</u> Technological advances affect the perspectives of people's beliefs</p> <p><u>Key Concepts:</u> Form Function Reflection Responsibility</p> <p><u>Related Concepts:</u> Role Creativity Responsibility</p> <p><u>Lines of Inquiry:</u> The abundance of technological information impacts a person's frame of reference Photography and its Influence Technology and art</p> <p>- 6 -</p>	<p><u>Central Idea:</u> A planet's surface is ever-changing</p> <p><u>Key Concepts:</u> Causation Change</p> <p><u>Related Concepts:</u> Sequences Transformation Adaption</p> <p><u>Lines of Inquiry:</u> How the Earth changes over time Why the Earth changes Results of these changes</p> <p>- 2 -</p>	<p><u>Central Idea:</u> Revolutions impact the foundations of government</p> <p><u>Key Concepts:</u> Function Causation Connection</p> <p><u>Related Concepts:</u> Beliefs Citizenship Consequences</p> <p><u>Lines of Inquiry:</u> The causal effects of revolutions The understanding of revolutionary events and their significance leading to a change in government Function of government documents</p> <p>- 3 -</p>	<p><u>Central Idea:</u> Humans and other living organisms impact their ecosystems through their use of finite resources</p> <p><u>Key Concepts:</u> Connection Causation Change</p> <p><u>Related Concepts:</u> Interdependence Consequences</p> <p><u>Lines of Inquiry:</u> How humans interact with other organisms in their ecosystem Human impact on the Ecosystem Resources, conflict, and resolution</p> <p>- 5 -</p>