

## Harvard Elementary School Programme of Inquiry (POI) – 2016-2017

	An inquiry into the nature of the self; beliefs and values; <b>personal, physical, mental, social and spiritual health; human relationships including families, friends, communities, and cultures</b> ; 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 <b>express ideas, feelings, nature, culture, beliefs and values</b> ; the ways in which we reflect on, extend and enjoy our creativity; our appreciation of the aesthetic.	<b>An inquiry into the natural world and its laws</b> ; 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.	<b>An inquiry into the interconnectedness of human-made systems and communities</b> ; 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.
	<b>Who We Are</b>	<b>Where We Are in Place and Time</b>	<b>How We Express Ourselves</b>	<b>How The World Works</b>	<b>How We Organize Ourselves</b>	<b>Sharing The Planet</b>
<b>PK</b>	<p><b>Central Idea:</b> Relationships cultivate unique growth.</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> Connection Form Responsibility</p> <p><b>Related Concepts:</b> Interdependence Growth Similarities Differences Values</p> <p><b>Lines of Inquiry:</b> Commonalities and differences among individuals</p> <p>How family dynamics play a role in our lives</p> <p>How personal habits contribute to growth</p> <p>How growth and change affect your anatomy - 1 -</p>	<p>PK classes only implement four planners each year.</p>	<p><b>Central Idea:</b> Societies express beliefs and traditions in different ways.</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> Connection Function Reflection</p> <p><b>Related Concepts:</b> Communication Relationships Beliefs Behavior</p> <p><b>Lines of Inquiry:</b> How families celebrate relevant events</p> <p>Traditions changing over time and geographical location</p> <p>How people use traditions to express culture - 2 -</p>	<p><b>Central Idea:</b> Environmental factors affect life cycles.</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> Form Change Reflection</p> <p><b>Related Concepts:</b> Properties Adaptation Responsibility</p> <p><b>Lines of Inquiry:</b> Properties and characteristics of animals</p> <p>Living and Nonliving things</p> <p>Effects of the environment - 4 -</p>	<p><b>Central Idea:</b> Community helpers influence our lives.</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> Form Function Connection</p> <p><b>Related Concepts:</b> Structure Role Systems Citizenship</p> <p><b>Lines of Inquiry:</b> Human needs</p> <p>Ways community helpers impact our lives</p> <p>How people work together to maintain communities - 3 -</p>	<p>PK classes only implement four planners each year.</p>

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<b>K</b>	<p><b>Central Idea:</b> Communities can enhance knowledge.</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> Connection, Responsibility Form</p> <p><b>Related Concepts:</b> Relationships Systems Citizenship Structure Similarities Differences</p> <p><b>Lines of Inquiry:</b> Responsibilities as lifelong learners</p> <p>Ways we learn</p> <p>How we learn from each other</p> <p>How different communities are organized</p> <p>- 1 -</p>	<p><b>Central Idea:</b> Our lives change through experiences and time.</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> Connection Perspective Change</p> <p><b>Related Concepts:</b> Relationships Interdependence Subjectivity Transformation Growth</p> <p><b>Lines of Inquiry:</b> How events change understanding</p> <p>Similarities and differences between personal histories</p> <p>How time affects our growth</p> <p>- 6 -</p>	<p><b>Central Idea:</b> Stories and celebrations convey a culture's beliefs and values.</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> Connection Perspective Reflection</p> <p><b>Related Concepts:</b> Relationships Beliefs Opinion Behavior Responsibility</p> <p><b>Lines of Inquiry:</b> How traits and attitudes are expressed through stories</p> <p>Stories as a way of understanding cultural lessons and messages</p> <p>How traditions are reflected through stories in different cultures</p> <p>- 3 -</p>	<p><b>Central Idea:</b> Weather affects living things.</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> Connection Function Change</p> <p><b>Related Concepts:</b> Systems Relationships Pattern Interdependence Adaptation Cycles</p> <p><b>Lines of Inquiry:</b> 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><b>Central Idea:</b> Communities depend on the people who live in them.</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> Connection Form Function</p> <p><b>Related Concepts:</b> Systems Networks Role Citizenship Justice</p> <p><b>Lines of Inquiry:</b> Types of jobs</p> <p>Purpose of specific roles</p> <p>How jobs are interconnected within our community</p> <p>- 4 -</p>	<p><b>Central Idea:</b> Change defines nature.</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> Connection Causation Change</p> <p><b>Related Concepts:</b> Systems Interdependence Sequences Growth Cycles</p> <p><b>Lines of Inquiry:</b> How living things change over their lifetimes</p> <p>How living things depend on one another</p> <p>How changes in the environment affect living things</p> <p>- 2 -</p>

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<b>1</b>	<p><b>Central idea:</b> Rights and responsibilities help shape relationships.</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> Connection Causation Responsibility</p> <p><b>Related Concepts:</b> Balance Conflict Rights</p> <p><b>Lines of Inquiry</b> How rights are established and utilized</p> <p>Balancing personal rights with responsibilities</p> <p>Development and maintenance of healthy relationships</p> <p>-1-</p>	<p><b>Central idea:</b> Past events help shape our present and give insight into future possibilities.</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> Perspective Connection Change</p> <p><b>Related Concepts:</b> Chronology History</p> <p><b>Lines of Inquiry</b> Legacies of historical figures</p> <p>Students' personal histories</p> <p>Timelines</p> <p>Future possibilities</p> <p>-2-</p>	<p><b>Central idea:</b> Creativity offers us the means to express our thoughts and feelings.</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> Reflection Perspective Connection</p> <p><b>Related Concepts:</b> Audience Celebration Self-expression Live performance</p> <p><b>Lines of Inquiry</b> Value of creativity</p> <p>How creativity inspires self-expression</p> <p>Discovering artistry through various genres</p> <p>-3-</p>	<p><b>Central idea:</b> Change can drive innovation.</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> Function Causation Change</p> <p><b>Related Concepts:</b> Discovery Innovation Progress</p> <p><b>Lines of Inquiry</b> Reasons inventions are made</p> <p>How technology has changed over time</p> <p>Inventors and their Contributions to society</p> <p>-6-</p>	<p><b>Central idea:</b> Leaders can influence societies' beliefs and values.</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> Reflection Perspective Responsibility</p> <p><b>Related Concepts:</b> Networks Beliefs Initiative</p> <p><b>Lines of Inquiry</b> Characteristics of effective leaders</p> <p>Leaders past and present</p> <p>People's beliefs and values changing over time</p> <p>Leaders' impact on society</p> <p>-5-</p>	<p><b>Central idea:</b> Interactions strengthen relationships and environments.</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> Form Function Change</p> <p><b>Related Concepts:</b> Adaptation Classification Systems</p> <p><b>Lines of Inquiry</b> Unique features and habitats of animals</p> <p>Environmental systems and patterns</p> <p>Interdependence between organisms and the environment</p> <p>-4-</p>

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<b>2</b>	<p><b>Central Idea:</b> Citizenship contributes to societies.</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> Perspective Connection Reflection</p> <p><b>Related Concepts:</b> Beliefs Interdependence Behavior</p> <p><b>Lines of Inquiry:</b> How people contribute to the community</p> <p>How communities impact citizens</p> <p>How citizens think, act, and care for each other</p> <p>How traditions promote community</p> <p>-1-</p>	<p><b>Central Idea:</b> A region's distinctive features influence settlement.</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> Causation Responsibility Change</p> <p><b>Related Concepts:</b> Relationships Beliefs Behavior</p> <p><b>Lines of Inquiry:</b> Landforms and symbols on world maps</p> <p>Similarities and differences among continents and their peoples</p> <p>Characteristics of personal heritage</p> <p>-2-</p>	<p><b>Central Idea:</b> Storytelling defines cultures.</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> Perspective Form Connection</p> <p><b>Related Concepts:</b> Subjectivity Values Relationships</p> <p><b>Lines of Inquiry:</b> Why people tell stories</p> <p>How people communicate stories</p> <p>The interpretations of stories</p> <p>-3-</p>	<p><b>Central Idea:</b> Living and nonliving things exhibit properties and patterns.</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> Connection Causation Change</p> <p><b>Related Concepts:</b> Relationships Patterns Cycles</p> <p><b>Lines of Inquiry:</b> Properties and patterns of living and nonliving things</p> <p>Classifying the natural World (characteristics of living and non-living)</p> <p>Cycles</p> <p>-4-</p>	<p><b>Central Idea:</b> People's choices reflect their needs and wants.</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> Connection Function Causation</p> <p><b>Related Concepts:</b> Systems Justice Interpretation</p> <p><b>Lines of Inquiry:</b> Characteristics of needs and wants</p> <p>Income for services</p> <p>Economic systems</p> <p>-6-</p>	<p><b>Central Idea:</b> Human interactions affect our environment.</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> Causation Change Reflection</p> <p><b>Related Concepts:</b> Consequences Interdependence Rights</p> <p><b>Lines of Inquiry:</b> Basic needs of living things</p> <p>Positive and negative effects of human interactions on the environment</p> <p>How living things adapt to survive in their environment</p> <p>-5-</p>

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<b>3</b>	<p><b>Central Idea:</b> Beliefs and values often reflect cultures.</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> Connection Perspective Change</p> <p><b>Related Concepts:</b> Relationships Beliefs Adaptations</p> <p><b>Lines of Inquiry:</b> Roles beliefs and values play in a community  How beliefs and values shape our lives  How cultural celebrations reflect beliefs and values</p> <p>- 1 -</p>	<p><b>Central Idea:</b> Discoveries potentially provoke change.</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> Change Responsibility Causation</p> <p><b>Related Concepts:</b> Impact Innovation Transformation Initiative</p> <p><b>Lines of Inquiry:</b> Changes in inventions over time  Adapting existing inventions to needs of today  Historic figures and how they have provoked change  Scientists and engineers and how they have influenced change</p> <p>- 5 -</p>	<p><b>Central Idea:</b> Humans express themselves and their ideas through art, storytelling and poetry.</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> Causation Change Connection</p> <p><b>Related Concepts:</b> Structure Patterns Interpretation</p> <p><b>Lines of Inquiry:</b> Writers' and artists' influence on self-expression  Distinguishing characteristics of different types of poetry  Inspirations for creative artistic expression  Exploring the richness of language</p> <p>- 3 -</p>	<p><b>Central Idea:</b> Relationships help develop systems.</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> Connection Causation Change</p> <p><b>Related Concepts:</b> Systems Interdependence Properties</p> <p><b>Lines of Inquiry:</b> The role of the sun and its effect on the planets  The planets in comparison to the Earth  How the Earth's position in relation to the Sun affects time and weather  How the Earth's landforms change</p> <p>- 2 -</p>	<p><b>Central Idea:</b> Lifestyles influence business and economy.</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> Connection Function Causation</p> <p><b>Related Concepts:</b> Role Communication Values Network</p> <p><b>Lines of Inquiry:</b> The effect of supply and demand on an economy  How people earn, spend and save money  How a simple business operates</p> <p>- 4 -</p>	<p><b>Central Idea:</b> Interdependency within an ecosystem is necessary for survival.</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> Change Connection Responsibility</p> <p><b>Related Concepts:</b> Adaptations Consequences Interdependence</p> <p><b>Lines of Inquiry:</b> How systems compete for survival  How peoples' use of and interaction with resources impact an environment  How habitats meet the needs of organisms in an ecosystem</p> <p>- 6 -</p>

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<b>4</b>	<p><b>Central Idea:</b> Communities can facilitate a blending of cultures.</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> Connection Change Function</p> <p><b>Related Concepts:</b> Similarities Relationships Differences Behavior</p> <p><b>Lines of Inquiry:</b> How shared ideas and beliefs unify cultures</p> <p>How types of communities differ</p> <p>How diverse community members define/redefine cultures</p> <p>- 1 -</p>	<p><b>Central Idea:</b> Exploration cultivates change.</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> Change Causation Perspective</p> <p><b>Related Concepts:</b> Adaptations Beliefs Consequences</p> <p><b>Lines of Inquiry</b> How explorers affect social and political change</p> <p>How the student can be an explorer</p> <p>How explorations transform perspectives</p> <p>- 2 -</p>	<p><b>Central Idea:</b> Thoughts and feelings ignite action.</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> Form Perspective Reflection</p> <p><b>Related Concepts:</b> Structures Beliefs Interpretation</p> <p><b>Lines of Inquiry:</b> Different purposes of expression</p> <p>Varied forms and techniques of expression</p> <p>How people take action on their thoughts and feelings</p> <p>- 3 -</p>	<p><b>Central Idea:</b> Utilized energy drives forces in society.</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> Change Function Responsibility</p> <p><b>Related Concepts:</b> Systems Patterns Cycles</p> <p><b>Lines of Inquiry:</b> Impact of energy on environment and society</p> <p>How energy changes forms</p> <p>How energy use and/or lack of energy creates responsibility</p> <p>- 4 -</p>	<p><b>Central Idea:</b> Government structures impact the way we live.</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> Function Responsibility Causation</p> <p><b>Related Concepts:</b> Systems Impact Rights</p> <p><b>Lines of Inquiry:</b> Government structures</p> <p>Government symbols</p> <p>Government documents</p> <p>- 5 -</p>	<p><b>Central Idea:</b> Conservation maintains life.</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> Responsibility Function Connection</p> <p><b>Related Concepts:</b> Interdependence Behavior Justice</p> <p><b>Lines of Inquiry:</b> How time and technology affect our responsibility to our planet</p> <p>Challenges to conserve resources</p> <p>How life is impacted by conservation</p> <p>- 6 -</p>

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5	<p><b>Central Idea:</b> People initiate change through their actions.</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> Perspective Causation Change</p> <p><b>Related Concepts:</b> Prejudice Beliefs Impact Transformation</p> <p><b>Lines of Inquiry:</b> Perspectives of notable persons</p> <p>Impact on societies/communities</p> <p>Differences between cultures</p> <p>-4-</p>	<p><b>Central Idea:</b> Patterns of settlement contribute to environmental change.</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> Perspective Change Causation</p> <p><b>Related Concepts:</b> Impact Beliefs Rights Growth</p> <p><b>Lines of Inquiry:</b> Push-pull factors for migration</p> <p>Consequences of migration</p> <p>Change in global dynamics</p> <p>-1-</p>	<p><b>Central Idea:</b> Technological advances affect the perspectives of people's beliefs.</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> Function Reflection Responsibility</p> <p><b>Related Concepts:</b> Role Creativity Responsibility</p> <p><b>Lines of Inquiry:</b> How the abundance of technological information impacts a person's frame of reference</p> <p>Photography and its Influence on people's perspectives</p> <p>How art is influenced by technology</p> <p>-6-</p>	<p><b>Central Idea:</b> Science and technology undergo changes that challenge and benefit society and the environment.</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> Causation Change Connection</p> <p><b>Related Concepts:</b> Sequences Transformation Adaption</p> <p><b>Lines of Inquiry:</b> How science and technology change over time</p> <p>How science and technology changes impact society and environment</p> <p>Human responsibility to society and the environment</p> <p>-3-</p>	<p><b>Central Idea:</b> Revolutions can shape societies.</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> Change Causation Form</p> <p><b>Related Concepts:</b> Beliefs Citizenship Consequences</p> <p><b>Lines of Inquiry:</b> The causal effects of revolutionary documents</p> <p>The understanding of revolutionary events and their significance leading to reorganization of government</p> <p>Function of government documents</p> <p>-2-</p>	<p><b>Central Idea:</b> Humans and other living organisms impact their ecosystems through their use of finite resources.</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> Causation Connection Responsibility</p> <p><b>Related Concepts:</b> Interdependence Consequences</p> <p><b>Lines of Inquiry:</b> How humans interact with other organisms in their ecosystems</p> <p>Human impact on Ecosystems</p> <p>Sustainable patterns of interaction</p> <p>-5-</p>

