

# WDLA'S PROGRAM OF INQUIRY

## 2022-2023

### Unit of Inquiry



#### 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...

- 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 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...

- orientation in place and time;
- personal histories;
- homes and journeys;
- the discoveries, explorations and migrations of humankind;
- the relationship between and the interconnectedness of individuals and civilizations, from local and global perspectives.

#### 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...

- rights and responsibilities in the struggle to share finite resources with other people and other living things;
- communities and the relationships within and between them;
- access to equal opportunities;
- peace and conflict resolution.

### PRE-K

1

**Central Idea:** Showing respect and responsibility to others and yourself creates relationships.  
**Key Concepts & Lines of Inquiry:** Causation: Causes & effects of our choices  
Change: Changes in life  
Responsibility: Responsibilities as a community member  
**Related Concepts:** Interaction, choices, beliefs  
**Learner Profile Attributes:** open-minded, thinker, knowledgeable

2

**Central Idea:** Our body systems work together to keep us healthy.  
**Key Concepts & Lines of Inquiry:** Function: How the body works  
Change: Needs and changes in our body  
Form: The senses  
**Related Concepts:** systems, form, growth  
**Learner Profile Attributes:** communicator, risk-taker, knowledgeable

3

**Central Idea:** There are many ways to tell a story.  
**Key Concepts & Lines of Inquiry:** Form: Story elements  
Change: Different ways to tell a story  
Perspective: Interpretations of stories  
**Related Concepts:** communication, conflict  
**Learner Profile Attributes:** Risk-taker, Open-minded, Knowledgeable

(PK focuses on 4 Units of Inquiry during the school year)

4

**Central Idea:** Everyone needs a shelter for health and safety.  
**Lines of Inquiry & Key Concepts:** Form: different kind of structures  
Function: Why do we have a house  
Responsibility: Shared responsibility for maintenance and safety  
**Related Concepts:** resources, diversity, community, patterns  
**Learner Profile Attributes:** open-minded, communicators, reflective

### KINDERGARTEN

1

**Central Idea:** Human relationships shape traditions and celebrations. (Human connection creates commonality)  
**Key Concepts & Lines of Inquiry:** Connection: Cultural connections  
Change: Adopting or adapting to new traditions  
Form: Cultural celebrations  
**Related Concepts:** Concepts: celebration, exploration, community  
**Learner Profile Attributes:** open-minded, caring

4

**Central Idea:** Interdependence shapes systems  
**Key Concepts & Lines of Inquiry:** Change: The effect of weather on people's lives  
Connection: The basic needs of organisms  
Function: Characteristics & geographic location/climate  
**Related Concepts:** patterns, cycles, organism  
**Learner Profile Attributes:** open-minded, principled

2

**Central Idea:** Humans embrace different art forms.  
**Key Concepts & Lines of Inquiry:** Form: Visual art mediums  
Perspective: The subjectivity of art  
Causation: Self-expression in Art  
**Related Concepts:** pattern, space, culture  
**Learner Profile Attributes:** risk-taker, open-minded, communicators

(Kinder focuses on 4 Units of Inquiry during the school year)

### 1st

2

**Central Idea:** People throughout the world share the same basic needs.  
**Key Concepts & Lines of Inquiry:** Function: Needs and wants of living beings  
Reflection: Similarities and differences between needs and wants  
Responsibility: The importance of being charitable towards others  
**Related Concepts:** choice, cycle, needs/wants  
**Learner Profile Attributes:** balanced, inquirer, caring

6

**Central Idea:** Technology impacts society.  
**Key Concepts & Lines of Inquiry:** Function: Purpose of technology  
Form: A look at current, past, and future technology  
Change: How technology affects our lives and the environment  
**Related Concepts:** innovation, discovery, artifacts  
**Learner Profile Attributes:** inquirers, knowledgeable, balanced

1

**Central Idea:** People express themselves in a variety of forms.  
**Key Concepts & Lines of Inquiry:** Form: Expression through physical movement  
Perspective: Expression through art  
Causation: Expression through protest  
**Related Concepts:** movement, communication, progress  
**Learner Profile Attributes:** reflective, open-minded, principled

4

**Central Idea:** Cultural perspectives shape modern civilizations.  
**Key Concepts & Lines of Inquiry:** Form: The interconnectedness of individuals and civilizations  
Perspective: The local and global cultural perspectives that influence countries  
Connection: Connections in the literature of different cultures  
**Related Concepts:** community, location, system  
**Learner Profile Attributes:** open-minded, thinkers, communicators

3

**Central Idea:** Roles and responsibilities exist in a community.  
**Key Concepts & Lines of Inquiry:** Function: Roles and Responsibilities of individuals in a community  
Connection: Goods and services provided in a community  
Change: The economic impact of goods and services  
**Related Concepts:** interaction, opportunity, dependence  
**Learner Profile Attributes:** knowledgeable, risk-takers, communicators

5

**Central Idea:** Our personal choices change the environment.  
**Lines of Inquiry & Key Concepts:** Causation: Waste and misuse of natural resources  
Responsibility: A individual's responsibility to reduce, reuse, and recycle  
Reflection: The global and local perspective of conservation  
**Related Concepts:** environment, cycle, transformation  
**Learner Profile Attributes:** principled, caring, reflective

### 2nd

6

**Central Idea:** What we eat affects our bodies and is a reflection of different cultures.  
**Key Concepts & Lines of Inquiry:** Reflection: Healthy/unhealthy foods  
Causation: The ways that food affects us  
Responsibility: Eating habits  
**Related Concepts:** choice, balance, consequences  
**Learner Profile Attributes:** balanced, inquirer, knowledgeable

5

**Central Idea:** Weather and atmosphere shape interdependence of humans and the environment.  
**Key Concepts & Lines of Inquiry:** Form: Types of weather  
Causation: Effects of weather  
Change: How humans adapt to weather  
**Related Concepts:** cycle, adaptation, transformation  
**Learner Profile Attributes:** thinkers, knowledgeable, balanced

3

**Central Idea:** People construct meaning and perspective through reading and writing.  
**Key Concepts & Lines of Inquiry:** Reflection: Different ways of sharing stories  
Perspective: Folklore expressed all over the world  
Function: How stories reflect our culture  
**Related Concepts:** perception, self-expression, culture  
**Learner Profile Attributes:** reflective, thinker, communicator

4

**Central Idea:** Location determines human activity and settlements.  
**Key Concepts & Lines of Inquiry:** Causation: How geography shapes recreational activity  
Connection: How the basic needs of life are met in various geographical locations  
Form: Identify, locate and differentiate elements of the Earth's surface  
**Related Concepts:** impact, interdependence, networks  
**Learner Profile Attributes:** open-minded, reflective, thinkers

1

**Central Idea:** An individual's thoughts, beliefs and actions contribute to societal norms.  
**Key Concepts & Lines of Inquiry:** Change: People's actions  
Perspective: Ways people view change  
Reflection: How our actions affect our world  
**Related Concepts:** participation, environment, ethics  
**Learner Profile Attributes:** principled, risk-takers, caring

2

**Central Idea:** People share water resources globally.  
**Key Concepts & Lines of Inquiry:** Function: Functions of water  
Responsibility: Conservation of water  
Reflection: The effects of water shortage  
**Related Concepts:** resources, waste, lifestyle  
**Learner Profile Attributes:** reflective, caring, thinkers

### 3rd

1

**Central Idea:** Understanding and acting upon your rights and responsibilities as a citizen of the world creates an organized society.  
**Key Concepts & Lines of Inquiry:** Causation: Impact of action on society  
Perspective: assimilation or non-adaptation into the majority culture  
Responsibility: Responsibilities as a citizen  
**Related Concepts:** citizenship, rights, society  
**Learner Profile Attributes:** principled, caring, reflective

6

**Central Idea:** Natural and manmade disasters affect nature & communities.  
**Key Concepts & Lines of Inquiry:** Change: Effects of natural/man-made disasters  
Reflection: Viable solutions  
Function: Kinds of disasters  
**Related Concepts:** Natural disaster, Community, Physical environment  
**Learner Profile Attributes:** inquirers, communicator, caring

2

**Central Idea:** Different cultures express their customs and traditions through art.  
**Key Concepts & Lines of Inquiry:** Form: The elements and principles of art  
Perspective: Similarities and differences among artistic expressions around the world  
Connection: The use of natural resources as art supplies  
**Related Concepts:** tradition, culture, natural resources  
**Learner Profile Attributes:** knowledgeable, caring, open-minded

4

**Central Idea:** Location determines human activity and settlements.  
**Key Concepts & Lines of Inquiry:** Causation: How geography shapes recreational activity  
Connection: How the basic needs of life are met in various geographical locations  
Form: Identify, locate and differentiate elements of the Earth's surface  
**Related Concepts:** impact, interdependence, networks  
**Learner Profile Attributes:** open-minded, reflective, thinkers

1

**Central Idea:** An individual's thoughts, beliefs and actions contribute to societal norms.  
**Key Concepts & Lines of Inquiry:** Change: People's actions  
Perspective: Ways people view change  
Reflection: How our actions affect our world  
**Related Concepts:** participation, environment, ethics  
**Learner Profile Attributes:** principled, risk-takers, caring

2

**Central Idea:** People share water resources globally.  
**Key Concepts & Lines of Inquiry:** Function: Functions of water  
Responsibility: Conservation of water  
Reflection: The effects of water shortage  
**Related Concepts:** resources, waste, lifestyle  
**Learner Profile Attributes:** reflective, caring, thinkers

### 4th

6

**Central Idea:** Rights and responsibilities define our beliefs and values.  
**Key concepts & Lines of inquiry:** Form: Process  
Function: Rights  
Responsibility: Action  
**Related Concepts:** systems, balance, interdependence  
**Learner Profile Attributes:** principled, knowledgeable, open-minded

3

**Central Idea:** The evolution of tools transforms our civilization.  
**Key Concepts & Lines of Inquiry:** Causation: Causes of the evolution of tools  
Change: Changes in civilization  
Perspective: Interpretations and perceptions  
**Related Concepts:** organization, adaptation, discovery, innovation  
**Learner Profile Attributes:** risk-taker, balanced, reflective

1

**Central Idea:** People reflect their knowledge through communication.  
**Key Concepts & Lines of Inquiry:** Form: Different forms of writing  
Change: The evolution of communication  
Connection: The different ways that humans communicate knowledge  
**Related Concepts:** values, beliefs, exchange, discovery  
**Learner Profile Attributes:** communicators, risk-taker, open-minded

2

**Central Idea:** People define themselves as a result of their experiences.  
**Key Concepts & Lines of Inquiry:** Causation: Choices  
Perspective: Time  
Reflection: Experiences  
**Related Concepts:** uniqueness, commonality, characteristics  
**Learner Profile Attributes:** inquirers, communicators, reflective

5

**Central Idea:** People adapt to their environment due to their employment.  
**Key Concepts & Lines of Inquiry:** Causation: Economy  
Function: Humankind adaptation  
Reflection: Risk/ Stability  
**Related Concepts:** labor, choice, competition  
**Learner Profile Attributes:** thinker, inquirer, caring

4

**Central Idea:** Interaction between community members can promote positive changes in our planet.  
**Key Concepts & Lines of Inquiry:** Causation: Economy  
Function: Humankind adaptation  
Reflection: Risk/ Stability  
**Related Concepts:** labor, choice, competition  
**Learner Profile Attributes:** thinker, inquirer, caring

### 5th Grade

2

**Central Idea:** Songs can be a reflection of a society's culture and beliefs.  
**Key Concepts & Lines of Inquiry:** Function: How certain cultures and beliefs help a society function  
Connection: Help us understand each other's culture  
Perspective: Learning about a society's culture and beliefs through different points of views  
**Related Concepts:** society, beliefs, culture  
**Learner Profile Attributes:** thinkers, communicators, inquirers

4

**Central Idea:** Cycles have common characteristics which can be seen in everyday life.  
**Key Concepts & Lines of Inquiry:** Function: Does everything have cycle?  
Causation: Why do we create a cycle?  
Connection: What is the impact of a cycle?  
**Related Concepts:** cycle, pattern, organism  
**Learner Profile Attributes:** knowledgeable, communicators, reflective

6

**Central Idea:** Our need to act on our beliefs and ideas drives us to develop effective ways to communicate.  
**Exhibition:** Student groups develop lines of inquiry aligned with the key concepts. All of the elements of the PYP are explored during the exhibition, including the Learner Profile attributes, the six transdisciplinary themes, IB PYP attitudes and Approaches to Learning.

3

**Central Idea:** Conflict and compromise affect human relationships.  
**Key Concepts & Lines of Inquiry:** Function: How certain cultures and beliefs help a society function?  
Connection: Help us understand each other's culture  
Perspective: Learning about a society culture and beliefs through different points of views.  
**Related Concepts:** conflict, organization, relationships  
**Learner Profile Attributes:** inquirers, communicators, reflective

5

**Central Idea:** Structure determines systems.  
**Key concepts & Lines of Inquiry:** Form: Different forms of systems  
Function: The structure/function of each system  
Change: Evolutions of systems  
**Related Concepts:** Government: power, laws/rules  
**Learner Profile Attributes:** thinker, inquirer, caring

1

**Central Idea:** Living things from one place or culture can have a major effect on other places or cultures.  
**Key Concepts & Lines of Inquiry:** Connection: Introduction of non-native people to areas other than where they were born.  
Function: Different reasons for immigrating  
**Related Concepts:** habitat, interdependence, adaptation  
**Learner Profile Attributes:** Communicators, Knowledgeable, Reflective, Risk-Takers