



AURORA INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

Program of Inquiry 2023-24

Transdisciplinary Themes



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 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.

Toddler

All About Me!
Central Idea: Each day I learn about myself
Key Concepts: form, connection, function
Learner attributes: communicator, risk-taker
ATLs: self-management, social
Lines of inquiry:
o My body parts (form)
o My family members (connection)
o Things I can do (function)
Specialist integration: Music, PSPE

Me, My Friends, My Family
Central Idea: I am the same and I am different from my friends and family
Key concepts: form, responsibility, perspective
Related concepts: family, friendship
Learner attributes: balanced, open-minded
ATLs: self-management, social skills
Lines of inquiry:
o My likes, dislikes and emotions (form)
o What makes me the same and different from others (perspective)
o How I should act with my friends and family (responsibility)
Specialist integration: Mother Language (ML), PSPE, Maths

Feelings
Central Idea: People show their feelings in different ways
Key concepts: causation, form, perspective
Related concepts: feelings, expression
Learner attributes: caring, risk-taker
ATLs: communication, self-management
Lines of inquiry:
o Different feelings (form)
o What causes us to feel in different ways (causation)
o Different ways of expressing our feelings and communicating feelings (perspective)
Specialist integration: ML, Music, PSPE

Air and Water
Central Idea: We use air and water in many different ways
Key concepts: function, change, form
Related concepts: properties
Learner attributes: knowledgeable, thinker
ATLs: thinking, research
Lines of inquiry:
o What air and water are like (form)
o How water changes states (change)
o What water and air can do and how we use them (function)
Specialist integration: Maths, ML

Communities and Community Helpers
Central Idea: People play different roles in their communities
Key Concepts: function, causation, connection
Related Concepts: community, rules
Learner Attributes: communicator, reflective
ATLs: communication, social
Lines of inquiry:
o Why we live in communities (function)
o How community members help us (connection)
o Why communities have rules (causation)
Specialist integration: ML

Animals and Us
Central Idea: Animals and people depend on each other
Key Concepts: connection, function, responsibility
Learner Attributes: inquirer, principled
ATLs: research, thinking
Lines of inquiry:
o The different roles animals play in people's lives (function)
o What animals need to live (connection)
o Why and how we should take care of animals (responsibility)
Specialist integration: ML, Maths, Music

Preschool

Keeping Our Bodies Healthy
Central idea: It is important to help our bodies function well
Key concepts: form, function, change
Related concepts: growth, health, needs
Learner attributes: risk-taker, balanced
ATLs: research, thinking
Lines of inquiry:
o What the human body is like (form)
o How we use our body (function)
o How we grow and what we need to grow (change)
o Ways to stay healthy (function)
Specialist integration: ML, PSPE, Maths, Music

Our Culture
Central idea: Knowing about our culture helps us to be better citizens
Key concepts: form, perspective, responsibility
Related concepts: national days, symbols, citizenship, history
Learner attributes: communicator, knowledgeable, principled
ATLs: communication, social
Lines of inquiry:
o Where we live and what it is like (form)
o What features make up our culture (form)
o How different families celebrate their culture, including my own (perspective)
o How to be a good citizen of our country (responsibility)
Specialist integration: ML, Music, Maths, PSPE

The Stories We Tell
Central Idea: We express our thoughts and ideas in many different ways
Key Concepts: perspective, form
Related concepts: self-expression
Learner attributes: communicator, open-minded
ATLs: communication, self-management
Lines of inquiry:
o What stories are like (form)
o Different versions of favorite stories (perspective)
o Taking on different roles within the same story (perspective)
Specialist integration: ML, Music

Earth's Natural Cycles
Central Idea: The Earth's natural cycles influence the activity of living things
Key concepts: causation, change, connection
Related concepts: cycles
Learner Attributes: thinker, communicator
ATLs: self-management, Thinking
Lines of inquiry:
o Earth's natural cycles, which include night and day and the seasons (perspective)
o How people are affected by Earth's natural cycles (causation)
o How animals and plants respond to Earth's natural cycles (connection)
Specialist integration: ML, Maths

Rules and Routines
Central idea: Rules and routines are important for us to learn and thrive in school and at home
Key concepts: responsibility, function, causation
Related concepts: consequences, community
Learner attributes: reflective, principled
ATLs: self-management, communication
Lines of inquiry:
o Purpose of rules and routines (function)
o How rules and routines make daily life and work easier (causation)
o Ways we should organize ourselves in the class and at home (responsibility)
Specialist integration: ML, PSPE

Plants Rule!
Central Idea: Plants play an important role in our world
Key concepts: form, connection, responsibility
Related concepts: interdependence, structure
Learner attributes: inquirer, caring
ATLs: research, Social
Lines of inquiry:
o The structure of a plant (form)
o Types of plants and their characteristics (form)
o How plants provide for living things (connection)
o Why we should look after plants (responsibility)
Specialist integration: Maths

Pre-K

Friends and Family
Central idea: Our relationships with each other affect how we feel
Key concepts: connection, responsibility, perspective
Related concepts: Friendship, conflict, behavior choice
Learner attributes: reflective, principled, caring
ATLs: social, self-management
Lines of inquiry:
o How we develop relationships (connection)
o How relationships affect us (connection)
o Our roles and behaviors within relationships (responsibility)
o Resolving conflicts (perspective)
Specialist integration: ML, Music, PSPE

My Country is Important to Me
Central idea: Learning about our country helps us to understand ourselves and the world around us
Key concepts: form, connection, perspective
Related concepts: national days, symbols, citizenship, history
Learner attributes: communicator, knowledgeable, balanced
ATLs: communication, self-management
Lines of inquiry:
o Where our country is located and what it is like (form)
o How my country is different from other places (perspective)
o Key events in history that are important to all citizens of my country (connection)
Specialist integration: ML, Music, Maths

Let's Celebrate!
Central idea: Celebrations express the beliefs and values of a culture
Key concepts: form, causation, responsibility, connection
Related concepts: beliefs, values, culture
Learner attributes: open-minded, caring, knowledgeable
ATLs: social, research
Lines of inquiry:
o Features of different types of celebrations (form)
o Why people participate in celebrations (causation)
o How we can show respect to different celebrations and cultures (responsibility)
o How celebrations are related to cultural beliefs and values (connection)
Specialist integration: ML, Music

Material World
Central idea: Understanding the properties of materials help us to decide how to use them
Key concepts: form, function, change
Learner attributes: matter, changes of states, properties of materials, uses of materials
ATLs: thinking, research
Lines of inquiry:
o Different types of materials (form)
o The properties of different materials (form)
o How materials can change (change)
o Uses of materials based on their properties (function)
Specialist integration: Maths

Let's Measure It!
Central idea: People create systems of measurement to meet their needs in daily life
Key concepts: form, function, causation
Related concepts: needs, measurement, systems
Learner attributes: thinker, risk-taker
ATLs: thinking, communication
Lines of inquiry:
o Systems of measurement (form)
o How different tools of measurement work (function)
o How measurement helps us to make decisions (causation)
Specialist integration: Maths, Mother Language

It's Alive!
Central idea: Living things have requirements in order to survive and grow
Key concepts: form, change, perspective, responsibility
Related concepts: growth, survival, needs
Learner attributes: balanced, thinker
ATLs: communication, social
Lines of inquiry:
o The different types of living things and their classification (form)
o How living things grow and what they need to grow (change)
o How living things survive in different environments (perspective)
Specialist integration: ML, Maths

Kindergarten

Homes
Central idea: Homes reflect personal identity, local geography and culture
Key concepts: form, connection, responsibility
Related concepts: identity, culture, similarities and differences
Learner attributes: open-minded, inquirer
ATLs: communication, research
Lines of inquiry:
o What makes a home (form)
o Why people choose to live where they live (connection)
o Homes around the world and why they are different (connection)
o Helping people who do not have shelter (responsibility)
Specialist integration: Maths, ML

Maps
Central idea: Maps help us to understand our place in the world in relation to others
Key concepts: form, function, connection
Related concepts: location, orientation
Learner attributes: thinker, inquirer, communicator
ATLs: social, thinking
Lines of inquiry:
o How we can use maps to see what places around the world are like (form)
o How different kinds of maps give us different kinds of information about places (function)
o The relationship of our location to other parts of the world (connection)
Specialist integration: Maths, Music, ML

Our Stories, Their Stories
Central idea: Stories from different cultures have similar elements
Key concepts: function, perspective, change
Related concepts: structure, expression, culture
Learner attributes: reflective, inventor, innovator
ATLs: thinking, communication
Lines of inquiry:
o Why we tell stories (function)
o How similar stories are told in different cultures (perspective)
o How stories and storytelling methods change over time (change)
o How you write a story (function)
Specialist integration: ML, Music

Simple Machines
Central idea: Humans use simple machines for various purposes
Key concepts: form, function, causation
Related concepts: force, motion
Learner attributes: inquirer, risk-taker
ATLs: thinking, social
Lines of inquiry:
o What are forces and motion (form)
o What are simple machines (form)
o How the six simple machines work (causation)
o The uses of the six simple machines (function)
Specialist integration: Maths

Where Do Our Things Come From?
Central idea: Many products go through a process of change before being used
Key concepts: change, connection, perspective
Related concepts: source, process, consumer choice
Learner attributes: knowledgeable, principled
ATLs: social, self-management
Lines of inquiry:
o Changes products go through (change)
o Distribution of products around the world (connection)
o How people select the products they use (perspective)
Specialist integration: ML

Earth's Resources
Central idea: People can help to sustain and maintain the Earth's resources
Key concepts: causation, responsibility, function
Related concepts: waste, conservation, pollution
Learner attributes: caring, balanced, communicator
ATLs: research, self-management
Lines of inquiry:
o How humans use natural resources (function)
o How our use of natural resources impacts the environment (causation)
o Personal choices that can help sustain and maintain the Earth's resources (responsibility)
Specialist integration: ML, Music

Class I

Balanced Choices
Central idea: Making balanced choices helps to develop a healthy lifestyle
Key concepts: function, causation, connection
Related concepts: consequences, decision-making
Learner attributes: reflective, knowledgeable
ATLs: thinking, self-management
Lines of inquiry:
o How our bodies work and what they need to stay healthy (function)
o Making balanced choices and the effects of our choices (causation)
o Daily habits and routines (function)
o Healthy minds and healthy bodies (connection)
Specialist integration: ML, PSPE, Maths

Ancient Civilizations
Central idea: Ancient civilizations have impacted the world we live in today
Key concepts: form, connection, perspective
Related concepts: progress, discovery, invention
Learner attributes: open-minded, communicator, knowledgeable
ATLs: social, research
Lines of inquiry:
o Different ancient civilizations and their characteristics (form)
o Comparing civilizations and their achievements (perspective)
o The legacy of ancient civilizations and their impact on the present (connection)
Specialist integration: Maths

Art in Culture and Society
Central idea: People use the arts to express themselves, and to share experiences and perspectives
Key concepts: function, perspective, connection
Related concepts: perception, self-expression
Learner attributes: open-minded, risk-taker
ATLs: communication, self-management
Lines of inquiry:
o The diverse ways in which people express themselves (connection)
o The points of view and perspectives of other people (perspective)
o How we can explore nature through the arts (function)
o The role of art in culture and society (function)
Specialist integration: ML, Music

Earth's Changing Nature
Central idea: The changing structure of the Earth has an impact on how people live their lives
Key form, causation, change
Related concepts: movement, structure
Learner attributes: thinker, inquirer
ATLs: social, communication
Lines of inquiry:
o The Earth's structure (form)
o How the Earth's surface has changed and continues to change (change)
o Why the Earth's surface changes (causation)
o How people's lives are impacted by Earth's changes (causation)
Specialist integration: Maths

Trade and Money
Central idea: Trade and money impact our lives
Key concepts: responsibility, connection, perspective
Related concepts: interdependence
Learner attributes: reflective, principled, thinker
ATLs: social, communication
Lines of inquiry:
o Why people trade goods and services (perspective)
o Factors that influence our consumer choice (responsibility)
o How money impacts people's lives (connection)
Specialist integration: Maths

Weather and Climate
Central idea: Communities respond to weather and climate in different ways
Key concepts: causation, responsibility, change
Related concepts: impact
Learner attributes: balanced, caring
ATLs: research, communication
Lines of inquiry:
o The impact of weather and climate on human activity (causation)
o The impacts of extreme weather events (causation)
o How the Earth's climate is changing (change)
o How communities around the world respond differently to weather and climate (responsibility)
Specialist integration: ML, Music, Maths

Class II

Beliefs and Values
Central idea: Our values and beliefs are a part of who we are
Key Concepts: perspective, form, function
Related Concepts: diversity, identity
Learner attributes: open-minded, balanced
ATLs: thinking, social
Lines of inquiry:
o What beliefs and values are (form)
o Different belief systems and their characteristics (form)
o Similarities and differences within and between belief systems (perspective)
o How beliefs and values influence the way we behave (function)
Specialist integration: ML, Music

Winds of Change
Central idea: Civilizations evolve over time due to forced and natural changes
Key concepts: form, change, causation, perspective
Related concepts: civilizations, empires, conflict
Learner attributes: knowledgeable, risk-taker
ATLs: communication, research
Lines of inquiry:
o Medieval civilizations and empires around the world and their main characteristics (form)
o How medieval empires evolved over time (change)
o How conflict lead to changes in empires and societies (causation)
o How interpretation of historical events (perspective)
Specialist integration: Music, Maths

Imagine That!
Central Idea: Imagination is a tool we can use to think, create, and express ourselves
Key Concepts: connection, function, responsibility
Related concepts: creativity, invention, innovation
Learner attributes: reflective, thinker
ATLs: thinking, social
Lines of inquiry:
o How we can use our imagination to create new things or solve problems (connection)
o How imagination helps us to see things from different points of view (perspective)
o How innovation and imagination work together (function)
Specialist integration: ML, Music

Adapt to Survive
Central idea: Living things adapt to their natural environment to survive and thrive
Key concepts: form, change, responsibility
Related concepts: adaptation, classification, life cycles
Learner attributes: inquirer, caring
ATLs: communication, research
Lines of inquiry:
o How we classify animals and plants (form)
o How different plants and animals adapt to environmental conditions (connection)
o Why we need to help plants and animals survive and thrive (responsibility)
Specialist integration: Maths, PSPE

Meeting our Needs
Central idea: Communities meet their needs through interconnected and globalized services
Key concepts: function, connection, causation
Related concepts: systems, sustainability
Learner attributes: reflective, communicator, inquirer
ATLs: communication, self-management
Lines of inquiry:
o Services that are needed to support a community (connection)
o Agricultural systems and services (function)
o Retail systems and their role in communities (function)
o How the quality of services can impact the people living in a community (causation)
Specialist integration: Maths, PSPE

Peace on Earth
Central idea: Finding solutions to conflict leads to a better quality of life
Key concepts: causation, responsibility, perspective
Related concepts: conflict, resolution, peace
Learner attributes: open-minded, principled, risk-taker
ATLs: social, self-management
Lines of inquiry:
o Causes and effects of conflict (causation)
o Conflict resolution and management (perspective)
o Famous peacemakers (responsibility)
o How conflict and inequality are interconnected (causation)
Specialist integration: Music, ML, PSPE

Class III

Our Rights and Responsibilities
Central idea: People's access to their rights varies worldwide
Key concepts: responsibility, connection, form
Related concepts: rights, roles, values
Learner attributes: reflective, risk-taker
ATLs: social, self-management
Lines of inquiry:
o The definition of human rights (form)
o How people's access to rights vary around the world (connection)
o The relationship between rights and responsibilities (responsibility)
o Organizations that work to protect children (connection)
Specialist integration: ML, Music

People on the Move
Central idea: Human migration is a response to challenges, risks and opportunities
Key concepts: causation, change, perspective
Related concepts: population, settlement
Learner attributes: inquirer, communicator, caring
ATLs: thinking, communication
Lines of inquiry:
o The reasons why people migrate (causation)
o Personal histories, effects of migration on communities, cultures and individuals (perspective)
o The impact of migration on settlement patterns and population structures (causation)
o How societies change as people move around (change)
Specialist integration: Maths

Don't Tell Me What to Think!
Central idea: People use a variety of art and media to inform, provoke and persuade others
Key concepts: causation, perspective, responsibility
Related concepts: advertising, interpretation, social action
Learner attributes: open-minded, principled
ATLs: self-management, social
Lines of inquiry:
o How art and media can have a purpose or message (causation)
o How media and advertising can persuade or influence the audience (perspective)
o How and why artists take action through art (responsibility)
Specialist integration: ML, PSPE

Material Transformation
Central idea: Materials undergo changes that may pose challenges and provide benefits for people and the environment
Key concepts: change, function, responsibility
Related concepts: pollution, transformation
Learner attributes: caring, thinker, reflective
ATLs: thinking, research
Lines of inquiry:
o Nature of chemical and physical changes (change)
o Practical applications of change in materials (function)
o Ethical dilemmas associated with manufacturing processes and byproducts (responsibility)
Specialist integration: Maths

Borders
Central Idea: People draw borders to help us organize our communities
Key concepts: form, change, perspective
Related concepts: nations, citizenship
Learner attributes: balanced, principled
ATLs: self-management, communication
Lines of inquiry:
o Different international and national borders: countries, states, districts (form)
o How and why boundaries are made (perspective)
o How and why borders change (change)
Specialist integration: Maths, Music, ML

We All Need Each Other
Central idea: Biodiversity relies on maintaining the interdependent balance of organisms within systems
Key concepts: responsibility, function, connection
Related concepts: balance, interdependence
Learner attributes: knowledgeable, reflective
ATLs: communication, research
Line of inquiry:
o Interdependence within ecosystems, biomes and environments (connection)
o The importance of biodiversity (function)
o How and why ecosystems maintain balance (function)
o How human interaction with the environment can affect the balance of the system (responsibility)
Specialist integration: Music, Maths

Class IV

The Amazing Human Body
Central idea: Our bodies are made up of complex systems which are interdependent
Key concepts: connection, function, responsibility
Related concepts: health, systems, interdependence
Learner attributes: knowledgeable, inquirer
ATLs: social, self-management
Lines of inquiry:
o Different body systems and how they work (function)
o How the body systems are interconnected (connection)
o How our choices affect our bodies and body systems (responsibility)
Specialist integration: ML, PSPE

Windows on the Past
Central idea: People are connected to the history of their community
Key concepts: causation, form, connection
Related concepts: identity, empire
Learner attributes: knowledgeable, thinker, reflective
ATLs: research, social
Lines of inquiry:
o What South Asia was like in the past (form)
o How major historical events impacted society in South Asia (causation)
o How South Asian society and culture are influenced by history (connection)
Specialist integration: ML, Music

Skin Deep
Central idea: People's outward appearance can lead to misconceptions and assumptions
Key concepts: perspective, responsibility, change
Related concepts: diversity, prejudice, discrimination
Learner attributes: reflective, open-minded, balanced
ATLs: thinking, self-management
Lines of inquiry:
o Personal adornments, clothing and identity (perspective)
o Impact of first impressions (perspective)
o How appearance and identity can change over time (change)
o Ways we can overcome prejudice and discrimination (responsibility)
Specialist integration: ML, PSPE, Music

Energy All Around Us
Central idea: The transformation and use of energy impacts the world
Key concepts: function, change, causation, perspective
Related concepts: energy, electricity, transformation
Learner attributes: risk-taker, balanced, open-minded
ATLs: research, communication
Lines of inquiry:
o How different forms of energy behave (function)
o Transformation of energy (change)
o Consequences of energy production and use (causation)
o The debate over the use of nonrenewable energy (perspective)
Specialist integration: Maths

Our Government, Our Rights
Central idea: Government systems influence the lives of all citizens
Key concepts: form, function, responsibility, causation
Related concepts: citizenship, rights, responsibilities, equality, law
Learner attributes: caring, principled, open-minded
ATLs: thinking, research
Lines of inquiry:
o Types of government systems (form)
o How different government systems work (function)
o Responsibilities of governments and citizens (responsibility)
o The impact of government types on human rights and social justice (causation)
Specialist integration: ML

PYP EXHIBITION
Student will be able to: develop a central idea and lines of inquiry and develop a project to research and present about their findings

Class V

Beliefs and Values
Central idea: Our values and beliefs are a part of who we are
Key Concepts: perspective, form, function
Related Concepts: diversity, identity
Learner attributes: open-minded, balanced
ATLs: thinking, social
Lines of inquiry:
o What beliefs and values are (form)
o Different belief systems and their characteristics (form)
o Similarities and differences within and between belief systems (perspective)
o How beliefs and values influence the way we behave (function)
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Lines of inquiry:
o Medieval civilizations and empires around the world and their main characteristics (form)
o How medieval empires evolved over time (change)
o How conflict lead to changes in empires and societies (causation)
o How interpretation of historical events (perspective)
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Central Idea: Imagination is a tool we can use to think, create, and express ourselves
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o How we can use our imagination to create new things or solve problems (connection)
o How imagination helps us to see things from different points of view (perspective)
o How innovation and imagination work together (function)
Specialist integration: ML, Music

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Central idea: Living things adapt to their natural environment to survive and thrive
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Related concepts: adaptation, classification, life cycles
Learner attributes: inquirer, caring
ATLs: communication, research
Lines of inquiry:
o How we classify animals and plants (form)
o How different plants and animals adapt to environmental conditions (connection)
o Why we need to help plants and animals survive and thrive (responsibility)
Specialist integration: Maths, PSPE

Meeting our Needs
Central idea: Communities meet their needs through interconnected and globalized services
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o Retail systems and their role in communities (function)
o How the quality of services can impact the people living in a community (causation)
Specialist integration: Maths, PSPE

Peace on Earth
Central idea: Finding solutions to conflict leads to a better quality of life
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Related concepts: conflict, resolution, peace
Learner attributes: open-minded, principled, risk-taker
ATLs: social, self-management
Lines of inquiry:
o Causes and effects of conflict (causation)
o Conflict resolution and management (perspective)
o Famous peacemakers (responsibility)
o How conflict and inequality are interconnected (causation)
Specialist integration: Music, ML, PSPE