

# Program of Inquiry 2008-09

Grade	An inquiry into Who we are	An inquiry into Where we are in time and place	An inquiry into How we express ourselves	An inquiry into How the world works	An inquiry into How we organise ourselves	An inquiry into Sharing the Planet
	An exploration of the nature of the self; of our beliefs and values; of personal, physical, mental, social and spiritual health; of our families, friends, communities and cultures; of our rights and responsibilities; of what it means to be human.	An exploration of our orientation in place and time; of our personal histories; of history and geography from local and global perspectives; of our homes and journeys; of the discoveries, explorations and migrations of humankind; of the contributions of individuals and civilisations.	An exploration of the ways in which we discover and express our nature, ideas, feelings, beliefs and values through language and the arts.	An exploration of the physical and material world; of natural and human-made phenomena; of the world of science and technology.	An exploration of human systems and communities; of the world of work, its nature and its value; of employment and unemployment and their impact.	An exploration of our rights and responsibilities as we try to share finite resources with other people, with other living things; of communities and of the relationships within and between them.
Jr. KG	<u>Families and Friends</u> <u>Central Idea:</u> People need family and friends <u>Inquiry into:</u> How friends are made and kept? Why family and friends are needed? Characteristics that develop healthy relationship.		<u>Everyone has a story to tell.</u> <u>Central Idea:</u> Stories inform us and provoke us; they give us pleasure and help our imagination grow <u>Inquiry into:</u> What is a story? What stories convey? How stories are created and shared? Feelings and emotions that story evokes.		<u>Life on the move!</u> <u>Central Idea:</u> People choose different types of vehicles to get from one place to another. <u>Inquiry into:</u> Specific purposes of different transportation system. Factors that affect the kinds of systems that can be developed. Relationship between transportation system and the environment.	<u>Food from the Earth</u> <u>Central Idea:</u> Plants are a life sustaining resource for us, and for other living things. <u>Inquiry into:</u> What plants provide for us and for other living things? The structure of a plant. Caring for plant life.
Sr. KG	<u>Health and Wellbeing</u> <u>Central Idea:</u> Making balanced choices about daily routines enables us to have a healthy lifestyle.  <u>Inquiry into:</u> Balanced choices, Consequences of choices Daily habits and routines.	<u>What was it like when you were young?</u> <u>Central Idea:</u> Some of our experiences are similar to those of people from the older generation. <u>Inquiry into:</u> Family ancestry Artefacts, heirlooms or rituals that have meaning in a family Similarities and differences between generations in a family	<u>Celebrate</u> <u>Central Idea:</u> Families recognize important personal & cultural events through celebration and tradition <u>Inquiry into:</u> What traditions are, how and why people celebrate, Similarities and differences between various celebrations. How environment influences celebrations	<u>Shadows and Reflection</u> <u>Central Idea:</u> Light creates shadows and reflection <u>Inquiry into:</u> Different sources of light Formation of shadows Different shapes and sizes Uses of shadows Others views on shadows		
Class 1	<u>Homes and Habitats</u> <u>Central Idea:</u> People make their homes in different places and personalise it in different ways. <u>Inquiry into:</u> The concept of home Different type of home Circumstances that determine where people live	<u>Public Places</u> <u>Central Idea:</u> Public Places serve the needs of the community. <u>Inquiry into:</u> Define public areas & their function. How public areas develop. How these places differ from our homes.	<u>Just Imagine</u> <u>Central Idea:</u> Imagination is a powerful role tool for extending our ability to think, create and express ourselves. <u>Inquiry into:</u> How we demonstrate & enjoy our imagination. How our imagination helps us to consider other perspectives. How imagination helps us to solve problems.	<u>Where is air?</u> <u>Central Idea:</u> Air supports our lives and its uses are related to its properties. <u>Inquiry into:</u> The evidence of the existence of air. What air can do & how we use it The relationship between air, light and sound.	<u>From Field to Table</u> <u>Central Idea:</u> Many foods need to be transported/ or processed before they reach our tables <u>Inquiry into:</u> The food that we eat and where do they come from What happens to them before they reached us What factors must be considered when transporting different foods	<u>Reduce, Reuse &amp; Recycle</u> <u>Central Idea:</u> Our personal choices can change our environment. <u>Inquiry into:</u> Limited nature of earth's resources. Personal choices that can help sustain their environment. Reusing and recycling different materials. Reducing waste.
Class 2	<u>Give And Take</u> <u>Central Idea:</u> Listening to other peoples perspectives & communicating our own point of view helps us live better. <u>Inquiry into:</u> Social interaction Acknowledging others perspectives. Managing & resolving conflict.	<u>A Sense of Place.</u> <u>Central Idea:</u> All the places on the earth have special features that distinguish them from other places. <u>Inquiry into:</u> How we represent place. Representation of place thru time. The relationship of our location to the parts of the world.	<u>Signs &amp; Symbols</u> <u>Central Idea:</u> A variety of sign & symbol systems were develop to communicate <u>Inquiry into:</u> The diverse ways in which people express themselves How everyone can express their uniqueness thru art. The role of art in culture & society.	<u>Wild about Weather.</u> <u>Central Idea:</u> Weather Changes from day to day & over seasons. <u>Inquiry into:</u> The different weather systems How weather is affected by changes in the atmosphere. How weather systems are predicted and reported.	<u>Workplaces.</u> <u>Central Idea:</u> The workplace is an organization where people share responsibility towards a common purpose. <u>Inquiry into:</u> Purpose of a workplace Interconnectedness of people in a work place. Importance of a shared vision or a common purpose	<u>Habitats</u> <u>Central Idea:</u> The places in which living things are found provides them with what they need to survive. <u>Inquiry into:</u> Concept of adaptation. Circumstances that leads to adaptation. How plants and animals adapt or respond to environmental conditions.
Class 3	<u>Health and well-being</u> <u>Central idea:</u> A balance between factors such as nutrition exercise & recreation contributes to human health. <u>Inquiry into:</u> Behaviour that is beneficial or harmful to our body What it means to have a healthy and balanced lifestyle. How various influences affect our body systems? The way safe practices promote personal well being.	<u>Family histories</u> <u>Central idea:</u> Family histories provide an insight into cultural and personal identity. <u>Inquiry into:</u> Family ancestry Artefacts, heirlooms or rituals that have meaning in a family. Similarities and differences between generations within a family.	<u>Looking into the mirror</u> <u>Central idea:</u> People use many different forms of expression to convey their uniqueness as human beings. <u>Inquiry into:</u> The diverse ways in which artists express themselves How people become artists. How we can express our uniqueness through visual arts, music, drama and dance.	<u>Communities</u> <u>Central idea:</u> Communities provide inter connected services designed to meet people's need <u>Inquiry into :</u> Reasons people live in the local community. Services needed to support a community. Planning services for a community.	<u>Planet earth</u> <u>Central idea:</u> The natural features of the earth have been formed over time and are still changing. <u>Inquiry into:</u> How the different components of the earth are interrelated. How the earth has changed and is continuing to change. Why the earth changes Human responses to the earth's changes.	<u>Finite resources—infinite demands (case study—water)</u> <u>Central idea:</u> Our earth has limited resources that are unevenly distributed. <u>Inquiry into:</u> Sources of water and how water is used. What happens to water after we have used it? Distribution and availability of usable water. Responsibilities regarding water.
Class 4	<u>Human rights and responsibilities</u> <u>Central idea:</u> In an attempt to meet human needs societies have determine human rights and responsibilities. <u>Inquiry into:</u> Who decides what our rights are? How are our rights protected? How can we make sure that all students in our class feel valued and are able to learn according to their needs?	<u>On the move</u> <u>Central idea:</u> Throughout history people have been on the move, with wide ranging effects on themselves and on the indigenous populations. <u>Inquiry into:</u> The reasons why people migrate Migration throughout history Effects of migration on communities, culture and individuals.	<u>Heroes</u> <u>Central idea:</u> Choices of role models reflect the characteristics that societies and individuals values. <u>Inquiry into:</u> Role models and why we value them? Why should we develop our own gifts, talents and interests? How personal strengths can be applied to help others?	<u>Energy for work and play</u> <u>Central idea:</u> Energy exists in different forms and is changed, stored and used in different ways. <u>Inquiry into:</u> Forms of energy. The storage and transformation of energy. Conservation of energy. Renewable and sustainable energy.	<u>Market places</u> <u>Central idea:</u> The ability to produce more goods than needed prompted the exchange of merchandise and the birth of markets. <u>Inquiry into:</u> Medium of exchange in various market places. Ethics of market places How and in what ways we depend on people in other places. How global movements and communication affect the availability of good and services.	<u>Ecosystems</u> <u>Central idea:</u> An ecosystem is a community of organisms interacting with one another and with their environment. <u>Inquiry into:</u> Interdependence within ecosystems, biomes and environments. Ways in which organisms are interconnected in nature How human interaction with the environment can affect the balance of systems.

<p>Class 5</p>	<p><b>Decisions, Decisions</b>  <u>Central idea:</u>  Complex factors contribute to the process of making decisions that have implications for ourselves &amp; other.  <u>Line of inquiry:</u>  Factors that influence our decisions.  Decision-making processes for groups and individuals.  Impact or consequences that decisions can have</p>	<p><b>On the move</b>  <u>Central idea:</u>  Throughout history people have been on the move, with wide ranging effects on themselves and on the indigenous populations.  <u>Inquiry into:</u>  The reasons why people migrate  Migration throughout history  Effects of migration on communities, culture and individuals.</p>	<p><b>I believe</b>  <u>Central idea:</u>  Ritual, traditions and artefacts provide a window into the beliefs and values of cultures.  <u>Inquiry into:</u>  What constitutes a culture?  Significance of rituals and traditions.  How artefacts symbolize beliefs and values.</p>	<p><b>The circle of life</b>  <u>Central idea:</u>  All animals have life cycles characterized by physical change and changing roles.  <u>Inquiry into:</u>  What causes the universal changes that occur during puberty?  What are the significant stages of the human life cycle?  Under what circumstances may the changing roles and responsibilities of the life cycles differ from one person to another of the same age and from one culture to another?  How is human life cycle the same as or different from that of other animals?</p>	<p><b>Governmental systems</b>  <u>Central idea:</u>  Governmental systems and decisions can promote or deny equal opportunities and social justice.  <u>Inquiry into:</u>  Types of Governance.  Principles of Human Rights and Social Justice.  The effect of institutional behaviors and attitudes on social justice.</p>	<p><b>Ecosystems</b>  <u>Central idea:</u>  Biodiversity relies on maintaining the interdependent balance of organisms within systems.  <u>Inquiry into:</u>  Interdependence within ecosystems, biomes and environments.  Ways in which organisms are interconnected in nature  How human interaction with the environment can affect the balance of systems.</p>
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