

The following document contains Robinson School's **Programme of Inquiry**, also known as **POI**, for the Primary Years Programme. The POI plays a vital role in the development of childrens' education. It integrates the six transdisciplinary themes from IBO (Who we are; Where we are in time and place; How we express ourselves; How the world works; How we organize ourselves; and Sharing the Planet), with the school's curriculum in such a way that allows the learning to go above and beyond the memorization of facts.

For each Transdisciplinary Theme there is a descriptor that explains what students will be inquiring into under this theme, and are as follows:

Who We Are-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; and what it means to be human.

Where We Are In Place and Time-An inquiry into orientation in place and time; personal histories; homes and journeys; the discoveries, explorations and migrations of humankind; and the relationships between and the interconnectedness of individuals and civilizations, from local and global perspectives.

How We Express Ourselves-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.

How the World Works-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; and the impact of scientific and technological advances on society and on the environment.

How We Organize Ourselves-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.

Sharing the Planet-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.

Each grade levels uses the six themes to create **Units of Inquiry (UOI)** comprised of a **central idea** and a minimum of three **lines of inquiry (LOI)**. Each central idea will enhance students' understanding of the theme, and extends students' prior knowledge. The central idea is universally true, significant, relevant, challenging. The LOIs develop the central idea and determines the course of the unit.

With our POI, we aim to develop the learning of concepts rather than topics, and aiding the students in discovering how these apply across all humanity in various ways. With IB it is not enough to learn about specific events (such as the Oregon Trail or the Trail of Tears), but even more important to explore the concepts of migration or oppression and its implications on humanity across history and today. Information and facts will always be readily available to those who need them. However, learning how to learn is a skill that requires nourishment.

Robinson School's Primary Years Programme of Inquiry Revised 10/2018

	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
PPK	<p>Central Idea: People are unique and special in many way.</p> <p>An inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -what makes me unique -exploring similarities, differences, respect and diversity -emotional, physical and social changes 	<p>Central Idea: Around the world people need a place to live.</p> <p>An inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Different types of houses -Characteristics of places we live -Reasons people have shelter 	<p>Central Idea: Discovering and expressing our feelings</p> <p>An inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -recognizing feelings -how our bodies show feelings -respond/react to other's feelings 			<p>Central Idea: Human beings share the planet with different species of animals.</p> <p>An inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -types/classification of animals -interactions of humans and animals -promoting a safe environment for animals
PK	<p>Central Idea: Families shape who we are.</p> <p>An inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -What a family is -Families can have different configuration -Culture affects families 		<p>Central Idea: We use play to express our feelings and ideas.</p> <p>An inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -communicating through play -imaginative use of everyday materials -Games and toys 	<p>Central Idea: All living things change.</p> <p>An inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -characteristics of living things -Life cycles of living things -Similarities and differences of living things 	<p>Central Idea: School organizational systems function to create order.</p> <p>An inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -purpose of systems and routines -roles and responsibilities in school -school as a community of learners 	
Kinder	<p>Central Idea: Choices affect our relationships</p> <p>An inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -knowing ourselves -types of relationships -establishing and maintaining healthy relationships 	<p>Central Idea: Journeys can lead to new explorations.</p> <p>An inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -types of journeys -why journeys are important -new opportunities and experiences that journeys bring 	<p>Central Idea: We express our thoughts and feelings in many ways</p> <p>An inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -how music, dances and songs express feelings -how stories, drama and movies express feelings -how daily life is affected by your feelings 	<p>Central Idea: Climate influence living things.</p> <p>An inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -the causes of weather -effects of weather on living things -connections between weather and seasons 	<p>Central Idea: Roles in society serve the needs of the community.</p> <p>An inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -the needs of the community -the roles in our community -roles we assume to help or community 	<p>Central Idea: Ecosystems sustain living things.</p> <p>An inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -needs of living things -types of habitats -humans are responsible for the conservation of habitats
1st Gr.	<p>Central Idea: Traditions develop human relationships.</p> <p>An inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -reasons to celebrate -different ways people celebrate holidays -similarities and differences of holidays in diverse cultures 	<p>Central Idea: Geography helps us understand how places are connected around the world.</p> <p>An inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What is geography -Continent and oceans -Connection between where we live and the world 	<p>Central Idea: Drama is a form of expression to communicate our ideas and emotions.</p> <p>An inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - understanding feelings -different forms of expression -expressing our feelings 	<p>Central Idea: Transportation methods facilitate movement from place to place</p> <p>An inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -different ways of transportation -transportation is constantly evolving -transportation helps people in their daily lives 	<p>Central Idea: The design and construction of structures depends on the physical environment and availability of materials.</p> <p>An inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -People that design and construct buildings and the materials they use -building structures and the impact on the environment -designing a structure 	<p>Central Idea: Living things impact the environment</p> <p>An inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Needs of living things -Benefits of plants and animals on the environment. -Human impact on the environment need
2nd Gr.	<p>Central Idea: Citizenship strengthens the community</p> <p>An inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Components of the Community -The traits that make a citizen -Effects of rules in the Community 	<p>Central Idea: Landforms impact our way of life.</p> <p>An inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -different landforms -landforms impact the formation of communities -landforms determine community's lifestyle 	<p>Central Idea: Words we use and how we choose them, empower us to share our imagination and ideas.</p> <p>An inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Sharing our ideas by listening and speaking -Using words to express yourselves -Words help to express our imagination through poetry 	<p>Central Idea: People apply their understanding of forces to invent and create.</p> <p>An inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -understanding how forces work -the use of simple machines -inventions that use forces 	<p>Central Idea: People consume and distribute goods and services.</p> <p>An inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -the needs and wants in the community -consumers and producers - goods and services the community offers 	<p>Central Idea: The conservation of natural resources in our environment.</p> <p>An inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Renewable and non-renewable resources -Water , as part of the Earth Surface -Human impact and conservation of natural resources
3rd Gr.	<p>Central Idea: Human relationships help establish the identity of a community.</p> <p>An inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - social organization of native communities - religious beliefs of passed native communities -customs of passed native communities 	<p>Central Idea: Colonization leads to the development of new societies</p> <p>An inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -the reasons for colonization -the relationships developed between the societies involved, -Colonization leads to the development of new societies 	<p>Central Idea: People express culture through arts</p> <p>An inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Music and dance as a means to keep culture alive -How arts helps you understand the way people felt in a certain place and time -Responsibility towards maintaining culture alive 	<p>Central Idea: Living things are connected</p> <p>An inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Adaptations of living things to the environment -Benefits living things provide the community -Humans are responsible for what happens in the natural world 	<p>Central Idea: Energy can be transformed and used to sustain communities.</p> <p>An inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -forms of energy -how force effects motion -sustainable forms of energy 	<p>Central Idea: People's choices have an impact on the environment.</p> <p>An inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -the impact of natural changes on Earth -the impact of human changes on Earth -our responsibility towards Earth
4th Gr.	<p>Central Idea: Culture and traditions evolve over time.</p> <p>An inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -elements of a culture -similarities and differences of cultures -how beliefs influence the way we behave 	<p>Central Idea: Numerous sources provide information and record past events.</p> <p>An inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -artifacts contribute to our understanding of the past -time periods -primary and secondary sources 	<p>Central Idea: Technology contributes to changes in the way that people express themselves.</p> <p>An inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -what is technology -human expression using technology -ways technological innovation has changed over time 	<p>Central Idea: The natural features of the Earth have been formed over time and are still changing.</p> <p>An inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Earth's composition and how they are interrelated -changes on Earth's structure affects humans - Earth has changed and is continuously changing 	<p>Central Idea: People take on roles and responsibilities towards a common purpose.</p> <p>An inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -rights and responsibilities -interconnectedness of people in society - impact our actions have on others 	<p>Central Idea: Ecosystems rely on the interdependent balance of organisms within systems.</p> <p>An inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -what is an ecosystem -interdependence within an ecosystem -human impact on ecosystems
5th Gr.	<p>Central Idea: Body systems support life choices.</p> <p>An inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -relationship between life style choices -functions of body systems -consequences of our choices 	<p>Central Idea: Explorations create changes.</p> <p>An inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -changes made through discoveries and inventions - some ideas develop into theories - research contributes to scientific discoveries 	<p>Central Idea: Media influences our values ideas and beliefs.</p> <p>An inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -responsible consumption and use of media -the use of persuasion in media -how people respond to the messages presented in the media 	<p>Central Idea: Properties and attributes of matter affect how materials are used.</p> <p>An inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -properties and attributes of matter and materials in the environment -uses of materials and sustainability -processes of matter and their use 	<p>Central Idea: Leaders influence and change society through their diverse traits.</p> <p>An inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -leaders bring change -how leaders influence our society -effects of changes caused by leaders 	<p>Central Idea: Conflict resolution leads to changes in the quality of life.</p> <p>An inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -the cause/effect of conflicts -peaceful resolutions -government's role in the creation of resolution of conflict
6th Gr.	<p>Central Idea: Beliefs influence perspective.</p> <p>An inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -the historical impact of religion -religion in daily life -Diversity in religions 	<p>Central Idea: Civilizations reflect today's societies.</p> <p>An inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -human evolution -history of civilization -past developments to today's society 	<p>Central Idea: Signs and symbols connect people.</p> <p>An inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -early forms of writing -importance of early communication -cultural connections 	<p>Central Idea: Biological processes shape life.</p> <p>An inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cellular processes -Relationships between photosynthesis and cellular respiration -Function of Cell Division 	<p>Central Idea: Societal systems determines responsibility.</p> <p>An inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -government systems -citizen participation -the responsibilities of governments and its citizens 	<p>Central Idea: Interactions promote change</p> <p>An inquiry into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The classification of life -The characteristics of simple organisms -Relationship between organisms