

# American International School of Guangzhou

# 廣州美國人國際學校

“Nurturing Students to Aspire and Achieve”

## AISG Programme of Inquiry 2009-2010

	Who we are	Where we are in place and time	How we express ourselves	How the world works	How we organise ourselves	Sharing the planet
Pre school 3	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 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 way 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.
	<p><b>ALL ABOUT ME</b></p> <p><b>Central Idea</b> There are many different parts of me.</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> form, function, change</p> <p><b>Related Concepts:</b></p> <p><b>Lines of inquiry</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-our body parts, inside and out</li> <li>-how our body parts work and fit together</li> <li>-how we grow and change</li> </ul>		<p><b>CREATIVE PLAY</b></p> <p><b>Subject Focus:</b></p> <p><b>Strand:</b></p> <p><b>Central Idea: TBD</b></p> <p><b>Key concepts:</b> function, connection, perspectives</p> <p><b>Related concepts:</b></p> <p><b>Lines of inquiry</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Communication through play</li> <li>-Imaginative use of everyday materials</li> <li>-Games and toys</li> </ul>		<p><b>TRANSPORTATION</b></p> <p><b>Subject Focus:</b> Social Studies</p> <p><b>Strand:</b> Social organization and structure</p> <p><b>Central Idea</b> We use different means of transportation for different purposes.</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> form, function</p> <p><b>Related Concepts:</b></p> <p><b>Lines of inquiry</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-different types of transportation</li> <li>-the importance of transportation.</li> <li>-specific purposes of different transportation systems</li> </ul>	<p><b>SHARING THE PLANET</b></p> <p><b>Subject Focus:</b> Science</p> <p><b>Strand:</b> Living things</p> <p><b>Central Idea: TBD</b></p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b></p> <p><b>Related Concepts:</b></p> <p><b>Lines of inquiry</b></p>
Pre School 4	<p><b>ALL ABOUT ME</b></p> <p><b>Subject Focus:</b> Science</p> <p><b>Strand:</b> Social Organization and structure</p> <p><b>Central Idea</b> As I grow and change, I discover new things about who I am and what I can do.</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> connection, responsibility, causation</p> <p><b>Related Concepts:</b> family, friendship, growth</p> <p><b>Lines of inquiry</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-the ways that I change</li> <li>-what I can do</li> <li>-my relationship with family and friends</li> </ul>		<p><b>HOW WE EXPRESS OURSELVES</b></p> <p><b>Subject Focus:</b> Art/Music</p> <p><b>Strand:</b></p> <p><b>Central Idea:</b> People use different materials and resources to express their feelings.</p> <p><b>Key concepts:</b> form, function, perspective, responsibility</p> <p><b>Related concepts:</b> structure, organization, survival</p> <p><b>Lines of inquiry</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-how people communicate their emotions through art</li> <li>-the different ways materials and objects can be used.</li> <li>-the different forms of art</li> </ul>	<p><b>PATTERNS</b></p> <p><b>Subject Focus:</b> Science/Social Studies</p> <p><b>Strand:</b></p> <p><b>Central Idea:</b> Peoples awareness of the patterns around them can help them understand the world.</p> <p><b>Key concepts:</b> form, function</p> <p><b>Related concepts:</b> structure, organization, survival</p> <p><b>Lines of inquiry</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-daily patterns</li> <li>-patterns around the world</li> <li>-ways we use patterns</li> </ul>		<p><b>SHARING THE PLANET</b></p> <p><b>Subject Focus:</b> Science</p> <p><b>Strand:</b> Living things, Earth</p> <p><b>Central Idea</b> People and other living things share resources.</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> causation, connection, responsibility</p> <p><b>Related Concepts:</b></p> <p><b>Lines of inquiry</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-basic needs of living things</li> <li>-common resources</li> </ul>



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Gr.2	<p><b>TAKING CARE OF MYSELF</b></p> <p><b>Subject Focus:</b> Science <b>Strand:</b> Living things</p> <p><b>Central Idea</b> Choices we make affect our good health.</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> causation, responsibility, connection <b>Related Concepts:</b> growth, <b>Lines of inquiry</b> -the ways we stay healthy -choices which promote balance -how healthy habits affect our well-being</p>	<p><b>WHERE WE ARE IN PLACE AND TIME</b></p> <p><b>Subject Focus:</b> Social Studies <b>Strand:</b> Human and natural environments</p> <p><b>Central Idea</b> Humans live according to their circumstances.</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> function, causation <b>Related Concepts:</b> innovations, progress, geography, regions, locality, poverty, wealth <b>Lines of inquiry</b> -how geographical location and environment influence the way people live -how social conditions shape the way people live -when circumstances change</p>	<p><b>CREATIVE EXPRESSION</b></p> <p><b>Subject Focus:</b> Language Arts <b>Strand:</b></p> <p><b>Central Idea</b> People communicate through presentations.</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> connection, form, perspective <b>Related Concepts:</b> communication, roles, identity, <b>Lines of inquiry</b> -different types of presentations -reasons for presentations -characteristics of good presentations</p>	<p><b>SIMPLE MACHINES</b></p> <p><b>Subject Focus:</b> Social Studies, Science <b>Strand:</b> Continuity and change through time</p> <p><b>Central Idea</b> Simple machines make work easier.</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> function, causation, connection <b>Related Concepts:</b> transformation, discovery, history, innovation, exploration, force <b>Lines of inquiry</b> -the ways simple machines are used -significance of simple machines in daily life -different simple machines and how they work</p>	<p><b>PRODUCERS AND CONSUMERS</b></p> <p><b>Subject Focus:</b> Social Studies <b>Strand:</b> Human systems and economic activities</p> <p><b>Central Idea</b> Communities create systems to support their basic needs.</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> function, connection <b>Related Concepts:</b> employment, government, production, roles, geography <b>Lines of inquiry</b> -the needs and wants of communities and their members -the production and consumption of goods -the ways communities work together</p>	<p><b>WATER</b></p> <p><b>Subject Focus:</b> Science <b>Strand:</b> Earth and space</p> <p><b>Central Idea:</b> Water is a natural resource that is crucial to life on Earth.</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> function, connection, responsibility <b>Related Concepts:</b> sources, resources, sustainability, systems, pollution, conservation, consumption, distribution <b>Lines of inquiry</b> -our dependence on water -distribution of water -our responsibilities regarding water</p>
	Gr.3	<p><b>BODY SYSTEMS</b></p> <p><b>Subject Focus:</b> Science <b>Strand:</b> Living things</p> <p><b>Central Idea</b> The human body works as a machine with several different systems working together to keep us alive.</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> function, connection <b>Related Concepts:</b> systems, biology <b>Lines of inquiry</b> -the body systems -functions of the body systems -connections between the body systems</p>	<p><b>EXPLORATION</b></p> <p><b>Subject Focus:</b> Social Studies <b>Strand:</b> Continuity and change through time</p> <p><b>Central Idea</b> Exploration and its consequences have changed our world.</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> causation, perspective, <b>Related Concepts:</b> exploration, civilization, discovery, chronology, history <b>Lines of inquiry</b> -contributions of explorers -reasons for exploration -outcomes of exploration</p>	<p><b>EXPRESS OURSELVES</b></p> <p><b>Subject Focus:</b> Social Studies <b>Strand:</b> Social organization and culture</p> <p><b>Central Idea</b> People use different forms of expression to reflect their uniqueness as human beings.</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> perspective, responsibility, reflection <b>Related Concepts:</b> communication, diversity, traditions, identity <b>Lines of inquiry</b> -how people use the arts -the ways cultures demonstrate feelings through the arts -how individuals express emotions uniquely in the arts</p>	<p><b>CHANGING EARTH</b></p> <p><b>Subject Focus:</b> Science <b>Strand:</b> Continuity and change through time</p> <p><b>Central Idea</b> Humans strive to understand and measure the changing Earth.</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> change, causation, form <b>Related Concepts:</b> erosion, geology, geography, tectonic plates, movement, evidence <b>Lines of inquiry</b> -the changing earth -scientific theories -the ways humans monitor the earth's changes -how humans change the natural environment</p>	<p><b>WORK AND LEISURE</b></p> <p><b>Subject Focus:</b> Social Studies <b>Strand:</b> Social organization and culture</p> <p><b>Central Idea</b> Work and leisure have meanings that differ according to people, place and time.</p> <p><b>Key Concepts:</b> change, perspective <b>Related Concepts:</b> human made systems, economic activities and impact, employment, cooperation <b>Lines of inquiry</b> -work and leisure -the ways different people view work and leisure -how work and leisure have changed over time</p>

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Gr.4	<p><b>HOST AND HOME CULTURES</b></p> <p><b>Subject Focus:</b> Social Studies <b>Strand:</b> Social organization and culture</p> <p><b>Central Idea</b> The cultures we identify with and experience shape our perspectives. <b>Key Concepts:</b> perspective, connection, change <b>Related Concepts:</b> culture, community, artefacts, traditions, religion, family, identity, diversity, history, civilizations <b>Lines of inquiry</b> -how the cultures we experience shape who we are -how perspectives are shaped -the effects of globalization on culture</p>	<p><b>PEOPLE ON THE MOVE</b></p> <p><b>Subject Focus:</b> Social Studies <b>Strand:</b> Continuity and change through time</p> <p><b>Central Idea</b> People on the move change the world. <b>Key Concepts:</b> causation, change <b>Related Concepts:</b> migration, prejudice, conflict, chronology, borders, impact, population, settlements, poverty, wealth <b>Lines of inquiry</b> -our personal migrations -causes for migrations -effects of the movement of peoples -Chinese migrations</p>	<p><b>COMMUNICATION</b></p> <p><b>Subject Focus:</b> Social Studies <b>Strand:</b> Social organization and culture</p> <p><b>Central Idea</b> Communication is the basis of social interaction. <b>Key Concepts:</b> change, connection <b>Related Concepts:</b> communication, innovations, <b>Lines of inquiry</b> -different forms of communication -what makes effective communication -how technology has affected communication -changes in communication over time</p>	<p><b>FORCES AND ENERGY</b></p> <p><b>Subject Focus:</b> Science <b>Strand:</b> Forces and Energy</p> <p><b>Central Idea:</b> Humans harness energy and use forces as tools. <b>Key Concepts:</b> form, function, responsibility <b>Related Concepts:</b> change of states, conservation of energy, efficiency, magnetism, mechanics, forms of energy, technological advances <b>Lines of inquiry</b> -different types of energy -how energy is used -renewable and non-renewable energy sources</p>	<p><b>GOVERNMENT</b></p> <p><b>Subject Focus:</b> Social Studies <b>Strand:</b> Social organization and culture</p> <p><b>Central Idea</b> Governments evolve through events and individual action. <b>Key Concepts:</b> causation, responsibility <b>Related Concepts:</b> governance, decision making, justice, rights, authority, citizenship, roles, revolution, ownership, borders, social and political dependence <b>Lines of inquiry</b> -how actions and events influence governments -how government decisions affect individuals -how individuals affect governments</p>	<p><b>CONSERVATION</b></p> <p><b>Subject Focus:</b> Science <b>Strand:</b> Earth and space</p> <p><b>Central Idea</b> Humans use and management of natural resources is an ongoing study which may lead to a variety of possible outcomes. <b>Key Concepts:</b> causation, connection, responsibility, perspective <b>Related Concepts:</b> life cycles, sustainability, conservation, biodiversity, ecosystems, renewable and non-renewable energy, systems, consumption, pollution, interdependence <b>Lines of inquiry</b> -our consumption of natural resources -nature's and man-made recyclers -the impact of our actions and choices on the environment</p>
	Gr.5	<p><b>DECISIONS</b></p> <p><b>Subject Focus:</b> Social Studies <b>Strand:</b> Social organization and culture</p> <p><b>Central Idea</b> Complex factors contribute to the process of making decisions. <b>Key Concepts:</b> causation, change, connection <b>Related Concepts:</b> choice, systems <b>Lines of inquiry</b> -factors that influence our decisions -decision-making processes for groups and individuals -impact or consequences that decisions can have</p>	<p><b>CIVILIZATIONS</b></p> <p><b>Subject Focus:</b> Social Studies <b>Strand:</b> Continuity and change through time</p> <p><b>Central Idea</b> Exploring ancient civilizations helps us gain a better understanding of our world. <b>Key Concepts:</b> function, change, connection <b>Related Concepts:</b> conflict, chronology, civilizations, discovery, innovation, progress <b>Lines of inquiry</b> -the commonalities and differences among ancient civilizations -the contributions of ancient civilizations -the impact ancient civilizations have had on our present world</p>	<p><b>BELIEF SYSTEMS</b></p> <p><b>Subject Focus:</b> Social Studies <b>Strand:</b> Social organization and culture</p> <p><b>Central Idea</b> Values and beliefs affect the way people live. <b>Key Concepts:</b> perspective, causation, connection, change <b>Related Concepts:</b> communication, diversity, family, identity, networks, prejudice, religion, traditions <b>Lines of inquiry</b> -the range of values and beliefs -religions of the world and their impact -how and why beliefs and values can change</p>	<p><b>MATERIALS AND MATTER</b></p> <p><b>Subject Focus:</b> Science <b>Strand:</b> Materials and Matter</p> <p><b>Central Idea</b> Discoveries in matter affect our world. <b>Key Concepts:</b> perspective, change, function <b>Related Concepts:</b> changes of state, chemistry and physics, gases, liquids, solids, properties, uses of materials <b>Lines of inquiry</b> -history of discoveries in matter -ethical dilemmas of manipulating matter -changes in matter and its impact on our lives</p>	<p><b>EXHIBITION</b></p> <p><b>Central Idea:</b> Economic activities impact humankind and the environment. <b>Key Concepts:</b> form, function, connection, causation, change, responsibility, perspective, reflection <b>Lines of Inquiry:</b></p>