

Stay Up to Date with PYP

NEWS

Primary Years Programme review update

Extensive research has been carried out as part of the review of the Primary Years Programme (PYP) since 2012. Research has looked at all aspects of the programme, including areas that schools report as particularly challenging. Findings so far:

Planning: Extensive consultations with schools identified planning as an issue: too restrictive, not responsive enough to local curricular prescriptions, etc. The PYP team is developing guidance to facilitate the planning process in schools.

Language and literacy: Research on language and literacy (Cambera University report to be published on the [IB website](#) soon) has informed the early drafts of pedagogical guidance on language learning and teaching in a way that strengthens practice of educators in promoting multilingualism.

Assessment: Research on assessment (Deakin University report to be published on the [IB website](#) soon) has informed the drafting of guidance which features assessment as integral to the learning process and illustrating how it shapes effective teaching.

Early years resources: PYP: From Principles into Practice is being enriched by a layer of early years specific materials to better meet the needs of PYP schools and to make the programme more explicitly relevant to early years education (our research has shown that the principles of PYP are sound for early childhood education but the practices could stand to be illustrated in the context of education for IB's youngest learners.)

This research is being used to prepare the first draft of *PYP: From Principles into Practice*, a document that provides the framework for an update of the PYP programme. It will provide detailed guidance for teachers, with the goal of making it easier for them to understand and implement the PYP (compared to the guidance offered today in more than eighteen 'core' documents on the [IB Online Curriculum Centre \(OCC\)](#)). The goal is to create and assemble the programme elements needed into a dynamic digital resource. In 2018, the IB will launch the digital resource and related support materials. Professional development resources will be available as soon as possible after that.

2016 IB regional conferences: Meet the PYP team

Attend your regional conference to hear review updates and participate in themed discussions at the IB regional conferences this year. Places are limited, so please register to ensure you secure your place as soon as sessions are announced.

In addition, the PYP team will be represented within the IB Pavilion in the exhibition area. Come meet the team, receive PYP updates and take with you the latest brochures.

- Asia-Pacific:** Hyderabad, India (17-19 March)
- Americas:** Toronto, Ontario, Canada (14-17 July)
- Africa, Europe, Middle East:** Barcelona, Spain (6-8 October)

School Enhancement Services

Interested in the latest news about the IB's [School Enhancement Services](#)? Read reports from two services currently in the pilot phase prior to offering them to candidate and authorized schools. PYP Coordinators Simon Clark and Colleen Moore, and Head of School Adilakshmi Chintalpati provide insights into Building Quality Curriculum. Read more on blogs.ibo.org/blog/2014/12/11/how-would-you-value-feedback-on-curriculum-documents-you-write.

LATEST RESEARCH

Science in the Primary Years Programme: Alignment between the International Baccalaureate and the national Australian curriculum (2015)

This study investigates how schools in a number of different Australian states have incorporated the requirements of the national curriculum into the IB Primary Years Programme (PYP) framework, focusing specifically on science teaching and learning. The study indicated that there are no major obstacles for individual Australian primary schools to incorporate the science teaching and learning requirements of the PYP into the science requirements of the Australian curriculum from foundation to year 6. Although there are substantial differences in terms of content, mostly in relation to the large amount of content covered in the Australian curriculum, PYP science and the Australian curriculum science learning area are fairly well aligned in terms of the skills they develop in students.

[Full report](#)

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For inquiries regarding PYP curriculum development,
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LATEST BLOG ARTICLES



Challenging the definition of “play”

Cécile Doyen, Acting Head of PYP Development

In this post, we look at the theme of learning through play by looking at the work of the PYP Development team as they support the PYP community to develop in this area.



Developing and assessing approaches to learning in the Mandarin classroom

DingDing Song, Mandarin teacher at Chatsworth International School (East Campus), Singapore

This article provides examples of modeling for years 2 and 5, developing and assessing approaches to learning in

both stand alone and integrated inquiries in a Mandarin classroom.



Are celebrations tokenistic?

Katie Langford, the PYP Coordinator, Parkview International Pre-School (Kowloon campus), Hong Kong

This article explores the rich learning that stems from school celebrations and how this links to the PYP attitudes and learner profile as well as develop-

ing an internationally minded community.



Seizing a teachable moment in a kindergarten class: Pedagogy of listening

Pritika Chandiramani, a kindergarten teacher and the Early Years' Coordinator at EtonHouse International School, Singapore

In this article the author describes how early years students have developed a

rich conceptual understanding by not only initiating their own learning and taking ownership, but also working and solving problems together.

IB ANSWERS IN FOCUS

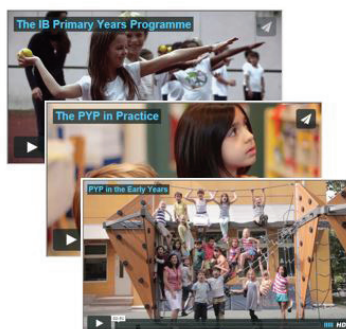
Q: How many units of inquiry do we have to teach?

A: Six units of inquiry, one for each of the transdisciplinary themes, are to be covered in depth each year, each within a three- to six-week time frame. Each unit must be documented on a PYP planner and the units may not run simultaneously. Discretion concerning some overlap at the beginning and end of the units may be used by IB World Schools only.

Exceptions to the above requirements are:

- to provide the opportunity for the presentation of the PYP exhibition in the final year of the programme (see Exhibition guidelines (2008))
- in the planning of the school's PYP programme of inquiry for 3–5 year olds (please refer to Making the PYP happen: A curriculum framework for international primary education (2009))
- in the implementation of the six units for 5–6 year olds, where there is flexibility with the time allocation (please refer to Making the PYP happen: A curriculum framework for international primary education (2009)).

NEW IN THE IB DIGITAL TOOLKIT



In new videos PYP teachers and students give an overview of the PYP in their own words, including what the PYP means to them and what they get out of studying and teaching the PYP.

The videos are available to view and download in the IB digital toolkit at www.ibo.org/en/digital-toolkit/videos. The

videos are a powerful communication tool for schools to use. The videos can be embedded into a school's website. Information on how to do this is available in the IB's brand guidelines at: www.ibo.org/globalassets/digital-toolkit/pdfs/brand-guidelinesen.pdf

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT IN FOCUS •

Category 3 PYP online workshop: Sustaining and growing the PYP in your school

<http://www.ibo.org/en/event/338677>