

Programme of Inquiry – Al Jazeera Academy – 2010-2011
Inquiry-Based, Concept-Driven Curriculum

The Primary Years Programme (PYP) for students aged 3-12, focuses on the development of the whole child, addressing social, physical, emotional and cultural needs. At the same time, it gives children a strong foundation in all of the major areas of knowledge: mathematics, social studies, drama, language, music, visual arts, science, personal and social education, and physical education. The PYP strives to help children develop an international perspective – to become aware of and sensitive to the points of view of people in other parts of the world.

The curriculum in the PYP is organized around six themes:

	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; 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; 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; the impact of scientific and technological advances on society and on the environment.	How We Organise 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.
G5	Human Rights 1	Civilizations 3	Advertisements 6	Forces 2	City Planning 4	Global Warming 5
G4	The Human Body 1	Explorers 4	Puppetry 6	Matter 5	Trade Routes 2	Endangered Species 3
G3	Citizens 1	Qatar History 2	Artists 6	Earth's Surfaces 4	Fairtrade 3	Energy 5
G2	Friendships 1	Inventions 3	Poetry 6	Light/Sound 4	Materials 5	Habitats 2
G1	Values/Beliefs 3	Shelter/Homes 5	Authors 6	Weather 2	Food Stages 1	Sea World 4
REC 2	School Community 1	My Culture 3	Storytelling 4	Water 2	Community Helpers 6	Recycling 5
REC 1	My Family and I 1		Stories 5	Toys 2	Transportation 4	Plants 3
PS	All About ME! 1		The Arts 4	Day and Night 2		Mini-Beasts 3

These themes are intended to help children make sense of themselves, of other people, and of the physical environment, and to give them different ways of looking at the world.