
PYP, INQUIRY, AND
4th GRADE
AT PEIRCE

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Peirce PAC

CENTRAL IDEA: INQUIRY IS A PROCESS THAT ENGAGES STUDENTS IN LEARNING

Lines of Inquiry (An Inquiry into...)

- 1. What inquiry looks like*
- 2. How the inquiry process supports learning*
- 3. How questions and collaboration support inquiry learning*

WHAT IS INQUIRY?

Turn and Talk...

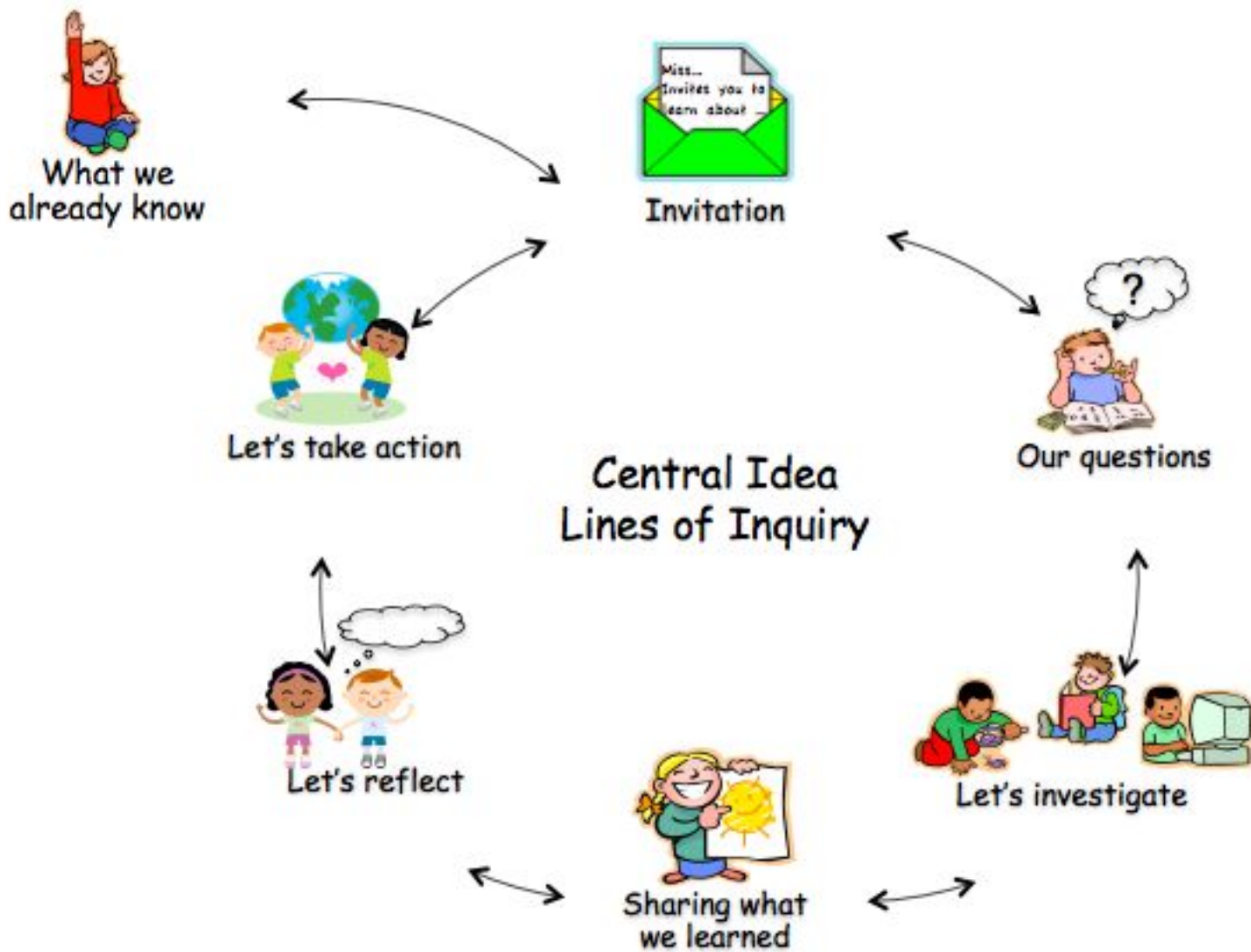
Growing up, who did you ask questions to?

How did asking questions develop your curiosity?

What kinds of experiences did you have that caused you to wonder?

The Inquiry Cycle

Transdisciplinary Theme



What an inquiry classroom may look like...



What an inquiry classroom may look like....(cont'd)

- *Student voice and choice*
- *Questions and concepts*
- *Collaborative work*
- *Strategic thinking*
- *Authentic investigations*
- *Student responsibility*
- *Student as knowledge creator*
- *Interaction and talk*
- *Teacher as model and coach*
- *Cross-disciplinary studies*
- *Multiple resources*
- *Multimodal learning*
- *Engaging in a discipline*
- *Real purpose and audience*
- *Caring and taking action*
- *Performance and self-assessment*

INQUIRY IN 4th GRADE

HOW THE WORLD WORKS

Central Idea:

Earth experiences changes due to geological forces.

Lines of Inquiry:

How rocks and minerals are formed

The causes behind Earth's physical changes

The composition of rocks, soils and minerals

What are questions?

Questions guide you through your thinking.

Questions allow you to understand thinking.

Questions clarify

Questions lead to deeper knowledge

Questions lead to more meaningful answers

What are questions

**Don't ask yes or no questions - you will most often get incomplete information

Questions with “would,” “should,” “is,” “are,” and “do you think” all lead to yes or no.

**Instead ask Open- Ended Questions - By using an open-ended question you get insights and additional information you might not have known existed.

Questions with “who,” “what,” “where,” “when,” “how,” or “why” lead to people giving some thought to their answers and provide much more information.

**Follow up questions - give you insight and let you make your own opinions about things.

“What makes you say that?” or “Why do you think that?”

PROTOCOL FOR CLASSROOMS

Just Observe – Please do not talk to the students or teachers

Please do not judge the students or teachers

Focus on moments of inquiry

Please do not take pictures or video

How Questions Support Inquiry

The impact of asking good questions is meaningful in both the short- and long-term. It's like building a monument to success brick by brick. Asking good questions can:

- foster critical thinking skills
 - boost self-confidence
 - enhance creativity
 - strengthen relationships/partnerships
 - establish trust
 - exercise your memory
 - develop oral communication skills
 - encourage good listening
 - help you become invested in the problem
 - encourage others to ask questions
 - spark lively and productive discussions
 - open your mind to other opinions/beliefs
 - protect you from making mistakes
 - make work more productive
 - make solutions more effective
 - lead you to new discoveries
 - help you make better choices/decisions
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How to ask questions of children

Tips for asking questions

The following can help your conversations be positive and powerful:

- **Don't interrupt.** This is a good rule for any conversation, but especially if you want to get a lot of information out of a kid.
- **Ask for more.** Simply say, "I'd love to hear more about that..." Or, "Can you expand on that a little?"
- **Ask about feelings.** After a child describes an experience, ask, "How did you feel in that moment? What did you notice about your feelings?"
- **Validate feelings.** Whatever your kid feels is normal and okay. Let them know that. Feelings are okay. Tell them this.
- **Thank them for sharing with you.** Always appreciate their honesty and willingness to share the highlights and bright spots, as well as the difficult moments. This will fuel their confidence in telling you more.

What can I do at home?

- Ask about what your child is learning in class.
- Support and encourage interest and curiosity by following up with activities at home.
- Encourage and practice good communication skills such as starting conversations and debates about current events.
- Help your kids develop research skills online and from text.
- Enjoy building projects together in the home.

Resources for asking questions

[** 15 Questions to replace "How was your Day" - Edutopia](#)

[** 30 Questions to ask your kid - Parent.co](#)

[** 25 ways to ask your child "So how was school today" - Huffington Post](#)

[** The Importance and Impact of Asking Good Questions - Global Digital Citizen](#)

[** How to be Amazingly Good at Asking Questions - Life Hack](#)