

PYP, INQUIRY, AND PRESCHOOL AT PEIRCE

Sponsored by the Peirce PAC

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

Lines of Inquiry (An Inquiry into...)

- 1. What inquiry looks like (Independence)*
- 2. How the inquiry process supports learning (Independence)*
- 3. How a community supports students in inquiry and Independence*

WHAT IS INQUIRY?

Turn and Talk...

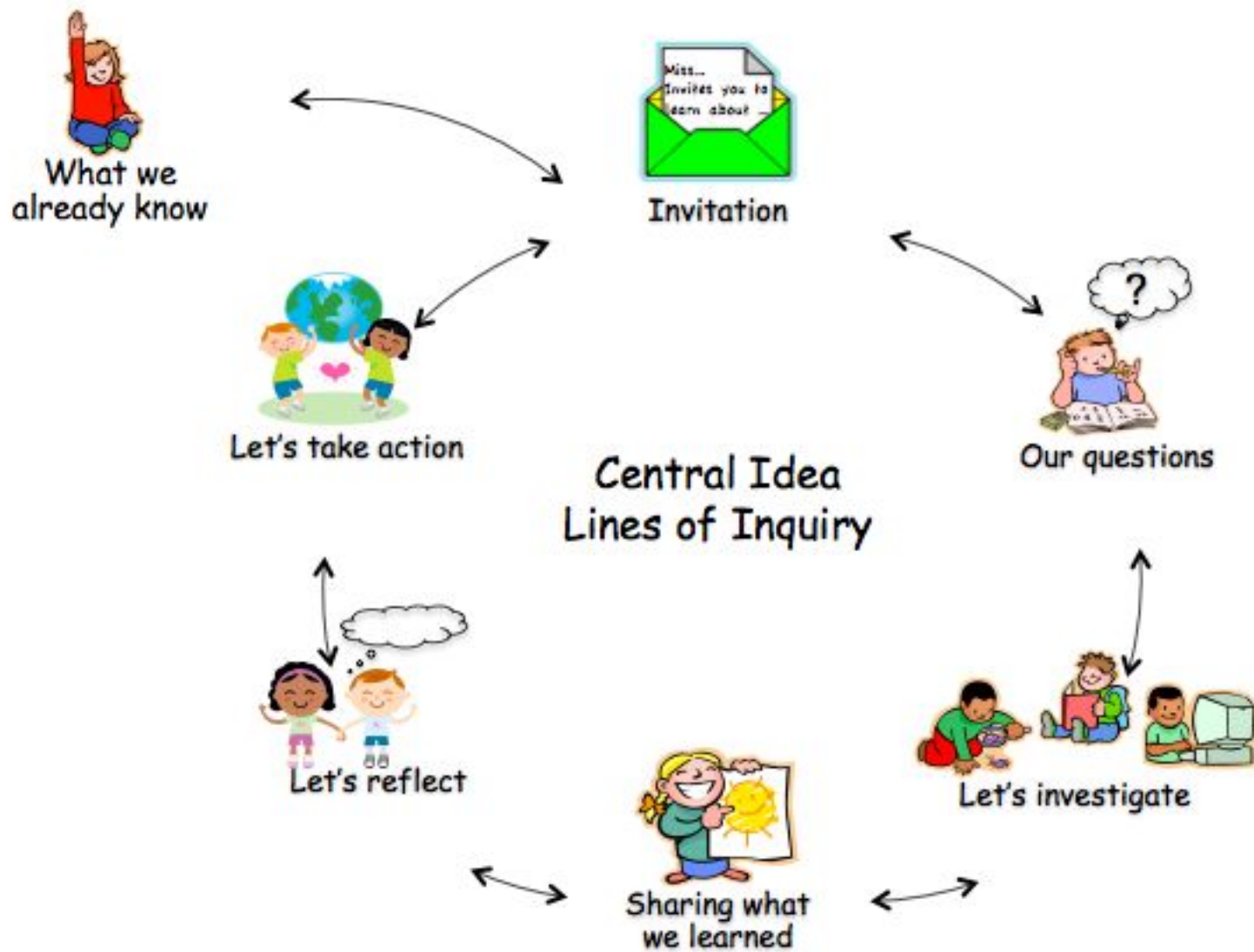
Growing up, who did you ask questions to?

How did asking questions develop your curiosity?

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

The Inquiry Cycle

Transdisciplinary Theme



What an inquiry classroom may look like...



Set Boundaries How?

- Model behavior – Say “Please”, “Thank you”, etc. and expect them to do as well.
- Remind them how to wait, not interrupt, and speak respectfully as well as listen to others.
- Remember that it is alright for them to get upset, that is how they learn.
- Set realistic expectations – Want them to be successful.
- Be consistent – Follow through with consequences.
- Give warning of the expectation.
- Give two choices – Two that are okay with you.
- Give them firm directions - Don't ask. “Why don't you clean up the toys then we can go to the park.” Vs. “Please clean up and we'll go to the park.”

Observation Guidelines

Just Observe – Try not to talk to the children.

Please try not to judge the children.

Focus on moments of inquiry and independence.

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- ✓ How are the children being independent?
 - ✓ How are the teachers fostering independence?
 - ✓ Did you see children having a problem with something? What happened and how did the child handle the situation?

Things to think about

- ❖ Do I want them to be self sufficient as they grow up?
- ❖ Whose job is it to teach them?
- ❖ Are they being manipulative?
- ❖ Short term vs. long term results.

What do they need to function in the world?

You can help them!!

- They need to experience and tolerate **DISAPPOINTMENT**.
- They need to experience and tolerate **FRUSTRATION**
- They need to learn to delay **GRATIFICATION**

Promote Independence

1. Expect more from them- They are capable and if you let them know, “You can do it”.
2. Don’t rush in to save them-Give them time to do it themselves, they need to solve the problem. Give them the words to ASK for help instead.
3. Give them a task/chore- have them dress themselves, water the plants, something manageable for them to do and help out with.
4. Praise (not overly) when they do it.
5. Have routines- when they know what to expect, they can become confident in what they are supposed to do.



6. Lighten up- If things aren't perfect, that's okay.
7. Give warnings of transitions so child knows what to expect and then follow thru-Give reasonable choice
8. Let them play unstructured and unsupervised - no media. It's okay for them to be bored!

Pick a few strategies to start with and as you see the growth, add more.



Peirce Parent Action Plan

How will I support my child's inquiry learning at home?

Your Name _____

Child's Name _____

Room # _____

What my child is learning about? Interested in?	How I can support these interests/learnings at home?	What resources will I need?	How can Peirce support you and your family?

School-Wide Announcements

Volunteer Opportunities - PSO, FOP, PAC

Need a BAC Chairperson

E-Communications - are you receiving the school newsletter online?

Parent Portal - will be needed if a student is going into Kindergarten next year

Going into Kindergarten - Don't forget to apply by December 9th

Visit website regularly peirce.cps.edu