

Laying the foundation for lifelong learning

Experiences during the early years (3–6-year-olds) lay the foundation for positive social and cognitive learning in future years (McCoy et al. 2017). The early years are an important stage for brain development. During this period, the brain is most open to the influence of experiences and relationships because children undergo rapid growth in all domains: physical, cognitive, social and emotional. The quality of these experiences and relationships directly affects the structure of the developing brain. For this reason, it is paramount that the Primary Years Programme (PYP) community values early learning as a crucial stage of development in its own right.



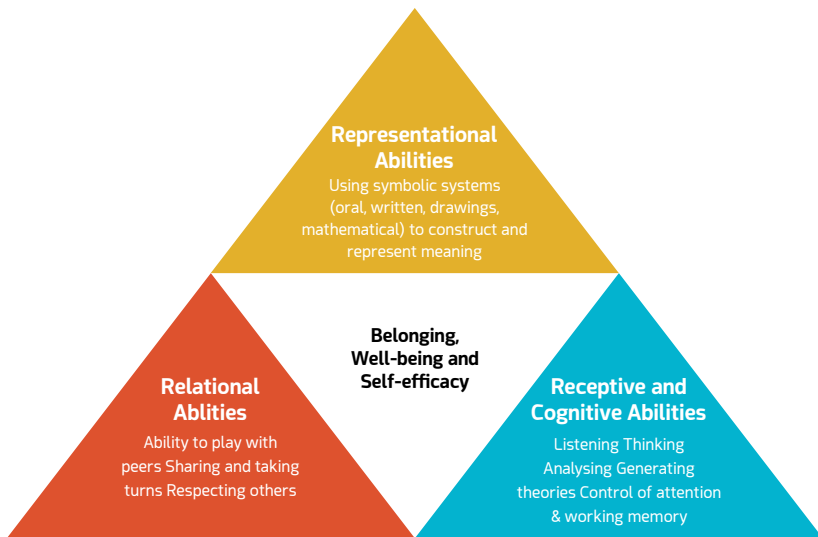
Key Highlights

- Transdisciplinary approach
- Inquiry through Play
- Literacy and Language Development
- Symbolic Exploration and Expression
- Development of Approaches to Learning (Transdisciplinary skills-Research, Communication, Thinking, Social, Self-management)
- Development of IB Learner Profile Attributes



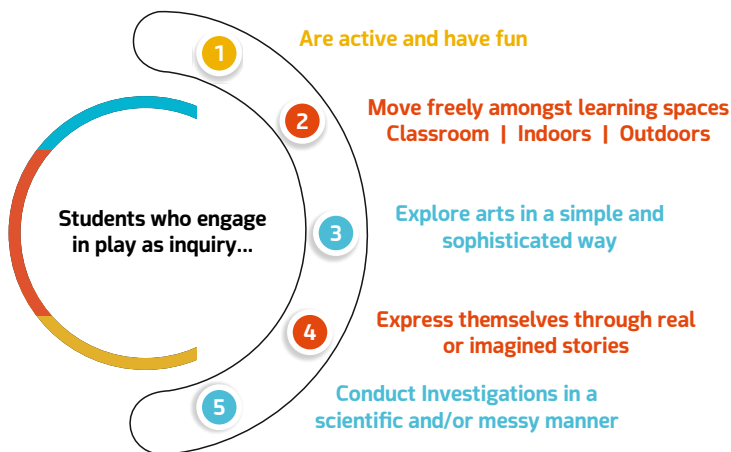
Credit: <https://www.ibo.org>





Play for Early Learners

Play is inquiry in the PYP; through play, students learn about who they are and how they connect to those around them (Rushton, Juola-Rushton and Larkin 2010) and to their surroundings. Through play, students learn how things work by constructing, testing, confirming and revising their early perceptions and ideas. As this learning process evolves through individual and collaborative inquiry with peers, the students build upon their prior knowledge and their ATL progress and become more sophisticated.



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