



Sara Collins Elementary

International Baccalaureate
Primary Years Program

What is IB PYP?



International Baccalaureate Primary Years Program

- Focuses on the total growth of the child.
- Uses research and best practices from national and international schools.
- Learning is designed to be relevant, engaging, challenging and authentic.
- PYP is the first of 3 IB programs offered in Greenville County.

How did Sara Collins Elementary become an International Baccalaureate school?

- Parents first brought information to the school and district.
- In 2000-2001 the school began working on IB implementation.
- It took 3 years of change and work to receive our authorization.
- We have been well supported by the Board of Trustees and Superintendent.

What does it mean for my child?

- Each child in the program is participating in a world-class educational setting that can be continued into middle and high school.
- Graduation from an IB Diploma Program provides access for the student into any college world-wide.
- Students learn to appreciate and understand their own culture first.



- Students learn about intercultural understanding and respect as a part of the life in the 21st century.
- All students participate in inquiry-based lessons that encourage students to ask and seek answers to questions.
- At Sara Collins, students in grades 1-5 are offered Spanish as a second language. Some schools offer other languages, such as French or German.
- All students participate in inquiry-based lessons that encourage students to ask questions and seek answers.
- Students learn to reflect on their learning and thinking.
- Students learn research skills using multiple sources for investigation.
- Students are assessed using a variety of tools.

Do all teachers know how to teach the IB way?

- Unfortunately, no. Teachers in their first and second year of teaching are immersed in basic teaching techniques, district programs, and state standards. Teachers learn IB through implementation.
- Teachers with three or more years experience at Sara Collins have participated in extensive IB training. However, it takes time to train teachers.
- New teachers are given mentors. They work with their grade levels to learn how to plan for the Program of Inquiry.
- Because IB training is expensive, teachers do not go to IB training until they have a proven record of dedication to the school and program.

Are students taught the basics?

- Absolutely! All teachers are held accountable for teaching South Carolina State Standards in Reading, ELA, Math, Science, and Social Studies.
- South Carolina's standards have been rated as the third most difficult in the United States.
- We have correlated the standards to our Program of Inquiry, the six major units of study written for each grade level.

- We also follow state standards in Spanish, Music, Art, and Physical Education.
- IB Curriculum includes skills which are basic to good education.



What is the curriculum framework for IB?



What is the student profile?

- Is used to assess the student as a learner.
- Used as a self-reflection tool so that students assess their growth as a learner.

- Inquirers

- Thinkers

- Communicators

- Risk-takers

- Knowledgeable

- Principled

- Caring

- Open-minded

- Well-balanced

- Reflective

What are the IB Attitudes?



How are the IB Attitudes taught?

- Included in our school-wide rules
- Taught through guidance lessons conducted by the school guidance counselor
- Taught through literature and study of characters and historical leaders.
- Modeled by teachers, parents and students.

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What is Inquiry?

“Tell me and I forget, show me and I remember, involve me and I understand.”

Students are more actively engaged when they ask questions and pursue the answers.



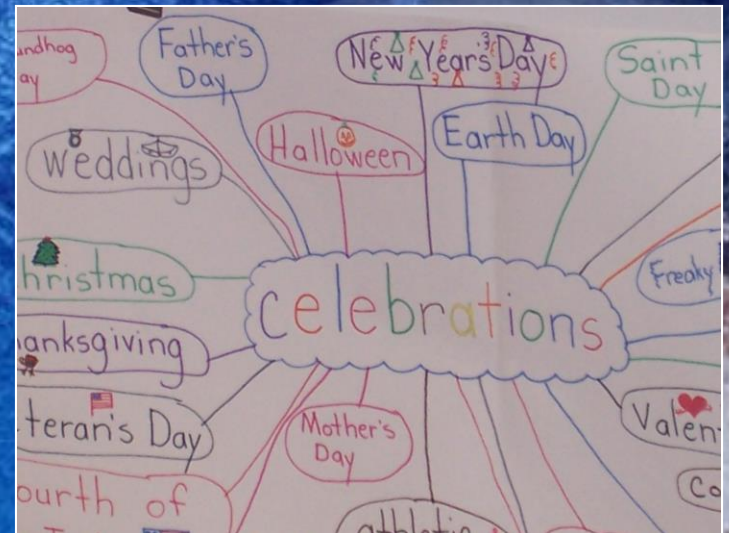
Individuals carry on the process of inquiry from the beginning.

They learn because they seek to make sense of their world.

It begins with gathering information and data through applying the human senses—seeing, hearing, touching, tasting, smelling.

A complex process is involved when individuals attempt to take information and data and apply it to a useful purpose.

Facts change, and information is readily available—what's needed is an understanding of how to get and make sense of the information and ideas.



For more information go to
www.ibo.org

