





THE INTERNATIONAL **BACCALAUREATE PRIMARY YEARS PROGRAMME** AT LITTLE EM'S



IB PYP NEWSLETTER

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DEAR PARENTS AND VALUED MEMBERS OF THE LITTLE EM'S LEARNING COMMUNITY,



Your ongoing interest in our monthly IB PYP Newsletter is truly valued. As we embark on a new school year guided by the overarching theme "Journey of Exploration" we appreciate your familiarity with the School Year's Program of Inquiry. This month's Newsletter aims to shed light on the concept of Transdisciplinary Themes, which are intricately woven into our curriculum, shaping our educational journey throughout the academic year. Additionally, we are pleased to present the next IB Learner Profile of the month for your consideration.



LITTLE EM'S PRE-SCHOOL

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WHAT IS TRANSDISCIPLINARY LEARNING?

Transdisciplinary learning involves integrating perspectives from various academic subjects to explore relevant concepts, issues, or challenges, connecting newly acquired knowledge with insights from real-life experiences.

This approach breaks down the traditional boundaries between subjects, encouraging content exploration through collaborative educator involvement. It aims to deepen our understanding of the world, extending education beyond conventional settings and aligning with the Reggio Emilia Approach® and the IB's philosophy. Children's natural behaviors - play, construction, invention, inquiry, design, and exploration - naturally encompass transdisciplinary elements, enriching their experiences with profound meaning.



OUR TRANSDISCIPLINARY CURRICULUM

The International Baccalaureate Primary Years Programme (IB PYP) curriculum is built upon six units of study, each linked to a transdisciplinary theme. For the Waves class (children aged 5 to 6), these themes are interwoven throughout the school year, manifested in units or project-based learning spanning over four terms. Meanwhile, our younger learners in Echo Chamber, Cave Space, and Kaleidoscope engage with four themes to establish a strong foundation.

These encompass "How the World Works," "How We Organize Ourselves," "Where We Are in Place and Time," "Sharing the Planet," "How We Express Ourselves," and "Who We Are." Within each unit, overarching concepts and central ideas guide focused lines of inquiry, nurturing profound understanding.

Please have a closer look at Little Em's Program of Inquiry this year LINK.



IB LEARNER PROFILE OF THE MONTH

"THINKERS"

Building on the insightful exploration of the IB Learner Profile's educational significance in our first IB PYP Newsletter, we're turning our attention to unpacking the "Thinkers" attribute in this edition.

LIFE IS A MIRROR AND WILL REFLECT BACK TO THE THINKER WHAT HE THINKS INTO IT -ERNEST HOLMES-

At Little Em's, we encourage a culture of collaborative problem-solving and critical and creative thinking. The attribute of "Thinkers" embodies the learners who adeptly tackle challenges by envisioning many solutions. These individuals exhibit the capacity to independently and collectively address issues while foreseeing the potential consequences of their actions. Thinkers not only make sound decisions but also demonstrate a knack for thinking creatively and critically, enriching their holistic learning experience.



HURTURING

THE THINKERS IN YOUR CHILD



Help your child become a creative problem solver by encouraging them to think up different solutions when they face challenges or when you're exploring something together. You may try asking questions like:

- 1. How could we get started on this?
- 2. Can you think of a different way to do or show it?/ What other ideas do you have to solve this?
- 3. That's an exciting idea, can you tell me more?/ Tell me more about what you're thinking.
- 4. Why do you think that's a good solution?
- 5. How did you figure that out?

Get your child into the habit of coming up with their own solutions to problems, especially the real-life ones:

- 1. I don't know how to fit all these glasses in the cupboard. What do you think?
- 2. Let's guess how much all the stuff in our cart will cost. Any ideas?
- 3. We need enough cookies for everyone in our family. What should we change in the recipe?

And don't forget to praise and celebrate your child's efforts!

WARM REGARDS,

MS. DOAN VU

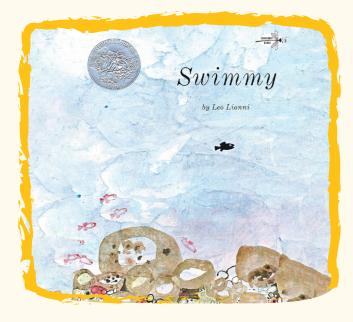
IB PYP COORDINATOR | LITTLE EM'S PRESCHOOL



BOOKLIST TO HELP DEVELOP

THE THINKERS

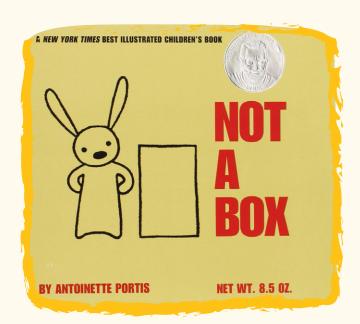
18 MONTHS - 3 YEARS



Swimmy by Leo Lionni

Swimmy, a small black fish, finds a way to protect a school of small red fish from their natural enemies.

LINK TO BOOK LINK TO VIDEO



Not a box by Antoinette Portis

This book sparks imaginative thinking through simple illustrations by showing a box transforming into various exciting scenarios.

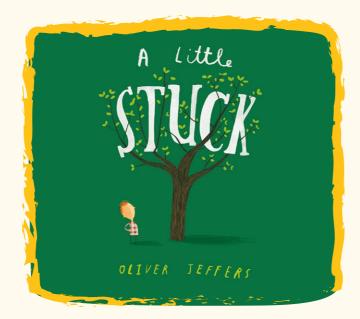
LINK TO BOOK LINK TO VIDEO



Press here by Hervé Tullet

This playful book prompts children to engage with the pages in imaginative and unexpected ways, stimulating their creative thinking.

LINK TO BOOK LINK TO VIDEO



A little stuck by Oliver Jeffers

A humorous tale about a boy who encounters a problem and uses his inventive thinking to solve it in unconventional ways.

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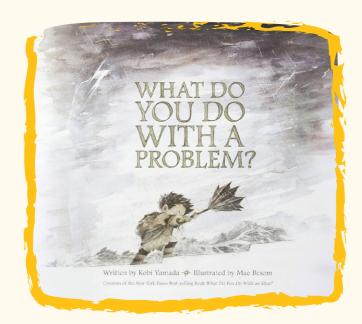
3 - 6 YEARS



What's your favorite animal? by Eric Carle and Friends

Everybody has a favorite animal. Some like little white dogs, big black cats, or hoppy brown bunnies best. Others prefer squishy snails, tall giraffes, or sleek black panthers. With beautiful illustrations and charming personal stories, 14 children's book artists share their favorite animals and why they love them.

LINK TO BOOK LINK TO VIDEO



What do you do with a problem? by Kobi Yamada

In the same series as the book "What Do You Do With an Idea" recommended in the last Newsletter, this is a story of a persistent problem and a child who isn't sure what to make of it. The longer the problem is avoided, the bigger it seems to get. But when the child finally musters up the courage to face it, the problem turns out to be quite different.

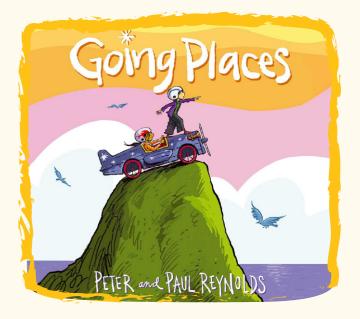
LINK TO BOOK LINK TO VIDEO



Joseph had a little overcoat by Simms Taback

Joseph had a little overcoat, but it was full of holes! When Joseph's coat got too old and shabby, he made it into a jacket. But what did he make it into after that? As children turn the pages, they will guess what Joseph will be making next from his amazing overcoat!

LINK TO BOOK LINK TO VIDEO



Going places by Peter and Paul Reynolds

It's time for this year's Going Places contest! Finally, it's time to build a go-cart, race it - and win. Each kid grabs an identical kit and scrambles to build. Everyone but Maya. She sure doesn't seem to be in a hurry, and that sure doesn't look like anybody else's go-cart! But who said it had to be a go-cart? And who said there's only one way to cross the finish line? This sublime celebration of creative spirit and thinking outside the box - figuratively and literally - is ideal for early learners.

LINK TO BOOK LINK TO VIDEO