

The Global Contexts

Global contexts direct learning towards independent and shared inquiry into our common humanity and shared guardianship of the planet. Using the world as the broadest context for learning, MYP projects can develop meaningful explorations of:

Identities and Relationships
Orientation in Space and time
Personal and Cultural expression

Scientific and Technical innovation
Globalization and Sustainability
Fairness and Development

Middle Years Programme Projects Guide, p. 20, May 2014

Global Contexts explored:

<p>Identities and relationships</p>	<p>Who am I? Who are we?</p> <p>Explore identity; beliefs and values; personal, physical, mental, social and spiritual health; human relationships including families, friends, communities and cultures; what it means to be human</p> <p>Possible Explorations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Competition and cooperation; teams, affiliation and leadership • Identity formation; self-esteem; status; roles and role models • Personal efficacy and agency; attitudes, motivation, independence; happiness and the good life • Physical, psychological and social development; transitions; health and well- being; lifestyle choices • Human nature and human dignity; moral reasoning and ethical judgment; consciousness and mind
<p>Examples of personal projects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two sides of social networking; an awareness campaign about digital citizenship and cyber bullying • How online identities impact offline relationships; a research essay • Keeping culinary traditions; a video series following family recipes with historical relevance • The effect of mass media on teenage identity; a short film • Working with trained dogs for a special needs group; a documentary of the process to train & socialize the dogs • Why does rap speak to me?; explore the emotional connection to rap 	

<p>Orientation in space and time</p>	<p>What is the meaning of “where” and “when”?</p> <p>Explore personal histories; homes and journeys; turning points in humankind; discoveries; explorations and migrations of humankind; the relationships between, and the interconnectedness of, individuals and civilizations, from personal, local and global perspectives.</p> <p>Possible Explorations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Civilizations and social histories, heritage, pilgrimage, migration, displacement and exchange • Epochs, eras, turning points and “big history” • Scale, duration, frequency and variability • Peoples, boundaries, exchange and interaction • Natural and human landscapes and resources • Evolution, constraints and adaptation
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Examples of personal projects:

- Explorers in search of a new world; immigration over the ages through visual texts
- The Mayflower and the dream of religious freedom; a personal family history
- Charting a family history through archives and a representational statue
- Explore the development of rap as a style of music across continents
- Investigate how, in history, different cultures have made use of energy for different needs

Personal and cultural expression

What is the nature and purpose of creative expression?

Explore the ways in which we discover and express ideas, feelings, nature, culture, beliefs and values; the ways in which we reflect on, extend and enjoy our creativity; our appreciation of the aesthetic.

Possible Explorations:

- Artistry, craft, creation, beauty
- Products, systems and institutions
- Social constructions of reality; philosophies and ways of life; belief systems; ritual and play
- Critical literacy, languages and linguistic systems; histories of ideas, fields and disciplines; analysis and argument
- Metacognition and abstract thinking
- Entrepreneurship, practice and competency

Examples of personal projects:

- Video games as a form of cultural expression; a short film using five video games showing how they are an expression of our culture
- The art of Manga in Japanese culture; a Japanese anime and a survey of the understanding of my peers
- Culture and self-expression through dance at the local community arts centre; a performance
- Perform a rap song for peers and have a questions and answer

Scientific and technical innovation

How do we understand the world in which we live?

Explore the natural world and its laws; the interaction between people and the natural world; how humans use their understanding of scientific principles; the impact of scientific and technological advances on communities and environments; the impact of environments on human activity; how humans adapt environments to their needs.

Possible Explorations:

- Systems, models, methods; products, processes and solutions
- Adaptation, ingenuity and progress
- Opportunity, risk, consequences and responsibility
- Modernization, industrialization and engineering
- Digital life, virtual environments and the Information Age
- The biological revolution
- Mathematical puzzles, principles and discoveries

Examples of personal projects:

- Nano fibres build stronger bikes; a prototype bike with nano fibres
- What's the matter with the anti-matter? an informational talk
- Why are genetics and genomics important to my health? a media presentation
- Can stem cells replace organ transplants? an investigative report
- Design a 3D model of a solar device with instructions for construction

<p>Globalization and sustainability</p>	<p>How is everything connected?</p> <p>Explore the interconnectedness of human-made systems and communities; the relationship between local and global processes; how local experiences mediate the global; the opportunities and tensions provided by world interconnectedness; the impact of decision-making on humankind and the environment.</p> <p>Possible Explorations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Markets, commodities and commercialization • Human impact on the environment • Commonality, diversity and interconnection • Consumption, conservation, natural resources and public goods • Population and demography • Urban planning, strategy and infrastructure
<p>Examples of personal projects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The struggle for water in developing countries; an awareness campaign • The impact of the financial crises of Europe and the European Economic Community on the United States; a visual presentation • Education as the tool to change the future of Peru; a workshop for adults • The role of the developing countries in protecting the tropical rain forest; a collection of slides • Debate Herve Kempf's ideas about "how the rich are destroying the earth?"; record it 	

<p>Fairness and development</p>	<p>What are the consequences of our common humanity?</p> <p>Explore rights and responsibilities; the relationship between communities; sharing finite resources with other people and with other living things; access to equal opportunities; peace and conflict resolution.</p> <p>Possible explorations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Democracy, politics, government and civil society • Inequality, difference and inclusion • Human capability and development; social entrepreneurs • Rights, law, civic responsibility and the public sphere • Justice, peace and conflict management • Power and privilege • Authority, security and freedom • Imagining a hopeful future
<p>Examples of personal projects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supporting fair trade: Cocoa trade in Ghana; an awareness campaign for our school restaurant/cafeteria to promote fair trade • Open-market economies and their role in fair trade; a talk for students • Exploring the intersections of race and inequality; a radio broadcast • Asylum seekers and their right to live like us; a painting • Explore two different geographical locations through the eyes of teenagers; a short film 	

