

# Primary Years Programme Curriculum Information

Grade 1: Fourth Unit

## IST Mission Statement

Challenging, inspiring and supporting all our students to fulfil their potential and improve the world.

## Student Learning Outcomes

All students, regardless of their starting point, will think critically, achieve academically and develop the wisdom to make good choices. They will show curiosity and creativity in addressing authentic problems, local and global.

They will pursue their varied passions with enthusiasm, developing resilience, perseverance and confidence. Understanding the diversity of people and cultures, they will act kindly, fairly and responsibly.

## Unit of Inquiry

**Central Idea:** Animals have developed characteristics that help them live in their environment.

**Lines of enquiry:**

- Animals are grouped according to their characteristics.
- Characteristics help animals adapt to their environment.

**In what ways can I expect my child to show their understanding?**

Your child will be able to explain that animals can be grouped in many ways (how many legs, colour) Group by what the animal eats, (herbivore, omnivore, carnivore). They will also be able to tell you that they can be classified/grouped (reptile, mammal, bird, fish, amphibian, insect) according to characteristics - hot blooded, has a back bone, has gills and so on.

They will be able to explain to you that an animal has some features that help them live in a particular environment and that if that animal is taken away from that habitat, it would find it very hard to survive.

**How can I help my child?**

Play acting games to demonstrate different animals and their movements, noises and behaviours - family members can guess your role.

When reading books involving animals, talk about the physical characteristics and places where this animal may be found.

Talk about what types of animals are found in your home country.

Discuss animal needs and how the laminated class animal may have felt if it was taken out of its environment and photographed with your child in a new place – could it survive there?

Play '20 Questions' (you think of an animal and your child can only ask you yes/ no questions to try to figure out the animal you are thinking of).

(If your child is a second language learner, they will benefit greatly, by discussing these concepts with you in their home language. What are characteristics? What is an environment? What characteristics does a particular animal have in order to live and thrive in its environment (fish have gills to breathe under water). We will then transfer that knowledge to their second language taught at school).

Kind Regards,

The grade 1 team