

## What is Rigor?

### Rigor in the classroom is established by:

- Involving students actively in their own learning and engaging students with rich, relevant content and high level questioning (by adults and students)
- Providing opportunities for the students to express voice and choice
- Emphasis on depth of learning, not just coverage
- Focusing on the quality of student work rather than on the quantity
- Challenging all students to use critical thinking skills (such as analyzing, synthesizing and evaluating information and making inferences, considering multiple perspectives of an issue, defending a position and reflecting on their learning)
- Using ongoing assessment to identify students' current level of understanding and adjust instruction to meet individual needs
- Empowering students to apply what they learned through self-initiated action in the community

### The following practices are often falsely described as being indicators of rigor.

#### Rigor is not:

- Assigning students a greater quantity of work than normally expected
- Teaching all students the same way
- Lecturing and drilling students as the primary means of instruction
- Filling an empty vessel with knowledge

## The K-8 Model of Education

The advantages of a K-8 school are.....

- Remaining a neighborhood school
- Students perform better on standardized tests
- Fewer behavior problems
- Older students are role models and mentors, giving students more of a sense of accountability
- There is more of a community atmosphere
- There is an increased amount of student involvement



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Authorized  
International Baccalaureate  
World School

## Summit Academy K-8 Campus



EDUCATION IS NOT THE FILLING OF A PAIL,  
BUT THE LIGHTING OF A FIRE.  
William Butler Yeats

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## IB Mission Statement

The International Baccalaureate aims to develop inquiring, knowledgeable and caring young people who help create a better and more peaceful world through intercultural understanding and respect.

To this end the organization works with schools, governments and international organizations to develop challenging programmes of international education and rigorous assessment.

These programmes encourage students across the world to become active, compassionate and lifelong learners who understand that other people, with their differences, can also be right.



### Learner Profile

Learner Profile is the IB mission statement translated into a set of learning outcomes for the 21st century.

IB Learners strive to be:

- Inquirers
- Knowledgeable
- Thinkers
- Communicators
- Principled
- Open-minded
- Caring
- Risk-takers
- Balanced
- Reflective

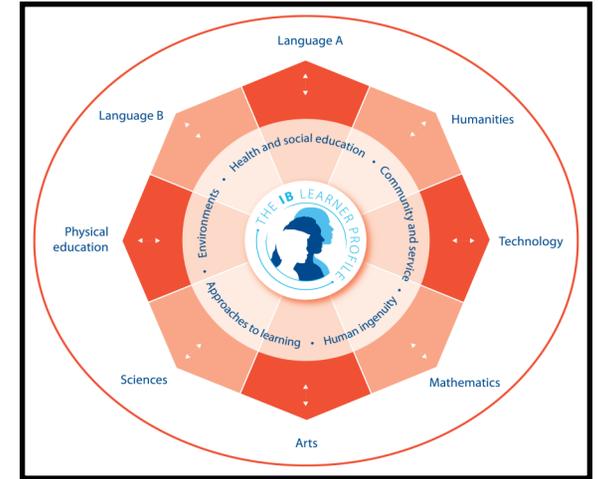
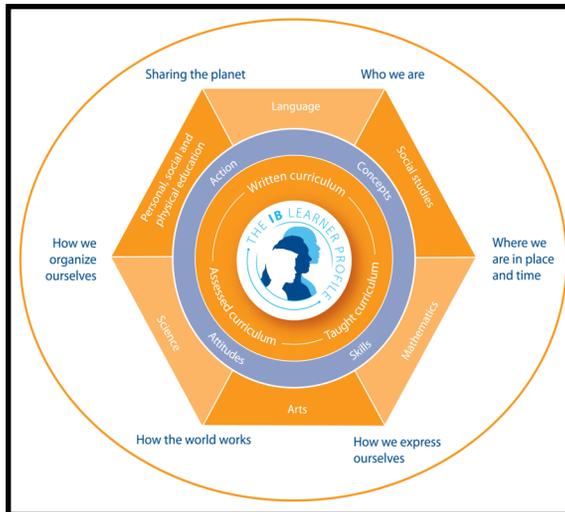
### Primary Years Program

At the elementary level, the IB curriculum is focused on helping children learn how to learn. Lessons come alive for the students because they use creativity to study issues through inquiry and questions. There is an emphasis on critical thinking, problem solving and lifelong learning.

According to the information from IB, the Primary Years Program (PYP) “focuses on the total growth of the developing child, touching hearts as well as minds and encompassing social, physical, emotional and cultural needs in addition to academic development.”

As a part of the IB program the students are introduced to foreign language skills. Research suggests that skills are readily learned at younger ages even if they do not become fluent in a foreign language. All students in the PYP receive instruction in Spanish each week. The students will also study about the United States and its place in the 21st century global economy.

Because the Primary Years Program is suited for the success of all children, no entrance criteria is required. Current PYP students will continue at the school and new students will simply enroll as they would at another elementary school.



### Middle Years Program

Life in the 21st century places many changing demands on students making the transition through adolescence. They are at a crucial period of personal, social, physical and intellectual development, of uncertainty and of questioning. The International Baccalaureate (IB) Middle Years Program is designed to help them find a sense of belonging in the ever-changing and increasingly interrelated world around them and to foster a positive attitude to learning.

#### The program:

- Encourages international mindedness starting with a foundation in their own language and culture
- Encourages a positive attitude to learning by challenging students to solve problems, show creativity and resourcefulness and participate actively in their communities
- Reflects real life by providing a framework that allows students to see the connections among the subjects themselves, and between the subjects and real issues
- Supports the development of communication skills to encourage inquiry, understanding, language acquisition, and to allow student reflection and expression
- Emphasizes, through the learner profile, the development of the whole students - physically, intellectually, emotionally and ethically