Tips and Tricks

While many of the strategies seen in classrooms can be used to spark inquiries at home, here are a few additional suggestions:

Early Years (JK/SK)

- Working in the garden
- Organizing a toy shelf
- Cooking and baking

Primary (Grade 1-3)

- Reorganizing a space at home (bedroom etc.)
- Planning a party
- Cooking and baking

Junior/ Intermediate (Grade 4-8)

- Giving back to the community
- Planning a day trip (event, time, cost, transportation)
- Investigate a phenomenon

Looking for more inquiry ideas?

Visit our Bond Lake Pinterest Page:

http://www.pinterest.com/bondlakeps/

Resources

http://www.naturalcuriosity.ca/

http://galileo.org/

Ontario Ministry of Education Getting Started with Student Inquiry website

Books to Spark Inquiry

The Big Book of Why
(Time For Kids)

Everybody Needs a Rock
(Byrd Baylor)

You are Stardust
(Elin Kelsey)

Making Waves with Inquiry

An Introduction to Inquiry Based Learning at Bond Lake Public School

What *is Inquiry Based Learning?*

A dynamic process that allows students to actively explore topics, questions and problems connected to their own interests, curriculum and/or the community.

Why *is it important?*

Inquiry Based Learning allows students to become active participants in their own learning and to develop critical thinking skills.

Who *can participate?*

Everyone.

When *and* *Where* *can Inquiry Based Learning occur?*

Inquiry Based Learning can occur anywhere: at school, in all grades and in all subject areas. It can be supported and extended at home. An inquiry can be sparked by curiosity and be developed into a topic of study.

What might spark an inquiry in a Bond Lake classroom?

- **Math Investigations**
- **Real world issues**
- **Thought- provoking pictures**
- **Artifacts (shells, exoskeletons, nests)**
- **Wonder Windows**
- **Discovery Table**
- **Nature walks**
- **Videos to spark discussion**
- **Literature that inspires**
- **Scientific Investigations**
- **Social Justice and Equity Issues**

"Inquiry is at the heart of learning in all subject areas."

(Ontario Curriculum, page 29)

Some Curriculum Connections:

Grades 1-8

Language (Reading, Writing, and Oral Communication)

1.5 Making Inferences and Interpreting Texts
1.6 Extending Understanding
1.2 Developing Ideas
1.3 Research
2.5 Point of View

Mathematics/Science

Problem solving, communication and real-world application

Kindergarten

Language

1.6 use language to talk about their thinking, to reflect, and to solve problems

Mathematics

Investigate math concepts (composing/ decomposing numbers, addition/ subtraction, non standard measurement and units, 2D and 3D shapes, etc)

Science

1.1 ask questions about and describe natural occurrences using their own observations and representations