







Learning at JIS – from Cath Wan, Deputy Principal/ PYP Coordinator

Developing the Learner Profile through Outdoor Experiences and Camp.

The Learner Profile is at the heart of the International Baccalaureate curriculum - from Reception, all the way through to IB diploma. These 'habits of mind', developed continuously at age-appropriate levels form the basis of developing well-rounded lifelong learners and support our JIS values of kindness, commitment and respect. Outdoor learning experiences, including school camps for the upper years give students a fantastic opportunity to develop these habits of mind. Using P6 camp as an example, here are a few snippets of the Learner Profile in action at camp!



Learner Profile	Example of how it was developed on P6 camp	
Communicators	As a team, children had to get themselves over a high beam. This was a lot trickier than it seemed. Students had many ideas. There were debates on the best idea, respectful disagreements and encouraging advice. Children who were nervous communicated their feelings and more confident children, used their communication skills to reassure and encourage others.	

<p>Inquirers</p>	<p>There was a beautiful moment that is an example of children naturally feeding their inquirer habit. Students were playing at a waterfall, when one child noticed a dragonfly and became curious. Over the next hour or so, his curiosity had spread to most of the class. They started to observe the dragonflies carefully, ask questions about them, and show delight in being curious. Curiosity is a foundation of being an inquirer. Moments outside to stop, observe and wonder really support the development of this attribute</p>	
<p>Reflective</p>	<p>After every activity, children reflected: what worked, what didn't, how they could improve next time, what skills they can develop further.</p>	
<p>Caring</p>	<p>Every student had different 'comfort zones' on camp activities. It was wonderful to see children offering to help each other and offering encouraging phrases such as 'you can do it!'.</p>	
<p>Thinkers</p>	<p>Every activity, from washing the dishes to climbing had a group planning session. Some of the plans didn't work the first time, so children looked at different perspectives. One of the tasks involved getting every team member out of the water, onto the pontoon without touching the sides. The intricate planning of this operation, based on size, predicted strength, and safety techniques was a joy to behold!</p>	
<p>Risk-takers</p>	<p>The jetty jump was a true example of this one! Trying something that they were nervous about was challenging for many but practising the 'jump strategy' from a lower height helped students to build up confidence. Supporting each other with encouraging talk really supported the children to participate too. It was wonderful to see how exuberant the students were after stretching their comfort zones!</p>	

The above is just a snapshot of how the learner profile can be developed. Throughout their school years, each child will 'collect a huge bank of experiences' that explicitly link to these attributes. In this way, the Learner Profile is not a 'word list' but becomes truly lived, internalised and will hopefully support our students as lifelong learners.

As always, if you have any questions about learning at JIS, feel free to contact me via Toddle or at