

# Now I know about... *Inquiry Based Learning*

Inquiry based learning asks big questions to engage curious minds and puts children in control of what they learn, developing:

collaboration



creativity



independent learning



## 3 Phases of inquiry based learning

### 1. Curiosity

#### Step 1:

Spark students' curiosity by posing big questions on the topic.



What is a hero?

Why do we protect animals?

How is our food made?

#### Step 2:

Scaffold student discussions by teaching useful language and vocabulary.

#### Step 3:

Support students as they discuss what they already know, and decide what they need to learn next.



### 2. Discovery

With the support of their classmates and teacher, students embark on a discovery phase to fill the gaps in their knowledge through:

- Texts and information in their coursebook
- Supplementary materials selected by the teacher
- Home-based or classroom research



They can do this over one or a series of lessons.

### 3. Reflection

After the lesson or series of lessons, invite students to reflect on what they have learnt, and how they learnt it.

Provide questions or Can Do Statements to scaffold discussions:

- What did you discover?
- What new words did you learn?
- What could you do better next time?



## Top Tips



Play an active role – prompt with ideas, guide investigations and motivate children towards their goals.



Find innovative ways to introduce topics, use puppets, video clips or realia.



Teach essential grammar and vocabulary for the discovery phase.



During discussions feed in useful language.



Focus on sub-skills to help improve listening and reading skills.

