

## IB PYP at Midvale Elementary

Every child at Midvale is a participant in the IB Primary Year Programme. The Primary Years Programme (PYP) is the official curriculum framework and teaching methodology of the International Baccalaureate Organization (IBO) developed to meet the needs of the whole child, in the classroom as well as the world outside, through other environments where children learn.

The PYP:

- Emphasizes learning through active inquiry.
- Provides a set of organizing themes that helps schools to incorporate state and district content standards into a balanced program of knowledge, concepts, skills, attitudes and action that addresses the needs of the whole child.
- Combines the best research and practices to create a relevant and engaging educational framework for all children.



# IB PYP LEARNER PROFILE

Our students are:

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

**Our school community teaches and models the attitudes that help our students develop the Learner Profile:**

**Appreciation**  
**Commitment**  
**Confidence**  
**Cooperation**  
**Creativity**  
**Curiosity**  
**Empathy**  
**Enthusiasm**  
**Independence**  
**Integrity**  
**Respect**  
**Tolerance**

## Midvale Elementary School

**An IB PYP and  
AdvancED STEM Certified  
School**



**Midvale Elementary**  
**3836 Midvale Road**  
**Tucker, GA 30084**  
**678-874-3402**  
**[www.midvalees.dekalb.k12.ga.us](http://www.midvalees.dekalb.k12.ga.us)**



## IB/STEM Curriculum

- Transdisciplinary program of inquiry connects all disciplines to the conceptually central idea
- Uses problem based learning (PBLs to connect science, technology, engineering and math to the disciplines, emphasizing real world problems and application.
- Content rich with global perspectives
- Delivers Georgia Standards of Excellence (GSE) through units of inquiry
- Spanish is taught as the second language to all students
- Uses problem-based learning to connect real world problem solving and application
- Opportunities to take action to help home, school and the community

## Instructional Delivery

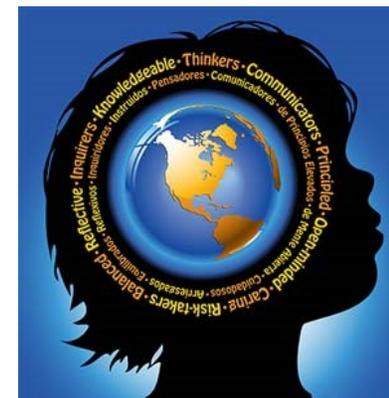
- Inquiry based instruction
- Builds on students' prior knowledge
- Collaborative learning
- Differentiation within the curriculum
- Real world problem solving
- Student centered
- Hands on learning



## Why are STEM & IB Important?

- **Relevant:** 80% of the fastest growing jobs in the US require mastery of science and technology.
- **Hands On:** IB & STEM use hands on, inquiry based learning so that students can become active participants in their learning through experiences and engaging activities.
- **Skills Based:** There is a focus on skills that have application beyond the classroom in the areas of thinking skills, social skills, research skills, communication skills and self-management skills.
- **Differentiated:** Engaging and interesting tasks allow students to demonstrate their learning in a variety of ways.
- **Rigorous:** A Global International Schools' Assessment study found that PYP students outperformed non-IB students in mathematics, reading and writing ([ibo.org/research](http://ibo.org/research)). Likewise, students engaged in Stem coursework earlier in their learning careers are more likely to maintain college level STEM courses (Espinosa, 2012).
- **Real World:** Students that can make connections across disciplines into a real world context are better prepared for college and careers (Asghar, Ellington, Rice, Johnson, & Prime, 2012).

## What makes Midvale different?



Midvale demands a true partnership between students, teachers and parents. Children are actively engaged in learning about issues and themes of universal significance.

Midvale's classrooms are student-centered, with the teacher serving as a facilitator. Students are encouraged to become active learners and critical thinkers. They learn to take socially responsible action in order to make the world a better place.

**Tara Dougherty, Principal**  
**Ramona Young, Assistant Principal**  
**Ashley Little, IB/STEM Coordinator**

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