Using Inquiry to Explore the Curriculum
Curriculum - planning and designing
Pedagogy - teaching & learning
Inquiry is an approach where:

- Learning is done in collaboration with the children.
- Opportunities are created for the children to ask questions and contribute ideas and content.
- Learning is a process of investigation where the children explore the curriculum, guided and supported by the teacher.
- Learning is planned around various inquiry questions.
- Opportunities are created for reflection and evaluation.
Three 'Models' of Inquiry

- Inquiry
- Imaginative inquiry
- Dramatic inquiry
Using Inquiry

Classroom

Learners outside the content thinking about...

Area of study (Content)
Using Imaginative Inquiry

Classroom

Area of study (Content)

Learners outside imagining what it is like inside...
USING DRAMATIC INQUIRY

Classroom

Area of study (Content)

Learners imagining themselves inside…
The Three Models

Inquiry

- Classroom
- Area of study (Content)
- Learners outside the content thinking about...

Imaginative Inquiry

- Classroom
- Area of study (Content)
- Learners outside imagining what it is like inside...

Dramatic Inquiry

- Classroom
- Area of study (Content)
- Learners imagining themselves inside...

Learners imagining themselves inside...
AN EXAMPLE - FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE

Take a look at this picture...
INQUIRY
What do you notice?
• What do you notice?
• What might that mean?
What do you notice?
What might that mean?
What would you like to know?
Imagine what else is going on in the hospital - what sounds are there? What movements? What silences? What stillness?
Create the hospital on the day Florence arrived. What would she notice? What would she want to change? What would she do first?
PLANNING AN INQUIRY

Area of Study - Animals (suitable for Nursery to Yr.6)
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1. What might interest children about animals?
PLANNING AN INQUIRY

Area of Study - Animals (suitable for Nursery to Yr.6)

1. What might interest children about animals?
2. Underline some that also interest you.
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3. Think of a context where a team of people would be involved with the animals or aspects you have underlined (it might only be one).
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PLANNING AN INQUIRY
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9. Invent a scenario where the team will need to educate others about what they do.
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8. What kinds of things do the team need to do, to know, and to find out about, in order to do their job?
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9. Think of the curriculum the children will explore while they are doing this work. Including the key skills, thinking skills and SEAL.
A wildlife park in a small village, caring for injured, sick and endangered animals. Need to open their doors to raise money as donations are drying up after the economic downturn. The park is owned by a former explorer and retired animal expert, who has seen the world change and it’s wildlife threatened. The team are busy tending the animals when they receive an emergency call from two of their team on route with two lions airlifted from Africa - one with bullet wounds, the other with an infected bite...
"If you had a job where you cared for animals, what kind of animal would you be interested in looking after?"
"What responsibilities do human beings have to preserving and protecting animals from injury, sickness and extinction?"