

Sample Schedule

Elementary Inquiry Summer Institute

inquirED



EISI 2021 will be held virtually, July 29-30th, 2021

NOTE: The schedule provided below is a draft and subject to revision.

Day 1

Opening Keynote: TBD

Recommend For: All Attendees

The Principles and Practice of Inquiry-Based Social Studies

The evidence is clear: inquiry-based social studies instruction in elementary classrooms engages students, develops cognitive capacity, and improves outcomes. In this session, we'll not only explore the theory behind inquiry and the evidence for it, but we'll also dive into what inquiry-based social studies can look like in the classroom – and how it can transform a school community.

Recommend For: All Attendees

Inquiry and Culturally Responsive Practice in Social Studies

Culturally Responsive Teaching (CRT) and inquiry-based practice have a strong connection: both prioritize the development of cognitive capacity through student-centered instruction. Discover the shared values, strategies, and practices used by both pedagogies and learn how to implement CRT and inquiry-based practices in social studies classrooms.

Recommend For: All Attendees

Choosing and Evaluating Sources

In inquiry-based social studies, students use the disciplinary skills of social scientists to investigate and learn from a wide variety of sources, including maps, documents, photographs, paintings, artifacts, student-created work, etc. Gathering those sources is one of the most important (and time-consuming!) jobs that teachers must perform. But how do you choose the right source, evaluating it for accuracy, representation, and bias? Participants will come away with the tools and strategies to choose and evaluate sources for their social studies classes.

Recommend For: All Attendees

Day 2

Opening Keynote: Shanti Elangovan, CEO & Founder, inquirED

Recommend For: All Attendees

Taking Informed Action

It can be hard for teachers to make the shift to informed action during a unit. In this session, participants will explore how to implement an informed action process that includes brainstorming protocols, student rubric generation, prototyping rules, feedback cycles, and assessments. Participants will come away with a deeper understanding of how they can implement informed action - and a set of handouts, tools, and strategies that they can immediately apply with their students.

Recommend For: All Attendees

Literacy and Elementary Social Studies

What's the connection between literacy and social studies? We'll examine foundational research about the ways that elementary social studies improves literacy outcomes, while also exploring how content literacy strategies can help students dig into complex texts in their social studies investigations. Participants will walk away with a deeper understanding of the relationship between literacy and elementary social studies, as well as a toolbox of strategies to help students as they learn.

Recommend For: Instructional Leaders

Coaching Teachers Toward Inquiry in the Social Studies

Instructional coaches can serve multiple roles in implementing inquiry-based social studies: clinicians, thought-partners, cheerleaders, and so much more. But what are the unique struggles faced by teachers as they implement inquiry in social studies? And what classroom-tested strategies can help them overcome obstacles? Participants will analyze scenarios and practice coaching strategies to help teachers implement inquiry.

Recommended for: Instructional Leaders

A Framework for Inquiry: Choosing the Right Social Studies Curriculum

All Elementary social studies curricula are not created equal! Find out what to look for in elementary curriculum and instructional materials across five domains, including Inquiry-Based Instruction; Culturally Responsive Education; Standards-Based Instruction and Assessment; High-Quality, Diverse Sources; Learner Supports and Continuous PD. Participants will walk away with a rubric that supports curriculum evaluation.

Recommended for: Instructional Leaders
