Inquiry Journeys

QUICK START GUIDE

Welcome to Inquiry Journeys! This guide provides an overview of everything you need to get started using the online curriculum. For more in-depth information, please check out the Inquiry Hub Help Center.

GETTING STARTED

Logging In
How Inquiry Journeys Is Organized
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GETTING HELP

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FAQ

GETTING STARTED

Logging In

To log in to the Inquiry Journeys platform, go to:

https://app.inquired.com/

inquirED

Welcome!

Email

Next

Questions about how to log in? Contact Support
Are you a student? Student platform coming soon!

By logging in or creating an account, you are agreeing to our Terms of Service and Data Privacy Policy.

TROUBLE LOGGING IN? CLICK "CONTACT SUPPORT" FOR HELP!

After logging in, you'll be brought to the Inquiry Selector. On this page, you'll be able to see your Inquiries by grade level.

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Inquiry Selector

Inquiry Journeys: Kindergarten

Navigating School
In order for students to feel a sense of agency in their school environments, they must first consider the different physical locations and people they interact with throughout the school day. In this Inquiry, students develop a strong foundation from which to understand their own role, setting the stage for them to make choices that will foster a great school community for everyone.
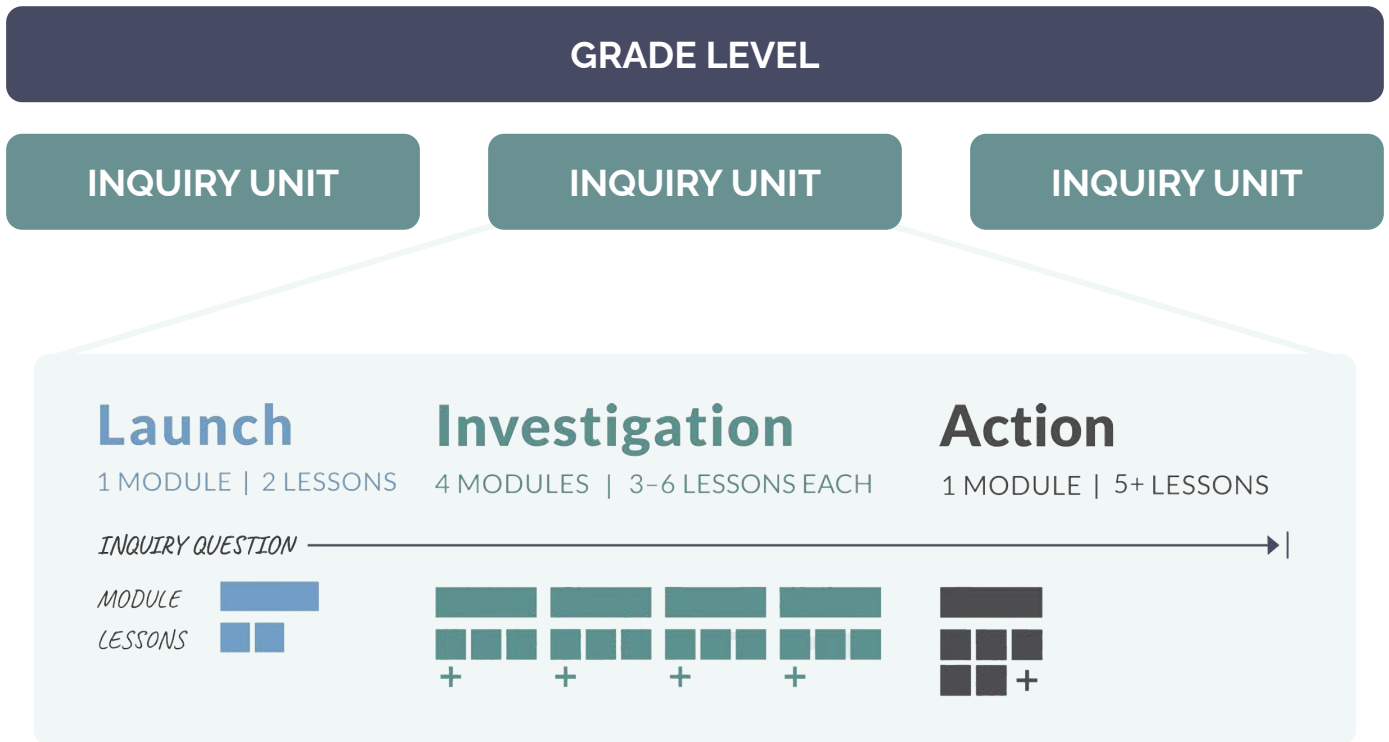
Go to Inquiry

Each unit of Inquiry Journeys is referred to as an "Inquiry Unit" (or, more simply, an "Inquiry"). Most grade levels have three Inquiries. This one is called "Navigating School."

My Team and Self
Successful teams can do just about anything. But to understand what you can accomplish as a team, you need to understand who makes up the team, how those individuals can work together, and how diversity makes a team more powerful. In this Inquiry, students explore essential elements of personal identity in order to help them recognize how they can contribute to a team. Then, they identify opportunities for teamwork in their own class community.

Go to Inquiry

Past, Present, and Future
Our past experiences and the wisdom gained from those experiences are integral to planning for our future. In this Inquiry, students explore the essential elements of time and how tracking and sharing our journey through time is a way of sharing the unique stories that make us who we are. They build an understanding of how time's patterns and cycles structure our past and present lives to better prepare for what's to come.

Go to Inquiry

Click on the "Go to Inquiry" button to head to the Inquiry's homepage.

INQUIRY JOURNEYS

Table of Contents

GETTING STARTED

How Inquiry Journeys Is Organized

Inquiry Journeys is a K–5 social studies curriculum. Each grade level contains three to four Inquiries. Inquiries comprise three phases: Launch, Investigation, and Action.
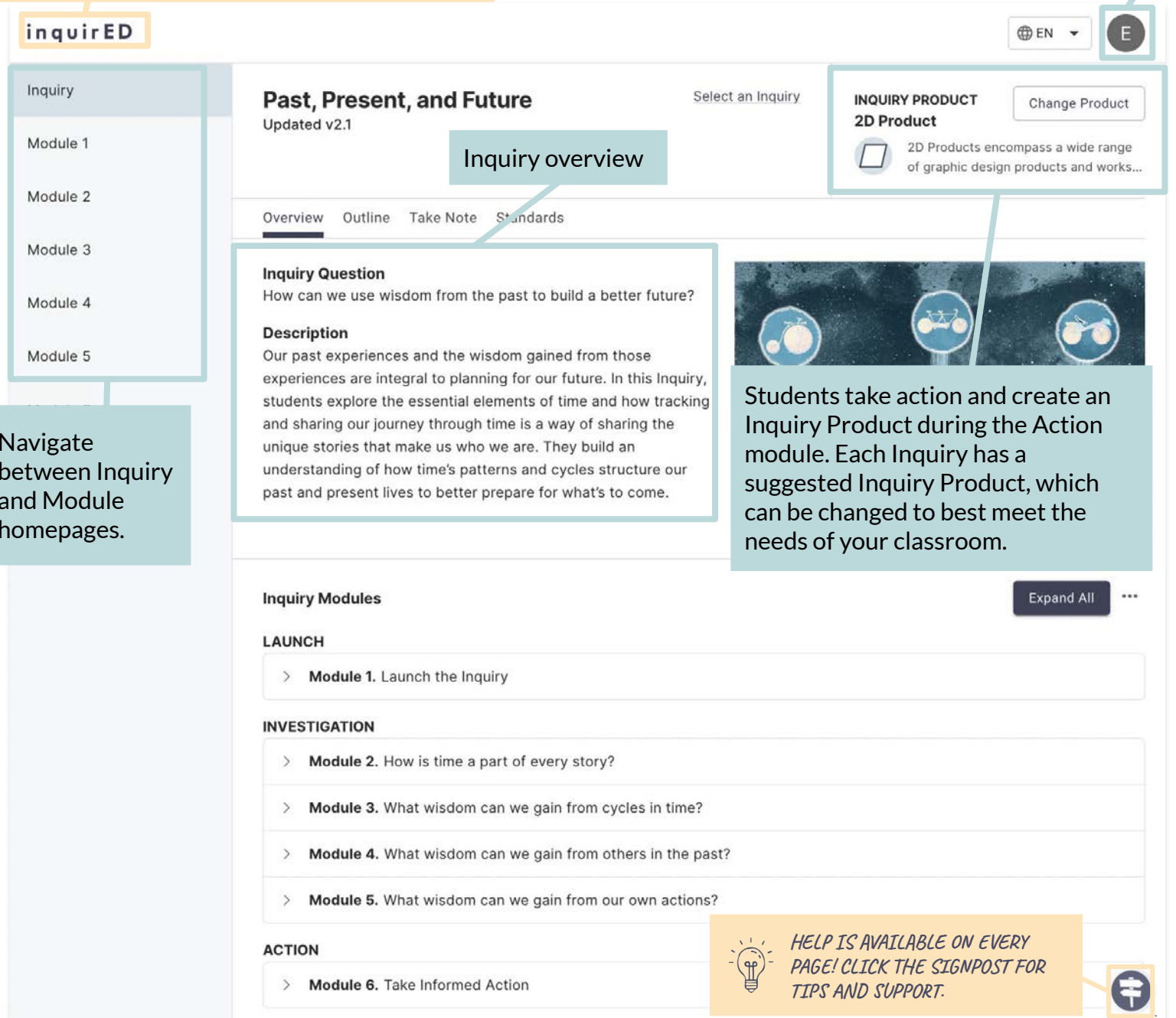

GRADE LEVEL		
INQUIRY UNIT	INQUIRY UNIT	INQUIRY UNIT

Launch
1 MODULE | 2 LESSONS

Investigation
4 MODULES | 3–6 LESSONS EACH

Action
1 MODULE | 5+ LESSONS

INQUIRY QUESTION

MODULE

LESSONS

GETTING STARTED

Inquiry Unit Homepage

After clicking on the "Go to Inquiry" button, you'll be brought to the Inquiry Unit homepage.

NEED TO JUMP TO ANOTHER INQUIRY? CLICK "INQUIRED" TO GO BACK TO THE INQUIRY SELECTOR.

Your account

inquirED

Inquiry
Module 1
Module 2
Module 3
Module 4
Module 5

Past, Present, and Future
Updated v2.1

Select an Inquiry

INQUIRY PRODUCT
2D Product   Change Product

2D Products encompass a wide range of graphic design products and works...

Inquiry overview

Overview   Outline   Take Note   Standards

Inquiry Question
How can we use wisdom from the past to build a better future?

Description
Our past experiences and the wisdom gained from those experiences are integral to planning for our future. In this Inquiry, students explore the essential elements of time and how tracking and sharing our journey through time is a way of sharing the unique stories that make us who we are. They build an understanding of how time's patterns and cycles structure our past and present lives to better prepare for what's to come.

Navigate between Inquiry and Module homepages.

Students take action and create an Inquiry Product during the Action module. Each Inquiry has a suggested Inquiry Product, which can be changed to best meet the needs of your classroom.

Inquiry Modules   Expand All   ...

LAUNCH

> **Module 1.** Launch the Inquiry

INVESTIGATION

> **Module 2.** How is time a part of every story?

> **Module 3.** What wisdom can we gain from cycles in time?

> **Module 4.** What wisdom can we gain from others in the past?

> **Module 5.** What wisdom can we gain from our own actions?

ACTION

> **Module 6.** Take Informed Action

HELP IS AVAILABLE ON EVERY PAGE! CLICK THE SIGNPOST FOR TIPS AND SUPPORT.

GETTING STARTED

Inquiry Unit Homepage

At the bottom of the Inquiry homepage, you'll find a breakdown of the Inquiry's modules.

Toggle between tabs to view the Inquiry overview, outline, notes, and standards.

Toggle between English and Spanish.

Modules are grouped under the phases of the Inquiry Unit (Launch, Investigation, Action).

Click on a module to expand and view the module description and lesson list. From there you can click "Go to Module" or navigate to a specific lesson.

GETTING STARTED

Module Homepage

You can access modules by clicking "Go to Module" from the Inquiry homepage, or you can select modules from the navigation menu on the left. Once you select your module, you'll be taken to that module's homepage.

EASILY SELECT AND BULK PRINT ALL MODULE MATERIALS!*

Toggle between tabs to see the module overview, prep, and standards.

Inquiry navigation menu

Expand each section of the lesson menu to view lesson descriptions. Click "Go to Lesson" to access the full lesson plan, slide deck, and materials.

Core lessons are required to meet module objectives and content standards. Extension lessons are optional and explore concepts in more depth.

*Feature not available in demo or pilot accounts.

GETTING STARTED

Lesson Homepage

After selecting a lesson from the module homepage, you'll be taken to that lesson's homepage.

Access the lesson navigation menu to quickly move between lessons in the module.

Print the lesson.*

Toggle between tabs to view the lesson overview, prep, and content standards.

Navigate back to the module homepage or between the three parts of the lesson: Opening, Active Inquiry, and Closing.

*Feature not available in demo or pilot accounts.

TEACHING A LESSON

Lesson Prep

The Prep tab on the lesson homepage ensures you have everything you need to start teaching.

Mark a lesson "Complete" or "Incomplete."

Print the lesson.*

Access materials and check them off to keep track of items you've already prepped.

Scroll down to the lesson plan to view step-by-step lesson guidance.

*Feature not available in demo or pilot accounts.

TEACHING A LESSON

Lesson Prep

Each lesson includes a detailed list of items that require prep. Prep items include everything you need to do before the lesson to be ready to implement. They also contain any materials, such as handouts and assessment guides, that you may need to download and/or print.

PREP TAGS SHARE IMPORTANT INFORMATION AT A GLANCE.

The "Prior to Lesson" description provides detailed notes about how to prepare each item.

Click on a prep item to reveal full prep information and to download any required materials.

View, print, or download any materials – such as handouts, assessment guides, and setup guides – associated with a prep item.

TEACHING A LESSON

Step-by-Step Lesson Guidance

When you're ready to start teaching, each part of the lesson contains step-by-step guidance and correlating slides.

A BOLDED TERM IN THE LESSON INDICATES THAT THIS ITEM HAS REQUIRED PREP.

Pacing guidance

Slide deck

You can also reveal prep item information directly from a lesson by clicking any prep item below an activity.

Teaching Notes and Learner Supports for each part of the lesson

Click "Present Now" to start presenter mode for the slide deck.

CLICK ANY SLIDE TO DOWNLOAD THE LESSON PRESENTATION.

TEACHING A LESSON

Assessment

Inquiry Journeys includes opportunities for ongoing assessment in every lesson. Checkpoint assessments are aligned to module objectives, serving as formative assessments for the Inquiry and summative assessments for each module.

CHECKPOINT ASSESSMENT

On the module homepage, checkpoint assessment opportunities are identified in the "Checkpoint Assessment" section on the Overview tab. You can also see which lesson in the module includes the checkpoint assessment by glancing at the lesson menu on the bottom.

TEACHING A LESSON

Assessment

Assessment guides are available for any assessed item. They are contained within the associated prep item. Once you reveal the full prep item, you can choose to print, view, or download the assessment guide (and the assessed item, of course).

NEED TO CUSTOMIZE OR EDIT MATERIALS? LOOK FOR THE PENCIL ICON!

View, print, or download assessment guides.

Click the prep item to reveal its full contents and access any accompanying materials.

This panel slides out after clicking on any prep item to reveal all things prep for that item.

GETTING HELP

In-App Support

You can access support through the curriculum, including help with developing your practice, navigating the app, and understanding your curriculum.
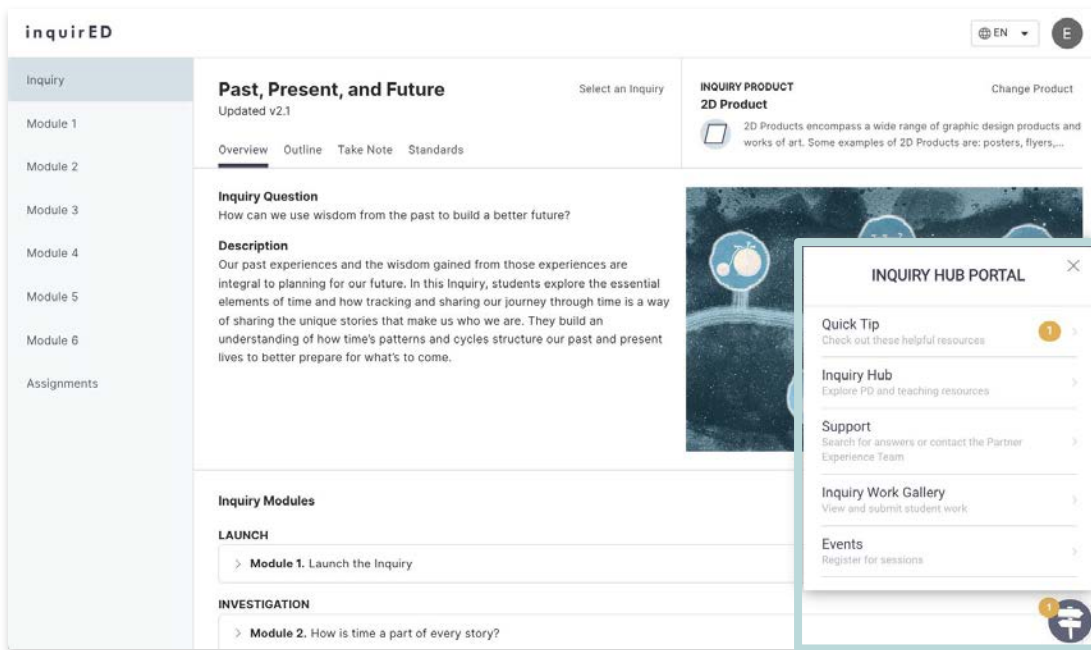
Click on the signpost in the bottom-right corner to access the Inquiry Hub portal, which provides direct access to the Inquiry Hub, our support team, suggestions, tutorials, and more.
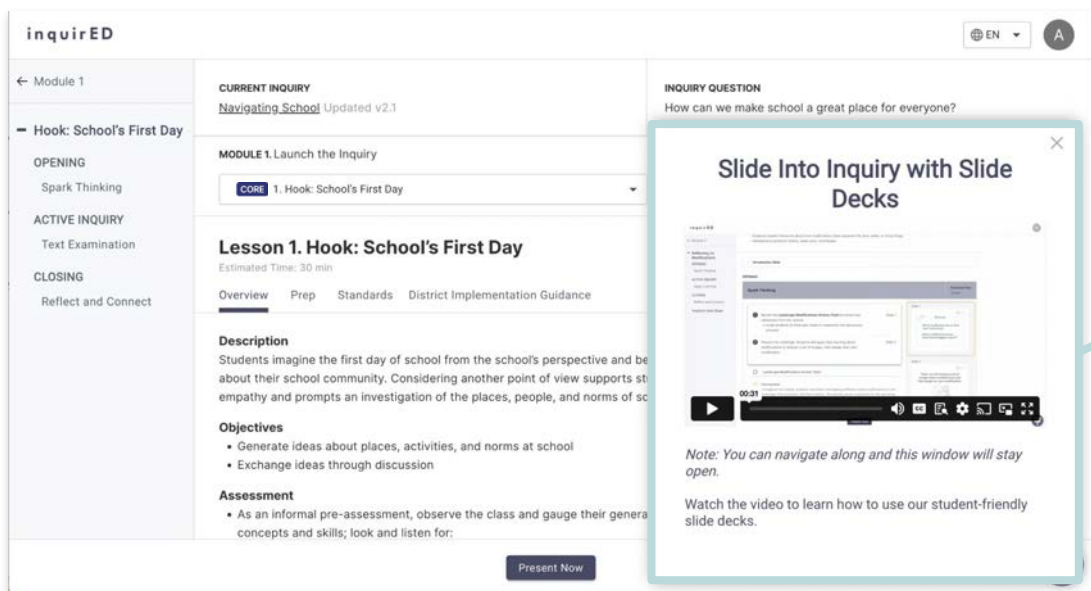
Tutorials are also available in the app to help you better understand how to use materials.

GETTING HELP

In-App Support

Some Inquiries include videos that highlight key moments of an Inquiry. These "Inquiry at a Glance" videos can be accessed by clicking the yellow play button on the Inquiry homepage.
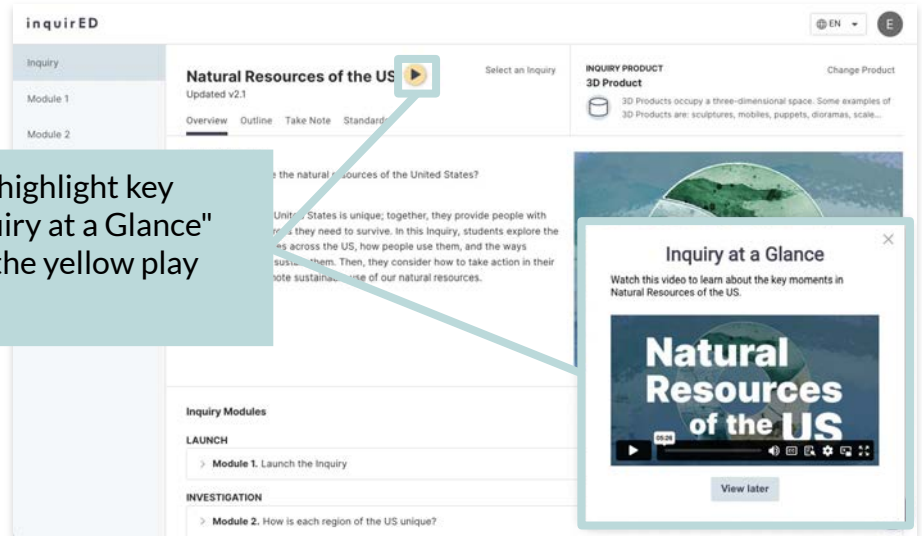
As you navigate the curriculum, you will encounter tips about how to make the most of existing features, as well as alerts about our newest features.
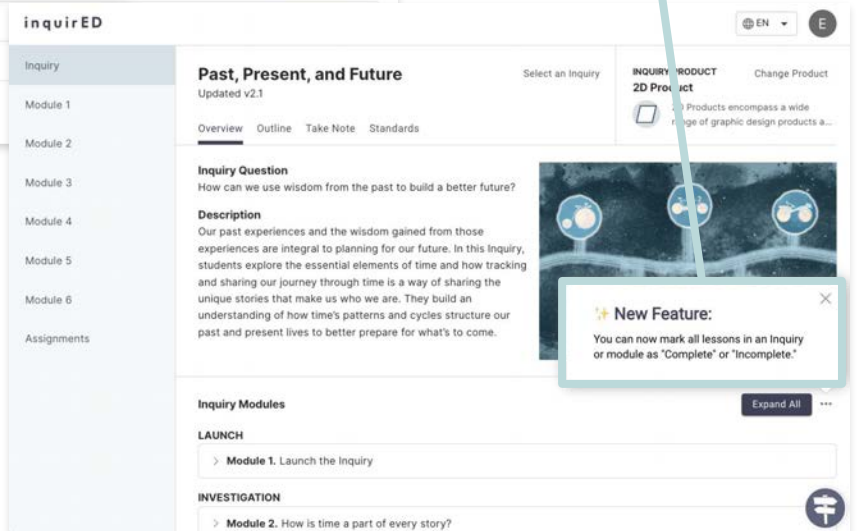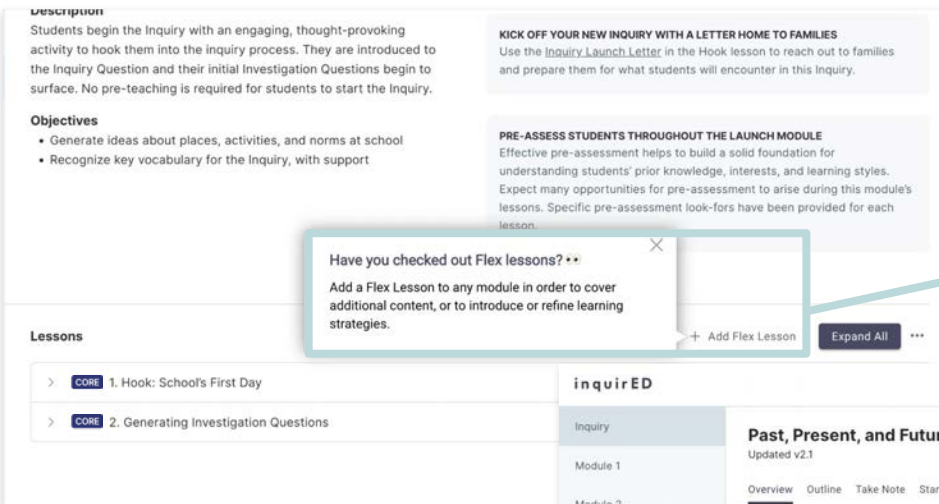
GETTING HELP

Inquiry Hub

The Inquiry Hub provides a variety of support for Inquiry Journeys users. In the Hub, you can access professional learning content as well as resources to help you navigate the app, the curriculum, implementation, and more.
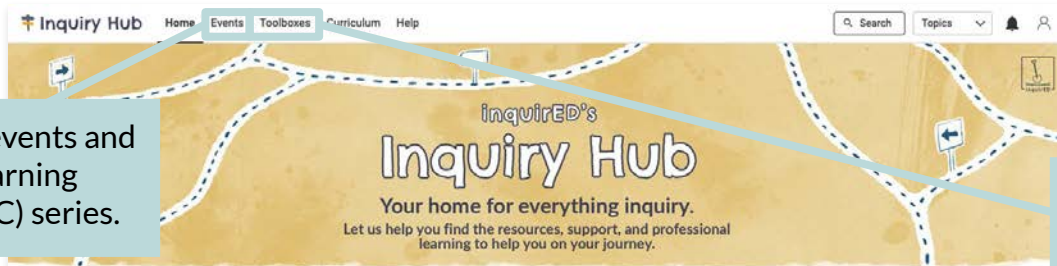
See upcoming events and professional learning community (PLC) series.

Browse tools and resources by topic.

Explore featured content and monthly spotlights.

Participate in asynchronous professional learning courses.
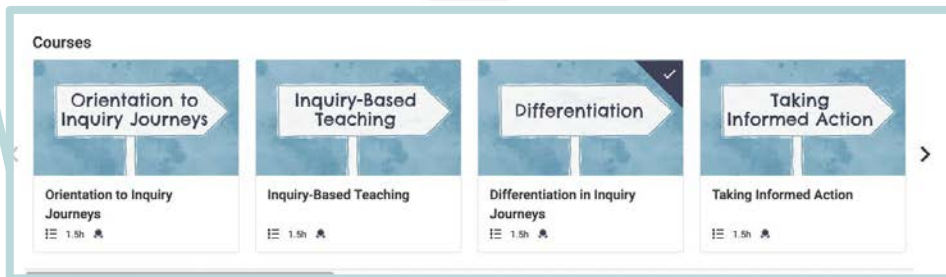
Find specific information and support for getting started with Inquiry Journeys.

Check out images of Inquiry Journeys classrooms in action.

Find answers to your questions, navigation help, and curriculum support.

GETTING HELP

FAQ: Connecting with Your Learning Management System (LMS)

How do I assign materials to Canvas or Google Classroom?

Teachers can assign materials to Canvas and Google Classroom from the lesson homepage. Note that your district leader will need to enable this feature through your LMS.

1. Navigate to the lesson you are working in.

2. Click the "Assignments" button to the right of the lesson title.

3. From the drop-down menu, select your LMS. (Note that you may encounter a few questions about authorization. Click "Authorize" to allow resources to be published to your LMS.)

4. Select the materials you wish to share with students. In this modal, you will also have the opportunity to add additional directions.

5. When finished selecting, press "Next" in the bottom-left corner of the modal.

6. Select the course that you want to publish materials for, then click the "Save" button.

Learn more about assigning materials to Canvas

Learn more about assigning materials to Google Classroom

GETTING HELP

FAQ: Inquiry Unit Structure

What are Core ("CORE") and Extension ("EXT") lessons?

CORE Core lessons are required in order to meet established module objectives and content standards.

EXT Extension lessons are optional lessons that explore concepts in more depth, build interdisciplinary connections, activate place-based resources, or utilize specific technological tools. The content of an Extension lesson is not required to meet established module objectives.

Lessons

∨ **CORE** 1. Past, Present, and Future

Students explore time through the concepts of past, present, and future. The clues to identify evidence of past, present, and future in a nonfiction text.

Go to Lesson →

> **CORE** 2. Learning from Stories Across Time

> **EXT** 3. When Did It Happen? Analyzing Photo Evidence

> **EXT** 4. Practicing Chronological Order

> **CORE** 5. Documenting My Story CHECKPOINT ASSESSMENT

Where does the Hook lesson appear in an Inquiry?

The Hook lesson is always the first lesson of an Inquiry and can be found in the Launch Module. This lesson "hooks" students into the Inquiry by sparking excitement and curiosity.

MODULE 1 LAUNCH
Launch the Inquiry

Overview   Prep   Standards   Inquiry Print Builder

Description
Students begin the Inquiry with an engaging, thought-provoking activity to hook them into the inquiry process. They are introduced to the Inquiry Question and their initial Investigation Questions begin to surface. No pre-teaching is required for students to start the inquiry.

Objectives
• Compare different accounts of the same event
• Reflect on the past to explore concepts of time

KICK OFF YOUR NEW INQUIRY WITH A LETTER HOME TO FAMILIES
Use the Inquiry Launch Letter in the Hook lesson to reach out to families and prepare them for what students will encounter in this Inquiry.

PRE-ASSESS STUDENTS THROUGHOUT THE LAUNCH MODULE
Effective pre-assessment helps to build a solid foundation for understanding students' prior knowledge, interests, and learning styles. Expect many opportunities for pre-assessment to arise during this module's lessons. Specific pre-assessment look-fors have been provided for each lesson.

Lessons   + Add Flex Lesson   Expand All ···

∨ **CORE** 1. Hook: Thinking About Time   Incomplete

Students investigate how people understand and experience time differently. They reflect on their first day of school and begin to think about how past experiences can prepare them for the future.
Go to Lesson →

> **CORE** 2. Generating Investigation Questions   Incomplete

In which module do students take informed action?

Students take informed action in the Action Module, or Module 6. The Action Module is always the final module of an Inquiry. Students draw on learning from their sustained investigation before designing and implementing Inquiry Products that impact the world in a meaningful way.

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Inquiry

Module 1

Module 2

Module 3

Module 4

Module 5

Module 6

Assignments

CURRENT INQUIRY
Natural Resources of the US Updated v2.1

MODULE 6 ACTION
Take Informed Action 🗳

Overview   Prep   Standards

Description
Students shift focus in this module, using the conclusions and key findings from their investigation to impact the world beyond their classroom. The lessons guide students through the stages of the design process, including brainstorming and developing their ideas, creating a prototype, evaluating and improving their work based on feedback, and preparing to share the work publicly. Finally, they reflect on the knowledge and skills they developed during the Inquiry.

GETTING HELP

FAQ: Inquiry Unit Structure

Where do I find information about standards alignment?

You can find standards alignment information in the Standards tab of any Inquiry, module, or lesson homepage. State standards for ELA and social studies are included. When relevant, national standards are also included.

GETTING HELP

FAQ: Prep

How can I track lessons that we've already covered?

At the top of each lesson homepage, you will find a drop-down menu where you can mark a lesson "Complete" or "Incomplete."

Where can I find information about lesson prep?

Prep lists make it easy to access and keep track of all the materials and sources you need throughout an Inquiry. You can view all prep for a lesson or module by navigating to the Prep tab on the lesson homepage. In the Prep tab, you will be able to see:

- Prep tags, which provide at-a-glance information about the materials

- Instructions for preparing each material or source

- Checkboxes to help you keep track of prep throughout an Inquiry

What do the different prep tags mean?

Some prep items contain at-a-glance information in the form of tags. These tags provide guidance for lesson or module preparation.

HEAVY LIFT items require extended prep time. It is recommended that you begin preparing these materials well in advance of the lesson.

CLASSROOM SETUP items will be physically displayed or made available in your classroom.

INQUIRY-LONG DISPLAY items will be displayed, referred to, or added to throughout an Inquiry.

OPTIONAL items are not required to implement the lesson.

CHECKPOINT ASSESSMENT items will be used to assess student understanding of module objectives and skills after a period of sustained investigation.

REQUIRES CUSTOMIZATION indicates that an item must be modified before it is ready for use.

GETTING HELP

FAQ: Printing

How do I print lesson plans?

You can print individual lesson plans by clicking the "Print Lesson" button, which is located at the top of each lesson homepage. Your printed lesson plan will include lesson objectives, assessment opportunities, prep, lesson instructions, and corresponding slides.

How do I print specific materials?

1. Navigate to your lesson or module Prep tab.

2. Select item you want to prepare.

3. Read the "Prior to Lesson" description for important information about preparing the material.

4. Under the "Prior to Lesson" description, select the print or PDF icons associated with the material you wish to print. (Note that the PDF icon will open the material in a new tab.) You can also click the material name to open a preview modal. From the preview modal, you can also select print or PDF.

Learn more

GETTING HELP

FAQ: Printing

Can I print more than one lesson plan or material at a time?

The Inquiry Print Builder allows you to build your own print-ready PDF, which can include lesson plans and materials for a lesson, series of lessons, or entire module. We recommend printing lessons and materials as you go through the Inquiry, giving you ultimate flexibility to customize for your students and their needs. (Note that the Inquiry Print Builder is not available for free pilot or demo accounts.)

1. Navigate to your Inquiry.

2. Select the Take Note tab and click the "Get Started" button under the "Inquiry Print Builder" note. Or, alternatively, click the "Inquiry Print Builder" button at the top of the module homepage.

3. Select the lesson plans and materials you wish to compile into a print-ready file. Eligible materials include handouts, articles, assessment guides, and teacher guides but do not include standalone media, such as maps or ebooks.

4. Once you have made your selections, click "Compile and Send." You will receive a confirmation that the file is being created and emailed to you. The process can take up to an hour. Please add no-reply@inquired.org to your contacts to ensure successful delivery. We also recommend checking your email's spam and junk folders.

5. Once it arrives in your inbox, open the email and click "print-ready PDF." A new tab will open, and the PDF will begin to download. Open the downloaded file to preview and print the PDF.

Learn more

Are there ways to work around the need for printing all materials?

Yes! Inquiry Journeys directly integrates with Canvas and Google Classroom. Additionally, teachers are able to download student handouts and upload them to their LMS.

GETTING HELP

FAQ: Spanish Lessons and Materials

Where do I find Spanish lesson plans and materials?

You can access Spanish materials, slides, and lesson plans at any time by toggling to Spanish. The language toggle is located in the upper-right corner of the app, next to your account icon.
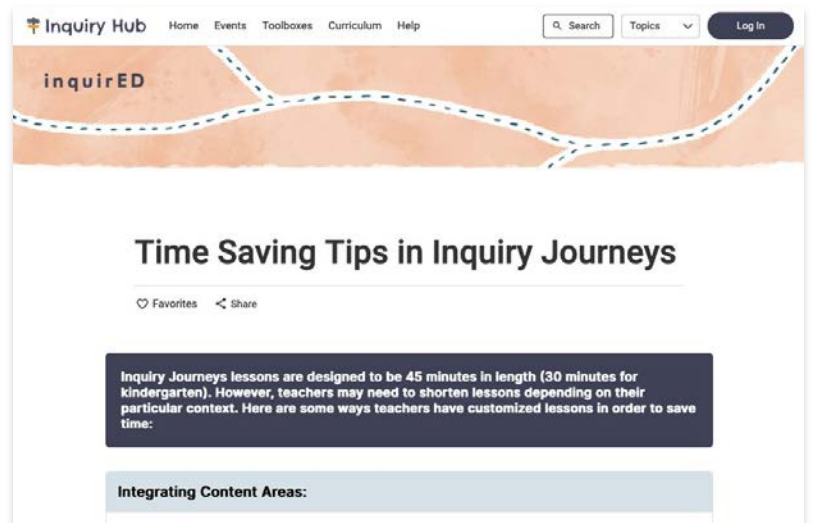
GETTING HELP

FAQ: Pacing Guidance

How long does it take to teach an Inquiry Journeys lesson – and how can I stay on track with pacing during the lesson?
Inquiry Journeys lessons are designed to be 45 minutes in length (30 minutes for kindergarten). While we don't offer a separate pacing guide, pacing guidance has been built into every lesson. Each section of the lesson (Opening, Active Inquiry, Closing) includes an estimate of how long you should expect to spend on it. In addition, certain activities within each section include targeted pacing guidance to help you stay on track.
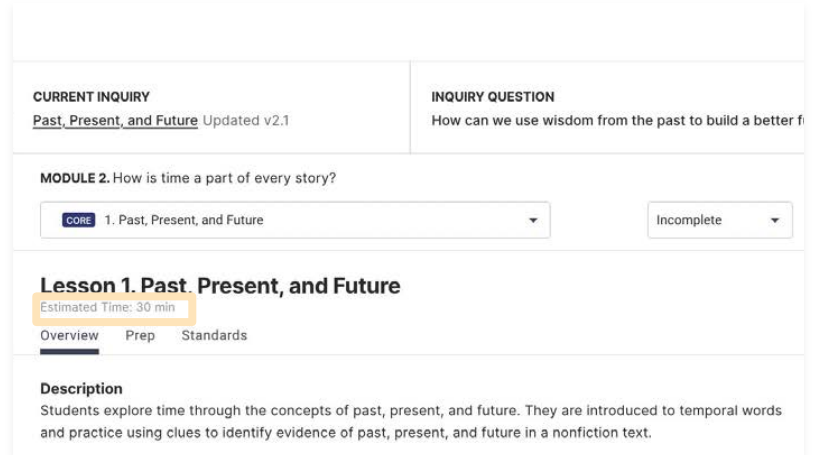

What if I don't have enough social studies time to complete a lesson?
Some teachers may require creative solutions for timing issues, depending on their context. Teachers have customized lessons to save time by integrating content areas, adapting the lesson structure, customizing materials, and adjusting protocols. To see specific examples of these solutions in action, check our "Time Saving Tips" article on the Inquiry Hub.

How long does it take to teach an Inquiry unit?

Depending on the amount of time that you have for social studies each week, one Inquiry should take 6–10 weeks to complete. Each Inquiry includes approximately 20–25 Core lessons and 8–12 Extension lessons. Lessons are designed to be 45 minutes in length, apart from kindergarten lessons, which are 30 minutes.
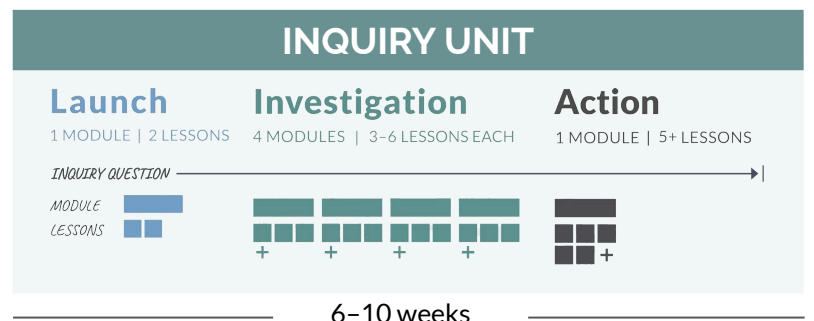
GETTING HELP

FAQ: Pacing Guidance

Can I just teach some of the lessons?

Because Inquiry Journeys lessons build on one another, we recommend that you teach all of the Core lessons to ensure standards coverage and coherent progression of the Inquiry Arc. Extension lessons, though not required to meet module objectives, explore concepts in more depth, build interdisciplinary connections, help to refine learning strategies and skills, and more.

Lessons		+ Add Flex Lesson	Expand All	•••
>	CORE 1. Learning from the Past (Part 1)		Incomplete	
>	CORE 2. Learning from the Past (Part 2)		Incomplete	
>	EXT 3. Guess the Outcomes		Incomplete	
>	CORE 4. Wisdom from the Past CHECKPOINT ASSESSMENT		Incomplete	
>	CORE 5. Wisdom from the Past Partner Critique CHECKPOINT ASSESSMENT		Incomplete	

Can I just teach some of the modules?

We recommend teaching all six Inquiry Journeys modules, as skipping modules disrupts the Inquiry Arc progression and impacts standards coverage.

GETTING HELP

FAQ: Differentiation

How do I modify or customize student materials and slide decks?

Many Inquiry Journeys materials can be customized, including handouts, exit tickets, cards, posters, rubrics, and slide decks. You may choose to modify student materials to better align to your students' interests and their needs. You can create as many customized materials as you'd like and come back to them at any time.

To customize a student material:

1. Navigate to the Prep tab for your lesson or module.

2. Select the material you wish to customize. A panel with prep information will appear to the right.

3. Click the pencil icon next to the name of the material you are customizing. (All customizable materials will have this edit icon.) A preview modal will appear.

4. Click "Create Custom Version." This button will take you to the materials editor.

5. Begin customizing. You will see options to upload images, insert shapes, change text, clone and delete pages, and more.

6. Once you've finished customizing, update the file name to distinguish it from the original and click "Publish" in the upper-left corner of the materials editor.

To customize a slide deck:

1. Navigate to your lesson's homepage.

2. Scroll down to the lesson plan and click any slide. A preview modal will appear. (It does not matter which slide you choose; the materials editor will allow you to view and edit an entire deck at a time.)

3. Select "Edit" in the upper-right corner of the preview modal. This button will take you to the materials editor.

4. Begin customizing. You will see options to upload images, insert shapes, change text, modify colors, and more.

5. Once you've finished customizing, update the file name to distinguish it from the original and click "Publish" in the upper-left corner of the materials editor.

Learn More

GETTING HELP

FAQ: Differentiation

Does Inquiry Journeys provide leveled texts?

Inquiry Journeys provides Lexile levels and texts leveled for grade level. Lessons include sources that vary in length, format, complexity, and purpose. In an Inquiry, students may encounter nonfiction articles, text spreads, literature, primary and secondary documents, audio clips, videos, and more. These sources meet social studies standards, support literacy development, enhance background knowledge, and connect to students' lived experiences and their growing understanding of the world.

Learn more

Preview of Natural resource article   ✕

📄 "Fossil Fuels" article	🖨 PDF
📄 "Water" article	🖨 PDF
📄 "Soil" article	🖨 PDF
📄 "Forests (Timber)" article	🖨 PDF
📄 "Metal Ore" article	🖨 PDF

76% ⌄ ⊖ ⊕ ✋   ⚙

inquirED

METAL ORE

Lexile 900 | Published June 9, 2022

Ore is a buildup of minerals in one place. It is mostly found underground. Ore deposits can contain valuable metals like copper, gold, silver, and iron. Metal ores are **nonrenewable resources**. They were created underground millions of years ago and there is still a limited amount left on the planet.

Gold ore

Most metals are hard, shiny, and melt only when they are heated at very high temperatures. Some metals are very strong, and heat and electricity can pass through them. This makes them useful for a variety of items, including pots and pans, and machinery. Copper is used for electrical wire, pipes, and plumbing. Iron is used to make building materials like steel and glass. Aluminum is used in makeup and medicines. Gold and silver are used to create jewelry. Other metals are used to make items like coins because they are hard and will not wear away quickly.

Metal tools

Getting metal ore from deep underground has many impacts. Mining can harm the landscape by leaving giant holes in the ground. Turning ore into metal requires a lot of energy. This process creates waste that can pollute air, soil, and water.

GETTING HELP

FAQ: Assessments

Where do I find information about assessments?

Assessment information is embedded throughout Inquiry Journeys. In the Overview tab of any module or lesson, you can find information about formative and summative assessments. Similarly, lessons that contain checkpoint assessments are tagged "Checkpoint Assessment" in the lesson menu for the module. Checkpoint assessments serve as formative assessments for the Inquiry and summative assessments for the module.

What are assessment guides and where do I find them?

Assessment guides can be found alongside any material that is assessed. Assessment guides provide guidance on what to look for in student responses, as well as sample responses, to support you as you monitor student progress. Click on the assessed item in the Prep tab, lesson sequence, or "Assessment" section of the Overview tab to access its corresponding assessment guide.

Learn more