How Does Population Education Fit Into Middle Years Programme Curriculum?

Population Education fits best into the Middle Years Programme (MYP) curriculum under the sub-context of “Environments.” This area of interaction explores how humans interact with the world at large and the parts humans play in virtual, natural, and built environments. However, Population Education is interdisciplinary in nature and therefore can lend itself to being taught in most of the five MYP contexts.

In the MYP program students engage with complex concepts such as:
- The importance of the local and global environment,
- The concepts of sustainable development in a context of increasing environmental threats,
- And related problems of socio-economic nature.

What Concepts Related to Population Education Align with MYP Learning Goals?

The purpose of the International Baccalaureate (IB) program is to develop and graduate globally conscious and competitive students. Population and environmental issues cross-cut a variety of subjects and can be used as a unifying theme across the different contents. Concepts such as resource scarcity, carrying capacity, population growth trends, and human ecology are all applicable to a variety of subjects including science, math, English and language arts, and humanities. Additionally, Population Education fits perfectly into the MYP curriculum goal of international mindedness because the collective actions we make as a human population have global implications for our generation and generations to come.

What Resources Are Available to Help Integrate Population Education Into the MYP Curricula?

Population Education offers a variety of classroom resources, hands-on lesson plans, and professional development opportunities to help teachers facilitate effective and engaging lessons. In each lesson, students use real world data or scenarios to apply concepts of math, science, social studies, and English to contemporary environmental challenges. Sample lesson concepts include: carrying capacity, natural resource extraction, environmental health and quality, resource scarcity, and population growth trends. Lesson plans and resources are available on the Population Education website and through professional development opportunities offered nationwide each year.