

The 6 MYP Global Contexts

One context per unit, narrowed to a specific exploration. Students must encounter all six across their MYP journey. Companion to Chapter 6 of the Unit Planning Series.

Global Context	What It Explores
Identities and relationships	The nature of the self, health, human relationships, and what it means to be human.
Orientation in space and time	Personal histories, turning points in humankind, migrations, and the interconnectedness of individuals and civilizations.
Personal and cultural expression	How we discover and express ideas, feelings, nature, and culture, and our appreciation of the aesthetic.
Scientific and technical innovation	The natural world, how humans use scientific principles, and the impact of technology on society.
Globalization and sustainability	The interconnectedness of human-made systems, local and global processes, and the impact of decision-making on the environment.
Fairness and development	Rights and responsibilities, sharing finite resources, equal opportunities, and peace and conflict resolution.

DRILL DOWN BEFORE YOU PLAN

- ☐ Narrow the broad title into a specific **exploration** before it drives Inquiry Questions or the SOI — e.g. within Fairness and Development: *Democracy, politics, government and civil society; Inequality, difference and inclusion; or Power and privilege.*
- ☐ Choose only **one** Global Context per unit — the summative task must engage with it directly, not just the Inquiry section.
- ☐ Break out of the “obvious rut” — try a context outside your subject's comfort zone for a sharper, less predictable unit.