

2015 IIME REPORT

Country [USA]
 School [Laurel Elementary] Teacher [McCain, Pallant, Ramirez] Grade (3) Students (75)
 Partner [(JP) Toriya Elementary School] Teacher [Toshiaki Tango]

Subjects, Activities and Times of the lessons

Subject	Conception of the lesson	Hours
Social Studies and art	Symbols of Community Drawing and Discussion	September October
Social Studies and Technology	Research own community using iPads	October November
Art and Collaboration	Painting and sharing of the Mural	January February

Theme and Message of the mural

Theme	Community
Message	We are all alike, yet have differences that make us unique.



Effects and the Problems

Effects your students have gained	Points for further improvement
Appreciation for another culture.	Too many students on our end for the project. It was difficult to implement within our three classrooms. Did not work as we had envisioned it.

How has your impression toward your partner country and/or the world changed?

Change in student's impression	Change in teacher's impression
Opens their eyes to what it is like in the world outside their community.	Opened our eyes to the language barrier and how people work hard to overcome communication issues.

Flow of the Activity

Content	Month	What you did	Your students attitude/reflection	Subject
Introduction	Sep	Introduced ourselves with a biography sheet on the forum.	Excitement about learning about other students from another country.	Writing
Research	Oct	Researched our community through discussion and drawing.	Positive attitudes about their community, city, state, and country.	Art Social Studies
Composition	Nov Dec	Planned symbols for painting.	Enjoyed giving their input.	Art
Painting	Jan Feb	Planned for Joanne to come and paint with all the 3 rd graders.	Loved painting the mural.	Art
Appreciation Reflection	Feb Mar	Sent the mural, shared it on the forum. Received the finished mural pictures.	They enjoyed receiving origami from their partners in Japan.	Art Social Studies

Aim of the Lessons and Result

Aim: Rank A to C in order you put emphasis on (A: very much/ B: much / C: not so much)

Result: Rank 5 to 1 (5: very effective / 4: effective / 3: so- so / 2: not so effective / 1: not effective at all)

Expected Effect	Aim	Result	How your students have reached it
Understanding our own cultures	A	5	Discussion about community symbols.
Understanding the other's cultures	A	5	Discussion and reading about other's lives in a different part of the world.
Communication ability in the class/with partners	A	3	In class was simple. Communication on the forum was a little tough. Seeing biography pages and iMovies was helpful.
IT skills	C	2	Forum is difficult to navigate. Email would have been easier.
Creating friendship in the class/with partners	B	2	There were many students involved at our school so it was a little more difficult to achieve personal relationships.
Collaboration in the class/with partners	B	3	Collaboration was again a bit difficult with so many teachers involved on our side.
Attitude in learning	A	5	Students LOVED learning about communities and each other.
Expression ability	B	3	Students were given opportunity to express their ideas, but in the final mural they did not have as much say as we would have liked in what went on the mural. If we could do it differently, we'd like the students to actually draw the mural with guidance...
Appreciation ability	A	5	They learned to appreciate their work and their Japan partners' work. We were able to set up space in a classroom and at another time in the library to unroll the mural and talk about the features they saw and the ideas they had about the work.