

## 2015 IIME REPORT

Country [ United States ]  
 School [ Scales Mound Junior High School ] Teacher [ Karen Kelly ] Grade (8) Student (12)  
 Partner [ (JP ) Kizu-Minami Junior High School ] Teacher [ Mami Miyahara ]

### # Subjects, Activities and Times of the lessons

Subject	Conception of the lesson	Hours
Social Studies	Geography of Japan	4
Social Studies	History of Japan	3
Social Studies	Japan today – cultural understanding, Culture of the United States	5

### # Theme and Message of the mural

Theme	Our dream, Local products, daily life, Environment, culture
Message	I am happy I was born into this world



### # Effects and the Problems

Effects your students have gained	Points for further improvement
The students learned about student life in Japan, types of snack foods, what they do in free time. They also critically analyzed “what defines culture”. Then they analyzed symbolisms, reflecting upon our lives to determine the good things and the not so good things. Finally found symbols to represent both the good and the bad things that impact us.	There are no suggestions to further improve the program. Each year the students have a wonderful experience and very unique to our partnership.

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

Change in student’s impression	Change in teacher’s impression
The students realized their lives are very similar, they like to do the same things, eat yummy foods that are not always good for us, and they have the same concerns about our world.	Thinking about the statement “ I am happy to have been born into this world” was a wonderful reflection for me as I led the students to think about the phrase. To also analyze symbolisms used by our partners and then lead a discussion about the topic was a good opportunity for me to reflect on many things in our world and how the world has changed during my life time.

### # Flow of the Activity

Content	Month	What you did	Your students attitude/reflection	Subject
Introduction	Sep	We posted messages on forum, sent links to 2 introductory videos about our school and community	The enjoyed the introductions and the cards we received.	Social Studies
Research	Oct Nov	Students learned about the country of Japan	Students found we are different countries with many similarities and connected by globalization	Social Studies
Composition	Jan	Students brainstormed ideas and then selected types of symbolism that would explain our ideas	Students analyzed the symbolism, developed thoughts on our culture, issues in our world and happy things	Social Studies
Painting	Jan	We worked together as a class to paint the mural	Students learned some painting techniques and reflected upon culture and what does that mean	Social Studies
Appreciation Reflection	Feb	The mural was hung in the school hallway so visitors and students would see it. A newspaper also printed a story about the mural project, including pictures and interviews of the students	Many students and visitors complemented the finished mural. The newspaper goes to many different towns and many people have commented to me about the article and what a wonderful program and great opportunity for my students.	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	Through discussion of what other countries this of the U.S., discussing our impressions of ourselves
Understanding the other's cultures	A	5	Research the country, teacher sharing travel experiences when visiting Japan, through the forum and communication with partners
Communication ability in the class/with partners	A	5	We used the forum, sent cards/letters through the mail. Uploaded 2 videos to You Tube and then sent the link through the forum to our partners.
IT skills	B		Forum posts were shared in class
Creating friendship in the class/with partners	B	4	Sharing information on forum, writing letters, sending pictures, and snack foods
Collaboration in the class/with partners	A	5	Students worked with peers, enjoying each other's company, chatting while they worked. With partners collaborated on the forum
Attitude in learning	A	5	Students learned a lot about themselves, our country, our world, and the many things that concern all citizens of the world
Expression ability	A	5	Students develop confidence in their painting skills as they learned how to mix colors, add shading to give the painting depth
Appreciation ability	A	5	The many compliments of the completed mural made the students feel very proud