

2015 IIME REPORT

Country [USA]
 School [Julie Billiart School] Teacher [Diane Hughes] grade (7/8) student number (30)
 Partner [(JP) Shiga Junior High School] Teacher [Yoshiaki Tsutsumi]

Subjects, Activities and Times of the lessons

Subject	Conception of the lesson	Hours
History	Research own heritage	15
Art	Painted our side	25

Theme and Message of the mural

Theme	Things that Represent Our Country
Message	Culture exchange, education about other countries and their people



Effects and the Problems

Effects your students have gained	Points for further improvement
Communication and collaboration, exchange of ideas, researching their own heritage and culture as well as that of others.	Would have liked more in depth communication with the class from Japan

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

Change in student' s impression	Change in teacher' s impression
This project shows them that students far away are very similar to themselves even though the food they eat or the clothes they wear are different.	I was so impressed with the commitment my students have shown in wanting this to be a successful exchange. They worked hard and had a true interest in Japanese culture and the lives of the students at Shiga Jr. High

Flow of the Activity

Content	Month	What you did	Your students attitude/reflection	Subject
Introduction	Sep	Introduced my students to Japan through the forum	Translated and wrote our names in Japanese – posted to forum with photos and messages	History research art
Research	Oct	Had students research and report on their own heritage, came up with ideas of what represents our country	Created an art project displaying our different families and backgrounds – mailed it to Japan	Art Communi- cation
Composition	Nov/ Dec	Sketched our ideas for mural	Had each student sketch what they thought best represented our country and the layout of mural. We then voted on which layout to use.	Art Math
Painting	Jan /Feb	Painted and displayed the mural	Students worked hard, and invited family and friends to see the mural. Gathered personal items to send to Japan with the mural	Art Math
Appreciation Reflection	March / April	Mural has been sent back.	we are now appreciating photos and videos posted to forum.	Reflection

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	I had them research, write and present drawings to describe their own culture. Especially since each one of us has varied background / culture/ traditions.
Understanding the other's cultures	A	3	The students enjoyed learning about Japan, seeing artwork drawn by partner school, receiving postcards and food from partner school
Communication ability in the class/with partners	B	3	Communication improved between classmates here – communication with partner school was not as often as I would have liked.
IT skills	B	2	I could get on the forum, photos were hard to upload, had to have someone else transfer my video to Youtube so I could send the link to partner school.
Creating friendship in the class/with partners	B	4	Cooperation between class here improved, they enjoyed seeing partner school photos on forum
Collaboration in the class/with partners	A	3	Cooperation between class here improved, they enjoyed seeing partner school photos on forum – would have liked more communication with partner school
Attitude in learning	A	4	They loved this project!! They learned so much without even realizing it!
Expression ability	A	5	I was impressed with the artwork of the partner school but I was also impressed with my own students. They were a little overwhelmed when we first received the mural since our partner school painted such a beautiful painting. But they really came through and did a great job with our side.
Appreciation ability	A	5	I believe my students learned a lot and can appreciate all their hard work. They will remember this for years to come.