

2012 IIME REPORT

Country [Australia]]

School [Trawalla Primary School] Teacher [Peta Ikeda] grade (Prep-6) student number (24)

JP School [Hara Primary School] Teacher [Yuko Okizuka]

Subjects, Activities and Times of the lessons

Subject	Conception of the lesson	Times
Japanese Language	Students were able to use Japanese to communicate with native Japanese speakers	5+
SOSE	Students were able to learn about Japanese culture and compare and contrast with their experiences in Australia	10+
Technology	Students used the internet to plan and create a draft of their mural. They also used Microsoft PowerPoint to create a self-introduction card.	5+

Theme and Message of the mural

Theme	'Our Country'
Message	Engaging with other cultures and developing our understanding of others.



Effects and the Problems

Effects your students have gained	Points for further improvement
Through authentic activities, students have gained a real insight into another culture. Through this understanding they have also developed an acceptance and respect of people from other cultures.	Perhaps schools could be given some ideas for VC, activities such as quizzes, cultural boxes etc. If schools knew the types of activities they could try on the VC they would VC more often.

Have you made your activity open in your school or in your local area? How was their reaction or reputation?

Regular inserts in our local paper. Peta Ikeda presented about the mural project to teachers throughout Victoria at the Perfecting the Blend conference last year.	Interest from all involved.
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Flow of the Activity

Content	Month	What you did	Your students attitude/reflection	Subject
Introduction	July/August	Several VC meetings. Introduced ourselves. Created self-introduction cards. Sent cultural box to Japan. Opened this over VC.	Students were very excited to learn about Japan and use their Japanese language skills to introduce themselves.	Japanese SOSE
Research	August/September	Researched Japan on the Internet. Discussed contents of cultural box. Investigated Australia on the Internet and each child created their own plan for the mural.	Students enjoyed using the internet to research Japan/Australia. Students were very excited to share the contents of our Australian cultural box and learn about the contents of the Japanese box.	Technology
Composition	October	As a whole group we began deciding on the composition of the mural.	Students engaged.	Art
Painting	November	We began painting!	Students engaged.	Art
Appreciation	December	We displayed the mural at our Christmas Concert. Peta Ikeda presented the mural at the Perfecting the Blend Conference with other teachers throughout Victoria.	Students were proud to share their work and understanding of Japan with the wider community including their families.	

Aim of the Lessons and Result

Aim	Rank	Mark	How your students have reached it
understanding our own cultures	2	⑤ 4 3 2 1	Students know have a greater understanding of Japan. They are able to discuss aspects of Japanese culture which they did not know before.
Understanding the other cultures	1	⑤ 4 3 2 1	
communication ability interactively / in English	5	⑤ 4 3 2 1	Students know understand that not everyone speaks English and it is important to speak slowly and carefully when conversing with people from other cultures.
IT skills forum / video conference		⑤ 4 3 2 1	Students could confidently use the internet to research about Japan and Australia
Creating friendship in the class / with partners	4	⑤ 4 3 2 1	Students were excited to VC with Japanese students.
Collaboration in the class / with partners		⑤ 4 3 2 1	Students would like to continue to collaborate with their Japanese school.
Keeping motivation high positive attitude in learning	3	⑤ 4 3 2 1	Students engaged.
Expression ability in painting		⑤ 4 3 2 1	Great.
Appreciation ability reading the painting		⑤ 4 3 2 1	Students were excited to share the mural with the wider community and could explain the Japanese aspects of the mural.