

# One World Project



<http://www.hlpusd.k12.ca.us/oneworld>

The ONE WORLD PROJECT began in September of 2006, and after less than two months, English Learners in the Multilingual Academy at La Puente High School have been reading about and discussing the cultures and lives of student around the globe. Partnerships have been formed with numerous schools, and a project website has been developed to share the project internationally.

Students who normally are reluctant to speak in English have contributed to culture podcasts that are available for sharing on the One World Project site. These podcasts contain class discussions comparing our students' countries and cultures with

those of the students from other countries who have responded to our culture survey. Each week, we discuss the responses from another country, and the students talk about how the culture in their countries is the same or different. Our students are just beginning to speak English, so this is a new challenge for them!

Culture survey information from Ion Barbu Theoretical High School in Romania, Liceum Ogólnokształcące in Poland, Alejandro Aguado School in Argentina, Dharmaraja College in Sri Lanka, and Speak Up School in Serbia, Yugoslavia has been posted, and soon we will be posting a podcast about the students at Goryogadai High School in Hiratsuka-si Kataoka, Kanagawa-ken, Japan.

A very special addition to our project has also developed with students studying English at Torskolan in Torsås, Sweden. Instead of writing to us about their culture, their teacher has worked with her Swedish students who are learning English to develop personal and culture podcasts to share with the Multilingual Academy students. (See copy of attached online news article from Sweden.) She has been amazed at how responsive some of her students have been.

Through this project, the students are learning about other teenagers and realizing that they have a lot in common, regardless of their longitude and latitude on the planet. Family, friends, education, etc. are all valued around the world, and they are finding that it is interesting to learn about differences. They are also learning about the value of collaboration, not only internationally, but within our Multilingual Academy as well - currently representing the cultures of China, El Salvador, Guatemala, Mexico, Nicaragua, the Philippines, the United States and Vietnam.

The equipment and supplies that we purchased with our grant from Teaching Tolerance, our ONE WORLD PROJECT website, and the international connections with other teachers and students that we are able to make via ePals.com have all fueled this exciting project. Stay tuned as we explore the cultures of many other countries who have agreed to collaborate with us.