

THE iEARN MEDIA MOSAIC PROJECT MEDIA LITERACY FOR GLOBAL YOUTH

1) Description of the project:

The Media Mosaic project provides the tools for iEARN students to become better informed world citizens, with an appreciation not only of the various concerns of others, but also with a critical understanding of media's role in shaping and addressing those concerns.

Media is the medium of global politics, yet rarely do we turn the lens on the media itself. Political media literacy—understanding media's layered role in influencing world opinion and shaping world events—is key to a sustainable future. The Media Mosaic Project provides the tools for students to become better informed world citizens, with an appreciation not only of the various concerns of others in the world, but also with a critical understanding of media's role in shaping and addressing those concerns.

2) Essential questions the project addresses:

In a world where nuclear warheads travel at super-sonic speeds, where an environmental policy in one country can create disaster in another, where the stakes of misinformation and rhetoric are higher than ever, how can we judge when the media report accurately? Whose news gets told? Who are the storytellers and which audiences are they trying to convince? What are the techniques of persuasion used—the politically charged words, the way a story is filmed and framed? What and whose viewpoints are missing in the news we watch and read? What are the ties between open, accurate information and the issues of human rights, citizenship, and geo-political stability?

3) Useful links:

→ for a general introduction to the project, go to:

<http://www.iearn.org/projects/themediamosaicproject.html>;

→ for the project's own website, go to: <http://www.iearnlb.org/media/>

