



A program to integrate educators from **Egypt, India, Jordan, Lebanon, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and the United States** into IEARN projects and provide practical, online classroom materials to enhance their civic education, ESL/EFL and social science curricula. The iEARN Community Voices Collaborative Solutions (CIVICS) program also aims to show that new technologies can support improved teaching and learning and be vital tools for diplomacy, civic education, conflict resolution and cross-cultural understanding.

December 13-17, 2002

NEW YORK CITY CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP

The physical exchange component of this third year of CIVICS seeks to give **12 CIVICS educators**, 2 from each of the six CIVICS countries in the **Near East and South Asia (NEA)** named above, and **6 US educators** the opportunity to gain practical leadership experience with a **5 day** curriculum development workshop at Teacher's College, Columbia University. The six U.S. educators will assist with both technical and pedagogical issues of using on-line classroom materials.

Educators will be immersed in comparative study and sharing of successful educational methods, while developing new thematic areas in existing educational curricula to be used during and following the exchange.

The primary goal of this workshop will be to compile various project-based learning and civic education materials into a "kit" that can be distributed to schools throughout the IEARN network via print, CD-ROM and World Wide Web. The materials included may be: lesson plans representing a wide range of curriculum areas; best practices; obstacles educators may encounter and how to overcome them; samples of student work; suggestions for gaining support of school administrators and other teachers; ways to assess student achievement in various areas – language, critical thinking, creative writing, global perspective, etc.; ideas on how to develop a community action project related to the on-line classroom learning; etc.

Because iEARN projects are designed to be action-oriented, community-service projects, NEA and US educators will also help their students undertake a community action

project when they return home. The participants will share their project ideas and results through online discussions on the <iearn.civics> discussion forum. We hope the workshop will lead to increased civic education dialogue between teachers and students in the Near East/South Asia and the U.S.

PARTICIPANT SELECTION

Selection Criteria:

- IEARN experience
- Flexibility
- Maturity
- Leadership ability or potential
- Demonstrated interest in international and educational issues
- Community involvement
- Willingness to be a trainer and mentor for future CIVICS participants

Selected educators must have some experience integrating IEARN projects into their classroom. We will be asking exchange participants to bring sample project lesson plans and other curricula materials with them to be used in the workshop sessions.

WORKSHOP GOALS:

GOAL:

To increase the quantity and quality of low-cost, online civic education ESL/EFL curricula materials available for U.S. and NEA educators.

Objectives:

- * Fine-tune, adapt and distribute CD-ROMs and other ESL/EFL classroom materials to participants in each participating country;
- * Help U.S and NEA educators use iEARN ESL/EFL curriculum materials in their classrooms;
- * Engage more students and educators in civic education dialogue on the iEARN discussion forums;
- * Help students build project web sites for sharing their CIVICS projects;
- * Assist U.S. and NEA educators to compile, adapt and produce civic education classroom materials that fit their needs;

Outcomes:

* An adaptable and practical set of classroom materials, including lesson plans, CD-ROMs, print and Web-based publications, artwork and other products generated by participants;

* A cadre of educator/trainers in Egypt, India, Jordan, Lebanon, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and United States who have curriculum development and technical skills and knowledge to train other teachers and students in their countries and worldwide

GOAL: To facilitate the development of local capacity for supporting school civic education ESL/EFL programs

Objectives:

*Promote and share the results of CIVICS throughout each country

*Assist participants to design and conduct a community action project

Outcome:

Greater awareness from parents and community members of the importance of ESL/EFL and civic education projects in the classroom.