



# iEARN

iEARN (International Education and Resource Network) is a non profit organization made up of over 20, 000 teachers and more than 2 million youth in 120 countries. iEARN empowers teachers and young people to work together online using the Internet and other new communications technologies.

Since 1988, iEARN has pioneered on-line school linkages to enable students to engage in meaningful educational projects with peers in their countries and around the world.

## **iEARN is:**

- an inclusive and culturally diverse community
- a safe and structured environment in which young people can communicate.
- an opportunity to apply knowledge in service-learning projects.
- a community of educators and learners making a difference as part of the educational process.

There are 130 projects in iEARN all designed and facilitated by teachers and students to fit their curriculum and classroom needs and schedules. To join, participants select an online project and look at how they can integrate it into their classroom.

With the project selected teachers and students enter online forum spaces to meet one another and get involved in ongoing projects with classrooms around the world who are working on the same project.

## **These projects enable students to develop:**

- research and critical thinking skills
- experience with new technologies
- cultural awareness
- the habit of getting involved in community issues.

In addition to connecting students' learning with local issues and meeting specific curriculum needs, every project proposed by teachers and students in iEARN has to answer the question, "How will this project improve the quality of life on the planet?" This vision and purpose is the glue that holds iEARN together, enabling participants to become global citizens who make a difference by collaborating with their peers around the world.

## **Benefits of membership in iEARN:**

**For students:** Online tools and resources: Access to safe password-protected, interactive online forums for project work, Searchable data-base of participants and projects, International Video conferences between schools/students, Immediate access to work with schools, within and outside the country, Access to youth activities and conferences such as YouthCAN, Natural Disaster Annual iEARN International Youth Summit.

**For teachers:** iEARN On-line teacher training, Local teacher training in Collaborative Project Based Learning, Regional iEARN Conferences, iEARN Annual International Conference.

Goals: Obtain teacher training or professional development activities in collaborative project based learning, use of new technologies in education and English lessons for school teachers, active 'mailing list' of members to support each other, translation of iEARN programmes and resources into local languages.