

Goosehill Primary School
School Improvement Team Notes
October 22, 2012

Members: Mrs. Susana Gonzalez-Condell, Mrs. Sharon Manning, Mrs. Colleen Johnson, Mrs. Kerry O'Brien, Mrs. Betty Rouse, Mrs. Jennifer Bowles, Mrs. Paris Pappas, Mrs. Celeste Pezzano, Mrs. Kaitlin Eisenegger, Mrs. Lynn Herschlein

The team discussed the Multicultural Learning Club experience and how it supports efforts to address the RULER Approach (Social –Emotional Curriculum), DASA (Dignity for All Students Act), and Social Studies Learning Standards.

We brainstormed logistics related to number of adult participants needed, rooms, countries, and how the lesson plans would be developed.

The decision was finalized to limit the club experience to first graders. Social Studies Learning Standards were cited in support of the decision.

We discussed creating a “passport” to simulate travel around the world. We reviewed informational children’s literature and decided on texts to have as read alouds in classrooms. A parent volunteered to secure “Shades of People” for all classrooms.

The art, music, and physical education teachers will integrate the goals of the multi-cultural emphasis into their programs.

At our next meeting, all members will bring ideas for the lesson plans to be developed.

Goosehill Primary School

School Improvement Team Notes

November 19, 2012

Members: Mrs. Susana Gonzalez-Condell, Mrs. Sharon Manning, Mrs. Colleen Johnson, Mrs. Kerry O'Brien, Mrs. Betty Rouse, Mrs. Jennifer Bowles, Mrs. Paris Pappas, Mrs. Celeste Pezzano, Mrs. Kaitlin Eisenegger, Mrs. Lynn Herschlein

We decided that the multicultural learning clubs will be based upon one country per continent with a focus on a celebration of diversity. The sessions will be 40 minutes long (2:10-2:50). First graders will cycle through each country with their "passport." We will create country stamps or stickers for the passports. We will have two sessions the week before Feb break, three sessions the week of the (former) break, and then one session the week after. We believe that having three sessions during what would have been the break will be a good experience for students and teachers. If students are not in school that week, they will still experience three sessions.

Teachers will be surveyed this week to see if any have a particular interest in a country or region. We will decide on the countries by December 1st. Then we will divide up the countries and SIT members will research and gather ideas for the "lesson plans." Each session will include a look at an interactive map of the country and some photos of the people and place. Then one activity, such as a craft, game, dance, song..anything that gives the children a sense of something special about the country. A closing message will be shared---having to do with all people having so much in common---as human beings---but having wonderful differences that should be honored and respected.

All teachers and staff members will participate- working with a partner (two adults per room with approximately 10 students). Some parents may also join a team if needed. SIT members will plan the six "lessons" but there will be 12 classrooms/sessions running at a time. (2 Asia, 2 Europe, 2 South America, 2 North America, 2 Australia, 2 Africa) We can divide the first grade classes into two groups of ten or we can choose to make 12 groups with a mix of students from all classes. The students will "travel" with the same group on all 6 "trips."

Our school dance will include dances from around the world. (Mrs. Ranaldo is already working on learning international dances.)

All SIT members will choose or be assigned a country once we decide on them. We will need to come to the December meeting with ideas for the lessons/activities and links for the maps and also some music to play through the SmartBoard.

Goosehill Primary School
School Improvement Team Notes
December 10, 2012

Members: Mrs. Susana Gonzalez-Condell, Mrs. Sharon Manning, Mrs. Colleen Johnson, Mrs. Kerry O'Brien, Mrs. Betty Rouse, Mrs. Jennifer Bowles, Mrs. Paris Pappas, Mrs. Celeste Pezzano, Mrs. Kaitlin Eisenegger, Mrs. Lynn Herschlein

Dances were chosen for the April School "Dance Around the World." (Irish Step dance, Greek Sailors Dance, Hava Nagilia, Chinese Ribbon Dance, Hawaiian Dance, The Italian Tarantella, The Mexican Hat Dance, and the African Waka Waka Dance.)

Internet sites were shared: Google Maps

<http://www.kbears.com/continents.html>

<http://kids.nationalgeographic.com/kids/places/>

http://www.scholastic.com/browse/search/teacherautoComplete=1&query=kenya+%28countries+of+the+world%29&as_values_03193=&channelOnly=true

<http://countries.mrdonn.org/>

<http://library.thinkquest.org/CR0212302/china.html>

Print Resources:

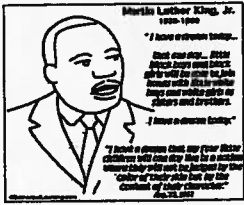
<http://delightfulchildrensbooks.com/2011/02/28/children-around-the-world/>

<http://www.amazon.com/Children-Around-World-Donata-Montanari/dp/1553376846>

The planning work was divided among SIT members. Members presented sites and additional ideas. The January Session will take place in the Computer Lab and all plans will be finalized.

Lesson plan drafts and requests for supplies, materials must be emailed to Mrs. Herschlein prior to the meeting.

The GPFA has agreed to provide support for materials.



Goosehill Primary School

January 18, 2013

Dear Parents,

As you know, our School Improvement Team's goal this year involves creating opportunities for our students that help to promote acceptance and respect for the differences among people. In October, we had a wonderful assembly entitled, *Dance Around the World*. In December, students learned about different traditions and holidays and this week, they learned about the Civil Rights Movement and the life and work of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Next month, the first graders will have an opportunity to learn about the people and cultures of six different countries, representative of six continents. (Canada, Uruguay, Greece, Kenya, Australia, and China) They will participate in "Learning Clubs" with their peers from across the grade level. Over six sessions, they will listen to the music, hear the language, learn about the geography, and play a game from each country. The Learning Club experience will address many of the NYS Social Studies Standards for first grade while helping to further our goal of teaching our students about diversity and respect for all people and cultures.

On February 5th we will enjoy a visit from a local children's author, Kat Yeh. Ms. Yeh's books are heartwarming tales filled with themes of friendship and family. She will talk to our students about her books, her life as a writer, and her Chinese heritage. Thank you to Mrs. Schneider and the Cultural Arts Committee for arranging this visit for us. If you would like your child to have a signed copy of one of Kat Yeh's books, see the attached order form. Please note that the deadline to order a book is Thursday.

Thank you for your wonderful responses to the Feeling Words Curriculum homework this week. The children really enjoyed the stories about times you felt *cheerful* or *amused*! The next two vocabulary words are *brave* (kindergarten) and *courageous* (first grade). Look for another family homework in the coming weeks.

Enjoy the three-day weekend!

Warm regards,

Mrs. Herschlein

TABLE OF CONTENTS

(notices you can access at our website and read/print from home)

<u>Item</u>	<u>Page #</u>
Straight Talk for <i>Stressed-Out</i> Moms and Dads.....	5
Cold Spring Harbor Library Youth Services Department.....	6

Important Reminders

- ✓ School will be in session February 18-22.

Learning Clubs: Goosehill Travels - 2013

Teachers' Names: Susana Gonzalez- Condell
Rory Malone
Betty Rouse

Continent: South America

Country: Uruguay

Music Site: ?

Google Earth Website: <http://www.google.com>

- Introduce Uruguay using music, photographs, brief facts

Activity: _____

- Talk about typical objects;
- ceramic crafts "Manos de Uruguay"

- Wool products
- tea drink "mate"

- Teach a few Spanish phrases:

- Discuss national sport = futbol (soccer)
- Do some soccer drills with Rory

Materials: Objects brought from home

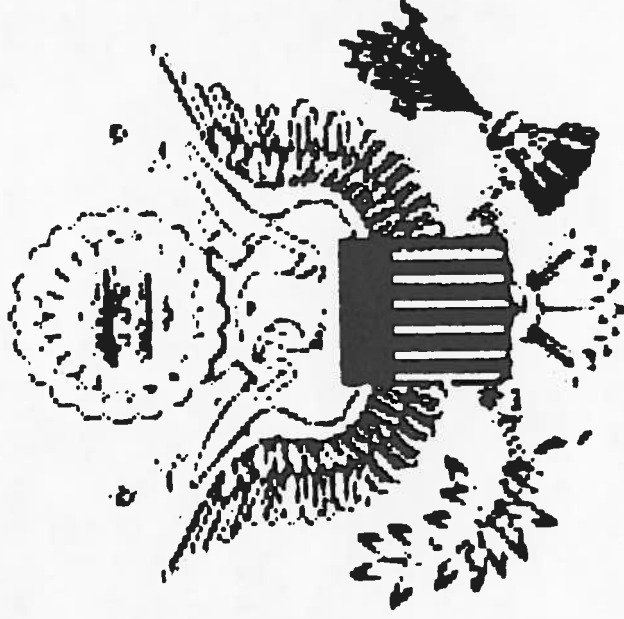
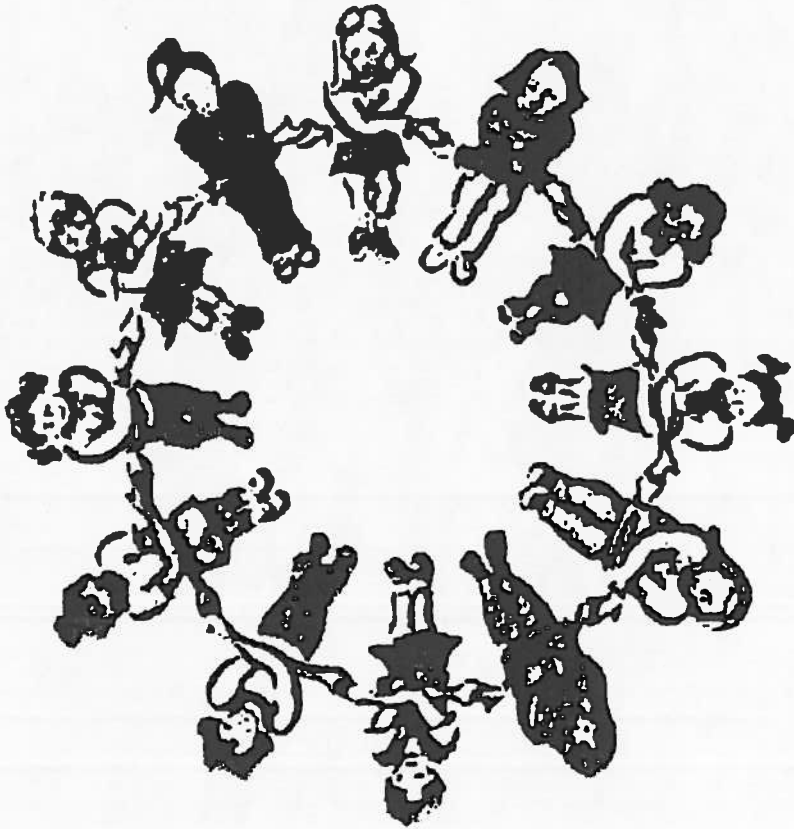
Soccer balls and nets (rory)

Goosehill Passport to Stamp and/or color flag ...

Closing Statement: SAMPLE : "Peace is making new friends..."

'S

PASSPORT



Goosehill Travels

2013

“Peace is making new friends.”

I travelled to the continent of



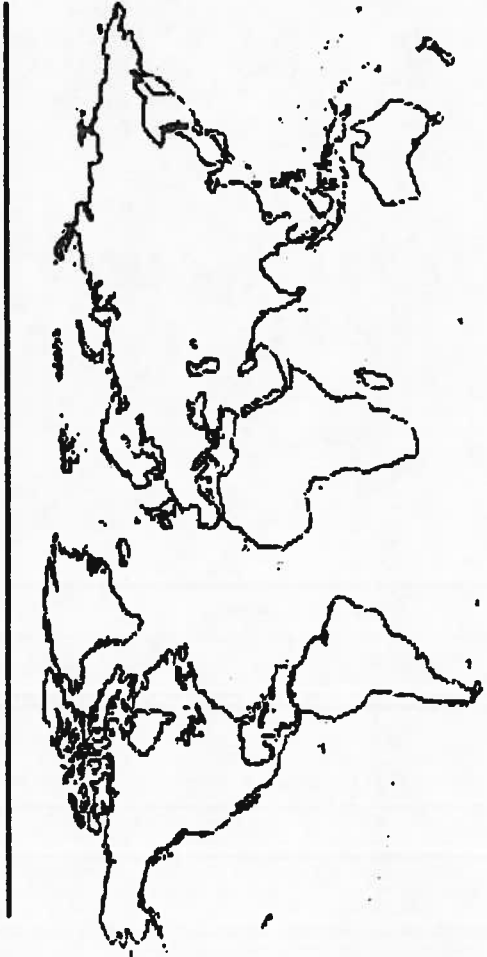
I travelled to the continent of



**and learned many things
about a country called**

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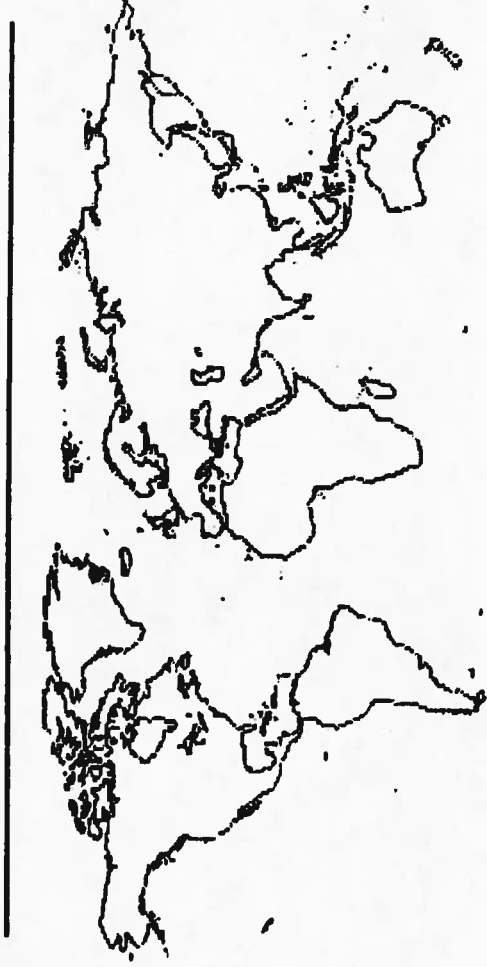
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and learned many things
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_____.

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and learned many things
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