

Kansas Kaleidoscope

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Worksheet 1: Connecting to the World

How to Make Your School International

The article, *Kansas Schools in the World*, tells about a fourth grade class who contacted a class in Hong Kong. How can your class become international? Rip's teacher, Mrs. Landwehr-Brown has put together some handy tips to help you give your school the international edge. Share it with your teacher so together you can start your dialogue with someone from another part of the world!

Tips for Students:

1. Locate a partner school using any means possible. Do you know someone who lives in another country? The Center for Interactive Learning and Collaboration (<http://cilc.org/>), local colleges and local International groups are all good places to begin.
2. Learn about the country and the cultural background of the school you will contact. It helps to have a little background before you start communicating. Your goal should be to share lifestyles and ideas.
3. Check your school policy on student email. It works best if students have their own school accounts, but a flash drive to gather student letters for a mass email to the Key Pal School can also be effective. The website <http://www.epals.com/index.tpl> even translates, if needed!
4. Brainstorm appropriate topics in advance and agree on them with your KeyPal school. Some ideas: All About Me, Favorite Festivals/Holiday, Favorite Day of Week, and graduate to Global Warming, Education, etc.
5. Add pictures, sound, and Power points.
6. Enjoy!