



*Culture Comparisons Connections for the New England Conference for Gifted Education and Talent Development.*

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### Providing Global Service Learning opportunities for your Gifted Students.

In meeting the social emotional needs of my gifted learners with a strong drive for social justice, I have worked to create opportunities for my students to make a difference. Gifted individuals have the capacity to change the world, but they need the opportunity and the support. Through sharing my experiences as an educator supporting these needs thru clubs, community service and overseas service learning, I hope to show a pathway for you to plan and set up annual events to support the important role that youth have in initiating and actualizing change locally and globally. My experiences planning and offering an annual global service-learning trip through *Education First* in which my students participate in authentic service with established non-profits in the developing world has been the most rewarding educational experience of my career.

Background: As a returned Peace Corps Volunteer, I find my experiences of living and working in the developing world is of high interest to my students. Over the years, I have shared stories, books, articles and video of people and cultures. I have started clubs and supported many student driven service projects. In 2016, I took it up a notch and was trained by *Education First* to take students on global service learning trips. The huge success of traveling and working together in service compels me to share with my colleagues in gifted education the opportunities waiting in this area. Education First offers free training and support to make this possible.

\*\*\*Interested in learning more about *Education First* for you and your students – here is a link for you to get more information. [www.eftours.com/invite/xzvaVjz](http://www.eftours.com/invite/xzvaVjz)

#### Global Education Resources:

- Menzel, Peter. *Material World*. San Francisco, Sierra Club Books, 1994.
- Smith, David J. *If the World were a Village*, Kids Can Press. 2002
- Tavangar, Homa Sabet. *Growing Up Global*. New York, Ballentine Books, 2009.
- Tavanger, Homa S. *The Global Education Toolkit for Elementary Learners*, Corwin Press, 2014.
- Terry, Alice W. "Student Voices, Global Echoes: Service Learning and the Gifted." *Roeper Review*, no. 30, 2008, pp. 45-51.
- *Nobel Journeys*, a story collection from EF- free download at EF
- *Uncommon Journey*- lesson plans to teach culture from USPeaceCorps.

More Service Learning Resources:

- Going Blue by Cathryn Berger Kaye, Free Spirit Publishing (free leader guide too)
- Service Learning in the PreK-3 Classroom by Vickie E. Lake & Ithel Jones, Free Spirit Publishing.
- The Complete Guide to Service Learning by Cathryn Berger Kaye, Free Spirit Publishing.
- The Kid's Guide to Service Projects by Barbara A. Lewis, Free Spirit Publishing.
- The Teen Guide to Global Action by Barbara A. Lewis, Free Spirit Publishing.

Web links :

<https://sharemylesson.com/partner/teachunicef>

<http://www.oxfam.org.uk/education/resources>

<http://documents.wfp.org/stellent/groups/public/documents/communications/wfp250506.pdf>

<http://www.youngvoicesonclimatechange.com/>

<https://gloaledtoolkit.com/>

<http://worldslargestlesson.globalgoals.org/>

<https://www.heifer.org/what-you-can-do/school/download-classroom-resources.html>

<https://www.peacecorps.gov/educators/>

[https://www.ted.com/talks/john\\_hunter\\_on\\_the\\_world\\_peace\\_game?language=en#t-201243](https://www.ted.com/talks/john_hunter_on_the_world_peace_game?language=en#t-201243)

<https://www.habitat.org/volunteer/near-you/youth-programs/resources>

[www.eftours.com/invite/xzvaVjz](http://www.eftours.com/invite/xzvaVjz)