

Connecting Kids 'Round the World



GRANT RECIPIENTS

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NYS STANDARD

ELA Standards 1, 2, 4
SS Standard 1
MST Standard 5

GRADE LEVEL

Grade 5

STUDENTS SERVED

125 Students (American and Canadian)

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The purpose of the grant was to use computer technology to connect children from other countries through written, oral and visual communication.

Students and teachers were made members of the ePALS Community and given ePALS addresses. Teachers searched the community website to find pen pals in Canada, the country the students were studying in Social Studies. Students were matched and letters were written and exchanged. While learning their Social Studies curriculum, students became proficient in literacy skills, letter writing, gathering and reporting information, and computer technology. Students also viewed videos, exchanged photos, incorporated Google Earth and other computer technology. Various graphic organizers were used to share the cultural and geographical information which they learned about Canada during the process.

STUDENT OUTCOMES

Students were motivated, enthusiastic and highly interested in learning about Canada and Canadian life. Through their connections, they learned first hand about a country they were studying while improving literacy and technology skills.