



Global Kids Washington D.C. Curriculum 2010-2011

Overview:

Given the ever changing and continually evolving dynamics of international relations, the Global Kids Club curriculum explores contemporary progress and challenges in the areas of human rights, social & economic development, peace building, the environment, and globalization.

The curriculum serves as a platform for engaging GK Club members in workshops, experiential activities and service learning projects that investigate a variety of issues from a local and global perspective. The action-oriented program enhances students' involvement in and commitment to their local and global communities while promoting knowledge of current events, social movements, world history, and geography. The curriculum also provides a framework through which GK Club members engage in experiences that take them to museums, diplomatic missions, governmental agencies, academic institutions, and human rights/civic organizations in Washington D.C. and beyond.

Objectives:

- Increase understanding of the connections between local and global affairs
- Build 21st Century Skills
- Promote global citizenship
- Nurture leadership and youth activism
- Foster academic achievement
- Cultivate peer-to-peer learning
- Facilitate local and global action and learning activities/experiences

Knowledge:

- Connections between global political, cultural, economic and political systems
- Concepts of universal rights
- The role of local, national, regional and international institutions
- Relevance of international treaties and conventions
- Importance of civic engagement and familiarity with the policy making process both locally and globally
- Exposure to college programs and careers in international affairs

Skills:

- Ability to participate and express opinions
- Ability to build a public awareness campaign
- Ability to conduct a community assessment through interviews/surveys etc.
- Ability to analyze current world events and global issues
- Competence in identifying and challenging assumptions
- Actively exercise conflict resolution
- Utilize problem solving responses to challenging community and global issues
- Demonstrate a co-operative approaches to learning
- Perceive global consequences of local choices
- Practice active listening, reflection, critical thinking and analysis

Attitudes:

- Civic responsibility
- Global mindedness
- Self confidence
- Empathy
- Increased awareness and tolerance of diverse perspectives and cultures
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Thematic Units

The Global Kids D.C. Curriculum is divided into five thematic units that cover a broad spectrum of issues affecting communities both locally and around the world.

Complementing workshops in each thematic unit are an array of service learning activities, trips, screenings and guest speaker engagements that are centered around specific content areas.

1. Human Rights
2. Conflict and Peace Building
3. Poverty and Development
4. Economics of Globalization
5. Environment

I. HUMAN RIGHTS

A large number of laws and legal documents are based on the principles set forth by the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Many countries have cited the Declaration or included its provisions in their basic laws or constitutions, and many human rights covenants, conventions and treaties concluded since 1948 have been built on its principles. This Unit will expose GK Club members to some of the foundational declarations that are the cornerstone of the international human rights landscape.

Workshops:

- Universal Human Rights (UN Declaration on Human Rights).
- Screening *Youth for Human Rights*.
- Women's Rights
- Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC)
- Access to universal basic education: The global campaign for education.
- Screening *PBS Back to School*
- Indigenous rights: Case studies: Aboriginals – Australia; Maasai – Kenya; Roma – Eastern Europe
- Civil rights movements around the World: In defense of social, economic, political rights

II. CONFLICT AND PEACE BUILDING

Peacemaking, peacekeeping, and peace building are complex and important responses to the proliferation of violent conflict around the world. The root of these approaches lies in the basic knowledge and commitment to the practice of non-violence and critical thinking. This

unit helps students practice Co-operation, engage in critical thinking in an effort to explore root causes of conflict and the possible solutions.

Workshops:

- War in the Congo: role of conflict minerals in fueling war. Screening (*IRIN: Congo's Curse*)
- Global Campaign to Ban landmines: Cambodia/Myanmar/Mozambique/Angola
- The Genocide Convention – From the Holocaust to Darfur, Sudan. (Visit: Holocaust Museum)
- US war in Iraq and Afghanistan: Which way forward
- The role of the United Nations: Preventing War – Promoting Peace

3. POVERTY & DEVELOPMENT

Most of us live in comfort and security, but over one-fifth of the world's population lives in poverty. Around the world poverty appears when people are not able to achieve the standard of living that is usual for their society. Today, standards of living vary greatly among nations; however, the effects of poverty remain constant: hunger, homelessness, lack of education, and resources to fulfill basic human needs. This unit gets students to think critically about the manifestations of poverty and the social, economic, and political conditions that cause it.

Workshops:

- The Millennium Development Goals: Our Collective Responsibility
- Food Nutrition and Health Included (Screening *Food Inc.*)
- Hunger
- Micro-Credit: A pathway to development
- Migration: The Right to Move
- Affordable healthcare; (*Screening Sicko*)
- HIV/AIDS around the globe: World Aids Day
- Fair Trade: Case Study Cocoa and the Chocolate Industry

4. ECONOMICS OF GLOBALIZATION

The Economics of Globalization unit focuses on international finance, trade and development and will offer students a comprehensive understanding of the world marketplace – a highly valuable education vital to their futures in this new era of globalization.

Workshops:

- Made in China: The rise of China
- Black Markets & Intellectual Property Rights: music – to counterfeit apparel
- Economic Crisis of 2008 (Screening *I.O.U.S.A.*)
- Mobile Revolution: new solutions to contemporary challenges
- New Global Communication/Media: Wikileaks, Twitter Facebook

5. ENVIRONMENT

Students will be exposed to the concept of environmental justice, aimed at ensuring that people of color, low-income, and indigenous communities are not disproportionately burned by environmental problems, such as climate change, or approaches to address them.

Workshops:

My Ecological Footprint: How I Impact the Planet
Anacostia River: human environmental impact
Environmental justice: Shell Oil – Nigeria, BP – U.S. Gulf of Mexico
Climate Change: Signs and Science
Our Patterns of Consumption: Screening (*Story of Stuff Annie*)

Workshops from September – January

September

- Team Building I: Lilly Pads
- Team Building II: Machines
- Team Building III: Goosimo
- Global Citizenship: Making a Difference in Our World

October

- Access to universal basic education: The global campaign for education.
- Screening *PBS Back to School*
- Campaign For Education: Education for All Act 2010 petition drive
- Congo Workshop & Congo Week: Guest Speaker, Maurice Carney Executive Director *Friends of the Congo*
- **Activities:** Conflict Minerals Petition drive, Peer Surveys, Guest Speaker

November:

- Youth Project Planning on Congo: Student fundraiser and fashion show for 2011
- Human Rights 101: Universal Human Rights (UN Declaration on Human Rights)
- Film Screening/Discussion *Youth for Human Rights*.
- **Activities:** Friendship Collegiate Academy visit and tour of the French Embassy, Washington D.C.

December:

- HIV/AIDS a Global Pandemic Workshop
- World Aids Day Youth Outreach: Testing site handout distribution
- Screening and discussion PBS Wide Angle: *Age of Aids*
- **Activities:** Visit to the Chilean Embassy: Meeting with Ambassador Fernandois

January:

- Welcome back: Goals Setting and project planning
- Global Campaign to Ban landmines: Cambodia/Myanmar/Mozambique/Angola
- **Activities:** Visit from Somali Youth Coalition – State Dept. Meridian House Project

Workshop Schedule February – June 2011

February:

- US war in Iraq and Afghanistan: Which way forward
- The role of the United Nations: Preventing War – Promoting Peace
- The Genocide Convention – From the Holocaust to Darfur, Sudan. (Visit: Holocaust Museum)
- **Activities:** Speaker Daniel Stewart, Kim McClure: Careers in the State Dept. Visit to State Dept. (TBC)

March:

- The Millennium Development Goals: Our Collective Responsibility

- Food Nutrition and Health Included
- Screening *Food Inc.*
- Women & Development: Micro-Credit - a pathway to development

Activities: Field Trip: CARE National Conference 2011: Theme Women's Rights
CARE Advocacy Training & Day on Capitol Hill

April:

- Trip to New York: GK Annual Youth Conference (TBC)
- Guest Speakers: Vital Voices International Fellows
- *Spring Break*
- **Activities:** College visit (TBC)
- Overnight Leadership Retreat

May

- Made in China: The rise of China
- Black Markets & Intellectual Property Rights: Music – to designer apparel
- Economic Crisis of 2008 (Screening I.O.U.S.A.)
- New Global Communication/Media: Wikileaks, Twitter Facebook
- **Activities:** Field trip to the Newseum

June:

- My Ecological Footprint
- Environmental justice: Shell Oil – Nigeria, BP – U.S. Gulf of Mexico
- Climate Change: Signs and Science
- Our Patterns of Consumption: Screening the (*Story of Stuff*)