

EdCampColumbus/Map Mates Session

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I. Intro:

My Story: How I combined my passion, travel, with my expertise, teaching, to create a traveling sabbatical. Today I'd like to share my experiences in different schools around the world so far (Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Germany, and Japan) and facilitate a discussion of best practices in teaching and learning with a focus on learning from education systems in other countries.

My "Map Mates" Traveling Sabbatical Goal: to go in person to visit schools around the world and observe and learn from different education systems + to find teachers abroad who are interested in connecting with our teachers here in Ohio (or the broader U.S.) with the goals of developing cultural sensitivity, global awareness and competency, and meaningful relationships.

QUESTION #1: WHERE IN THE WORLD WOULD YOU VISIT IF YOU COULD GO ANYWHERE TO LEARN MORE ABOUT EDUCATION? WHY? (Start by explaining why I am going where I am - start with what works, doesn't have to be perfect -in my case I had the opportunity to tag along with my husband's travels...plus do you have contacts for any of your ideal destinations? Please share with me [@beckyjoy](#))

II. Global Competence: QUESTION #2: WHAT IS GLOBAL COMPETENCE AND WHY DOES IT MATTER? (infographic credit: [@Katie_M_Ritter](#) of #classroombridges) **WHAT FUTURE WORK SKILLS WILL STUDENTS NEED?** (longer explanation of future work skills [here](#))

A great definition of Global Competence: <https://goo.gl/VA47QP>

TLDR (Too long didn't read summary):

Globally competent students must have the knowledge and skills to:

- **Investigate the World.** Global competence starts by being aware, curious, and interested in learning about the world and how it works.
- **Weigh Perspectives.** Globally competent students recognize that they have a particular perspective, and that others may or may not share it.
- **Communicate Ideas.** Globally competent students understand that audiences differ on the basis of culture, geography, faith, ideology, wealth, and other factors and that they may perceive different meanings from the same information. They can effectively communicate, verbally and non-verbally, with diverse audiences. Because it is increasingly the world's common language for commerce and communication, globally competent students in the US and elsewhere are proficient in English as well as in at least one other world language.
- **Take Action.** What skills and knowledge will it take to go from learning about the world to making a difference in the world?
- **Apply Disciplinary and Interdisciplinary Expertise.** Globally competent students are life long learners. They are able to adapt and contribute knowledge and understanding to a world that is constantly, rapidly evolving.

Global competence is a crucial shift in our understanding of the purpose of education in a changing world. Students everywhere deserve the opportunity to succeed in the global economy and contribute as global citizens. We must fashion a more creative and visionary educational response to the interconnected world of the 21st century, starting now.

Finding this interesting and want to learn more? See the whole e-book at:

<http://asiasociety.org/files/book-globalcompetence.pdf>

III. Question #3: What are other countries doing well?

My Experiences in:

- **Scandinavia:** Norway ([secondary](#)) ([primary](#)) ([youth library](#)), [Sweden](#), Denmark, (blog post to come)
 - Sky-High literacy rates
 - Multilingual (English begins in 3rd grade or earlier, Spanish/French/other languages by middle school)
 - STRONG student-teacher relationship - often teachers loop with their students for 3-6 years even in high school (travel internationally together, have a homeroom together, etc)
- **Germany** (blog post to come)
 - Like stepping back in time in terms of the buildings and the technology (practically nonexistent)
 - BUT the ART and SCIENCE of teaching entirely intact - amazing at deep inquiry-based questioning techniques and WAIT time to ensure students are thinking critically and ultimately driving the discussions and doing the hard learning
- **Japan** (blog post to come)
 - Incredibly respectful students
 - Lots of built-in incentives that lead to cultivation of personal responsibility (e.g. no supervision but homeroom and required to clean the school each day so it all works together)
 - Incredibly high standards and expectations to which students rise (but ultimately are exhausted by)

IV. Question #4: What do we do well in the USA?

- We educate the WHOLE child and our WHOLE population (no cutting off opportunities at end of elementary or middle school)
- We are great at getting kids up and moving and actively engaged. Much less sitting in rows and passively accepting teacher lecture than I saw in other countries.
- We integrate technology and 21st century skills at a higher rate and in more meaningful ways than I have seen anywhere in the world! And we find creative ways around tech access issues even if we aren't 1:1 to find ways for ALL kids to have those experiences.

V. Question #5: How can you learn more about global initiatives/get involved and go more global to help your Students develop global competence?

- Join [MapMates](#)! ← Contact me @beckyjoy on twitter or via the email on the flyer in that link
 - I will try to find you a similar age group / content area in one of the countries I visit and do all the matchmaking, then you and that teacher can take your collaboration any direction you so choose (some ideas include digital pen pals, sharing cultural practices, language practice, mystery skype, service learning project with a global component, or just discussing mutual interests or areas where your curricula overlap on google hangouts or via email or other means).

- Find a global connection through @Katie_M_Ritter's [Classroom Bridges](#) (similar to MapMates but a digital tool to get you started) - The main purpose of this site is to help you find other teachers who are willing to collaborate with you and your students. These connections could be something as small as doing a Google Hangout to expand your students' audience for class presentations, or they could be much larger scale projects where your students are working together (in two different locations) to complete an end of unit project. No matter the complexity of your connection, it's important to get our students connected to each other.
- Check out [World Savvy Classrooms](#): The World Savvy Classrooms program integrates the highest level of global competence learning into classrooms by combining **professional development and consulting** for educators with **multi-disciplinary projects** for middle and high school students. The Classrooms program is aligned with and supports **Common Core** state standards, ensuring students learn the required 'core' content mandated by state and national standards, in a way that establishes **real-world connections** to the material. (*taken from world savvy classroom website*). They also offer a global competence certificate if you are looking for high-quality PD in this area: <http://globalcompetencecertificate.org/>
- Take a look at [Boomalang](#) - created by Chris Gerding - goal is synchronous, face to face video chatting to practice **Spanish/English**. Geared towards Higher Ed but may be appropriate for older HS Spanish students. Costs \$10/month (or free if you use it for 10 hours in a month)
- Explore [Syype in the classroom](#) - find global connections and invite an expert into your classroom to be a guest speaker, do a mystery skype session with another classroom around the world, or take a virtual field trip!
- Check out [@Gloaledcon](#) - led by Lucy Gray and Steve Hargadon. They have a twitter feed and many global initiatives including:
 - host a completely online [global education conference](#) each year,
 - have a [great global project challenge](#) where teachers design projects in the summer for use the next school year - learning more
 - a [global collaboration day](#) on September 15, event for students & teachers to share projects (done this year but you can still look through archives and learn about it / potentially plan for future years)

NOTE: there are MANY MANY other initiatives and programs out there geared towards helping teachers make global connections. If you find one and it works well for you please let me know and share with me so I can share with others! [@beckyjoy](#)

Thanks for your time & don't hesitate to reach out!

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