Blog Post: Diversity

The Internet allows students to learn and interact with other student from different cultures. Lyn Hilt (2011) stated that “the beauty of living and learning in today’s connected world is that we don’t have to fly our students across the globe in order to engage in learning with peers from other cultures and nations” (p. 3). Acording to Jose Picardo (2012), Twitter, Skype, and Google Map allow students to communicate with other people globally through online or face to face conversation, and allow people to “walk down the street of every major town and city in the world” (p. 1). Blogging allows students to be globally and culturally aware of other cultures of the world. Students are able to communicate with students, parents, and community members from other parts of the world. In a math classroom, it is difficult to incorporate different cultures. In other academic subjects, like Social Studies, students are able to learn about other cultures in the world through the use of technology and the Internet. The seventh grade Social Studies students at my school are able to view live feeds of several cultural attractions in different regions studied in the 7th grade standards. The students are shown a wall in Jerusalem through the [Kotel Cam](http://www.virtualjerusalem.com/kotelcam.php). When teaching the region of Africa, students can see a live view of the animals in Africa through the [Africam](http://www.africam.com/wildlife/). In my classroom, students are from several different cultural backgrounds. To meet their needs to try to incorporate many examples into my lessons that relate to all cultures. By using the Internet, students are able to witness how other people’s lives are different and similar to theirs. Students are able to relate their ways of living to how other people live in other parts of the world. To incorporate blogging, teachers should have the student’s blog about how regions cultures differ from the culture of the United States.

Hilt, L. (2011). The case for cultivating cultural awareness. Retrieved from <http://plpnetwork.com/2011/10/26/the-case-for-cultivating-cultural-awareness/>.

Picardo, J. (2012). Why students need a global awareness and understanding of other cultures. Retrived from <http://www.theguardian.com/teacher-network/2012/sep/25/students-global-awareness-other-cultures>

**Comments**

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Mark,
I really enjoyed reading your blog post on Diversity this week. Like you, I have several classes that are diverse in cultures. I teach on the ELL team and have migrant and ELL students in many of my classes. In two of my classes, I have a migrant tutor that comes into my classroom twice a week to help two to three students. I also try to incorporate my student’s cultural diversity into my lessons. I use examples in my lessons that relate to the different groups of culture. This allows the students to relate math to their everyday life. In my blog this week, I also incorporated Social Studies even though I do not teach the subject. So, do you have any suggestions for any other ways I could be culturally diverse in my math classroom?

Heather