

LIVING Cities

2014-15 CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

The 2014-15 Global Partners Junior curriculum, *Living Cities*, focuses on environmental sustainability in cities around the world. Students will explore issues unique to cities by looking at buildings, urban gardening, and green spaces. New York City and international classes will collaborate on the same curriculum, sharing insights through blogs, video chats, and online discussions. Students will develop critical technology skills as they create multimedia projects using a variety of digital resources from basic word processing applications to advanced 3D design and video editing software. *Living Cities* was developed in alignment with the U.S. Common Core State Standards.



UNIT 1: Program Introduction (Oct. 6 - 17, 2014)

Students will learn to navigate the Global Partners Junior website, get to know other international cities, and share facts about themselves and their cities with students around the world. Students will begin to explore sustainability by playing games related to density, efficiency, and diversity.



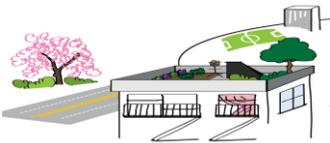
UNIT 2: My Impact (Oct. 20 - Nov. 28, 2014)

Students will critically examine their individual impact on the environment and read their peers' content online to learn about the impact of other students around the world. They will then write a letter to their fellow community members suggesting a plan to improve their city's impact. For the unit project, they will create a digital advertisement for their plan.



UNIT 3: Buildings (Dec. 1, 2014 - Jan. 30, 2015)

Students will visit a local building, such as a school or library and read their peers' content online to learn about buildings around the world. They will use multimedia to show how the building they visited is a dynamic environment with interconnected systems. For the unit project, they will work as a team to make their school building or classroom more sustainable.



UNIT 4: Urban Gardens (Feb. 2 – Mar. 20, 2015)

Students will identify local green spaces through online research and neighborhood walks. Students will interview someone who gardens in their community. They will brainstorm ideas and design a rooftop or vertical garden for their school or learning center.



FINAL PROJECT: Reduce, Reuse, Recycle (Mar. 23 – May 29, 2015)

Students will read nonfiction articles to identify environmental issues in their community that they would like to address. They will research organizations in other global cities that are working to address similar environmental issues. Students will implement an environmental action plan focused on reducing, reusing, or recycling.