

# Creating a Community of Learners

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## What is a community of learners?

- In a community of learners, teachers and students together construct a culture that values the strengths of all participants and respects their interests, abilities, languages, and dialects. Students and teachers shift among the roles of expert, researcher, learner, and teacher, supporting themselves and each other.

(<http://www.csl.org/ericcd/digest/0003strategies.html>)

## Other Resources about Communities of Learning

- [http://learningcommons.evergreen.edu/03\\_start\\_entry.asp#What\\_are](http://learningcommons.evergreen.edu/03_start_entry.asp#What_are)
- <http://www.project-approach.com/foundation/class.htm>
- <http://www.ncrel.org/cscd/pubs/lead21/2-11.htm>
- <http://www.creatinglearningcommunities.org/index.html>

## Here is a test...

You will be timed.

You MAY NOT work together.

**YOUR TASK:**

Decode the message

Xih'n nyuwb nby  
fymmih jfuhm,  
Nyuwb nby  
mnoxyhnm!

Don't teach the  
lesson plans,  
Teach the  
students!

## What does Collaboration Provide?

- Shared responsibility
- Enhanced communication
- New Questions
- New Answers
- Engaged Learners
- Enthusied Teachers

## Collaboration and Community

- In small groups in the classroom
- Between small groups – across distance
- With others on a larger scale
  
- Data comparison
- Data pooling
- Problem solving
- Projects of a short term or lasting nature

[myschoolonline.com/folder/0,1872,34898-119831-38-51189,00.html](http://myschoolonline.com/folder/0,1872,34898-119831-38-51189,00.html)

- Online Cooperative Book

**My Town Is Important!**  
A Collaborative Internet Project

**Project Description:**  
Using the format from Margaret Wise Brown's, *The Important Book*, participant classes will share one class poem that describes special features of their town. One digital or scanned photo, taken by student or teacher, or a student's drawing may be included.

**Objectives:**  
Students will learn about other towns and communicate with other classes using Internet. Students will write a description of significant features about their town using the subject format from Margaret Wise Brown's, *The Important Book*. Students will view participating class entries on the project web page.

**Extended activities might include:**  
Illustrating features of the town, interviewing government officials, drawing a town map, writing a song about the town, mapping location of

[www.mrsmcgowan.com/quilts/index.html](http://www.mrsmcgowan.com/quilts/index.html)

**A Patchwork of Places & Poetry**  
A Collaborative Internet Project  
Hosted by Marie McIlwain - Fall 2002

- About the Project
- Resources
- Book List
- Student Showcases
- Feedback
- Previous Projects

Backgrounds by Susan's Quilting City Art and Joanne Rae Orff  
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Visit Mrs. McIlwain's Classroom Website

[www.epals.com](http://www.epals.com)

- Epals and Key pals

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Welcome to ePALS Classroom Exchange  
The World's Largest K-12 Online Classroom and electronic penpal network. Connecting 8 million students and teachers in 225 countries' classrooms from 100 countries. Set up a free classroom profile and ePALS. You'll be able to collaborate on shared and cultural projects, language skills and establish global equal friendships.

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SEARCH FOR: Teachers and Administrators

Do you feel that your school is adequately prepared to teach technology in the classroom?

and more online right now! Click one of the links above to view the profile for that class.

Who's searching where? ePALS users are currently searching for classrooms in:

- Canada
- USA
- UK
- France
- Spain
- Italy

• Create

<http://www.learner.org/jnorth/>

- Journey North - Data Combining

Annenberg/CBP PRESENTS

**JOURNEY NORTH**  
A Global Study of Wildlife Migration

About Journey North  
Registration for 2009/2010 Season  
Journey North Archives 1995-1999

Home's Time  
Field Journal  
Report Your Findings  
How to Use Journey North  
Search, Answer Book

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<http://birds.cornell.edu/PFW/>

➤ Collaborative Data Collection

<http://commtechlab.msu.edu/sites/letsnet/frames/bigideas/b2/index.html>

➤ Data Pooling

<http://www.angelfire.com/nj3/tally/>

➤ Data Sharing and Comparison

<http://www.k12science.org/curriculumhome.html>

➤ Projects – Lots of Data Pooling and Sharing

<http://www.thehungersite.org>

➤ Social Consciousness

[www.friendsandflags.org](http://www.friendsandflags.org)

<http://www.cc.gatech.edu/elc/palaver/index.html>



[http://landmark-project.com/workshops/ask\\_an\\_expert.php?id=531](http://landmark-project.com/workshops/ask_an_expert.php?id=531)



[www.globalschoolnet.org](http://www.globalschoolnet.org)



<http://k12science.ati.stevens-tech.edu/cyberteacher/findingprojects.html>



<http://www.eduplace.com/projects>



For more resources...

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➤ [www.GailLovely.com](http://www.GailLovely.com)