

More Curriculum Connections

Enrich your curriculum with global awareness and an appreciation of cultural diversity.



Photo by Annie Valva

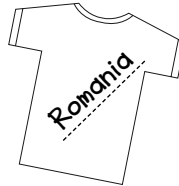


Kids can keep a photo journal of Arthur's travels.

Travels with Arthur (Language Arts). Let children borrow a backpack with a class mascot (an Arthur doll or toy animal) and a travel journal. Each child will spend a day or a weekend with the mascot, then write an entry in the journal describing where they went and what they did together. Browsing through the journal, kids can enjoy these glimpses into their classmates' out-of-school life and family cultures.

Fun with Folk Tales (Language Arts). **1.** Invite children (and their families) to share folk tales from their home cultures. **2.** Read and dramatize folk tales from the country you are studying. **3.** Compare similar tales from different cultures, then create your own variations on the tale! Both Judy Sierra and Pleasant deSpain have compiled fine collections of international folk tales, retold simply. On the Web, darsie.net/talesofwonder offers simple folk tales from many lands. Your librarian can help you locate additional resources.

World Connections (Geography). Our toys and clothes come from many parts of the world. Ask each child to bring in a small toy. Have children check the manufacturer's labels on the toys and on their clothes to see where they were made. Let kids write the name of each country on a paper cutout shape and create a chart, sorting the shapes according to countries and/or continents. Or children can attach their shapes to a world map. (You may want to use the map on page 15.) Discuss your findings. *On which continent(s) are most clothes and toys made? Why do you think that is?*



Global Figures (Math). **1.** Use the scale of miles on a map to calculate distances between places in the country you are studying. **2.** For a thought-provoking, kid-friendly introduction to statistics, read and discuss the book *If the World Were a Village* by David J. Smith. **3.** Introduce fractions as kids measure and prepare food from the country they are studying. *The Kids' Multicultural Cookbook* by Deanna F. Cook offers easy recipes with kid-centered culture notes. **4.** For more ideas on infusing cultural awareness into your math curriculum, see works by Claudia Zaslavsky, including her children's book, *Count on Your Fingers African Style*. Articles and a bibliography are available at www.math.binghamton.edu/zaslav/cz.html

World Neighborhood Symbols (Art). Invite children to design a postage stamp or a flag with the theme of *Arthur's World Neighborhood*. For inspiration, go to www.un.org/cyberschoolbus/gallery/pfp/index.asp and view Peace Flags created by children around the world. Click on the child's name under each flag to read the description he or she has written.

Reflections

Use these activities to help children personalize and apply what they learned.

Class Quilt. Have each child make a paper quilt square showing something he or she learned about the country you are studying. Tape all squares together and display.

¡Hola! Invite families to help make posters of ways to say “hello,” “thank you,” and “one, two, three” in the languages spoken in your community.



Spanish



French



Korean

International Bread Basket. Arthur’s dad is a chef. He loves to try recipes from other parts of the world. Join in the fun! Read about different types of bread eaten around the world (see Book Links, this page). Let groups of children choose one of these breads (pocket bread, tortillas, bagels, etc.) to research. *In what country is the bread traditionally eaten?* (Have children locate the country on a map.) *What is the bread made of?* *Traditionally, what do people eat with the bread?* Make several of these breads with the children or bring in an assortment to enjoy together.

Balloon Globes. You’ll need: large blue balloons, continent cutouts (provided on the ARTHUR Web site at pbskids.org/arthur/grownups/teacherguides/world), scissors, glue sticks and thick black permanent markers—fine tips puncture the balloons!

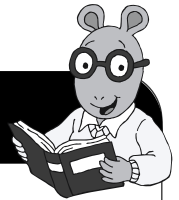
1. Help kids locate, color in, and label the countries they have studied and their own home on the continent cutouts. (Refer to a globe or world map.)
2. Have each child blow up a balloon and use a marker to draw an equator line around the middle.
3. Help children glue the continents to the balloon. (Directions are provided on the continent cutout sheets.)

Variation: Make a papier-mâché globe, using a balloon as a base.

Dear Family. Create a postcard template. (Divide a piece of paper into an address and message area, and indicate a place for a stamp.) Ask children to pretend they are visiting the country they have studied. Have them write a note to their family telling them about their visit, then draw a picture on the reverse side. Help children address their postcards.

Cultural Arts. Bring in traditional and contemporary music from the cultures you are studying. For art and craft projects inspired by cultural art forms, see *Hands Around the World* by Susan Milord and *The Kids’ Multicultural Art Book* by Alexandra M. Terzian.

Book Links

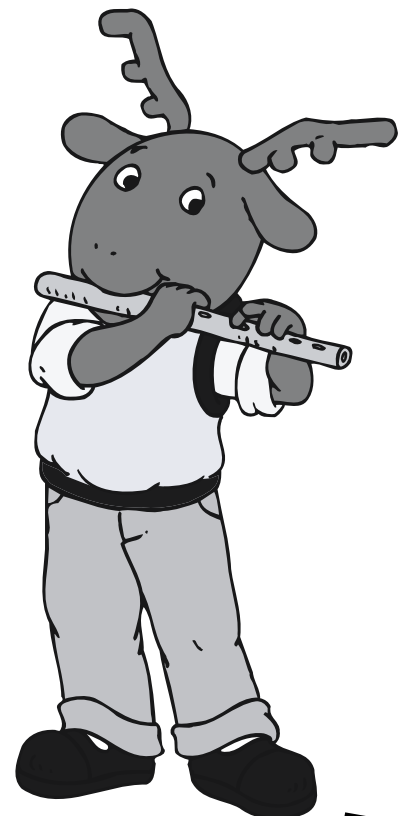


Bread, Bread, Bread by Ann Morris

Everybody Bakes Bread
by Norah Dooley

Jalepeño Bagels by Natasha Wing

The Kids’ Multicultural Cookbook by Deanna F. Cook



Resources



GLOBAL AWARENESS BOOKS

The following books give children an overview of everyday life around the world, focusing on commonalities and differences. For books about specific countries, refer to the Bibliography provided on the ARTHUR Web site:

pbskids.org/arthur/grownups/teacherguides/world

Ajmera, Maya, and Anna Rhesa Versola. *Children from Australia to Zimbabwe: A Photographic Journey Around the World*. Charlesbridge, 1997.

Ajmera, Maya, and John D. Ivanko. *Back to School*. Charlesbridge Publishing, 2001. (Also: *To Be a Kid*)

Baer, Edith. *This Is the Way We Eat Our Lunch*. Scholastic, 1995. (Also: *This Is the Way We Go to School*)

Colors of the World and *Count Your Way* series. For a list of titles, go to www.lernerbooks.com. Under "Browse by Subject," choose "U.S. and Countries Studies."

Hollyer, Beatrice. *Wake Up, World! A Day in the Life of Children Around the World*. Henry Holt, 1999.

Kindersley, Barnabas, and Anabel Kindersley. *Children Just Like Me*. DK, 1995.

Johnson, Anne Akers. *String Games Around the World*. Klutz Press, 1996.

Lewin, Ted. *Market!* Lothrop, Lee & Shepard, 1996.

Menzel, Peter. *Material World: A Global Family Portrait*. Sierra Club Books, 1994.

Morris, Ann. *Play*. Lothrop, Lee & Shepard, 1998. (Also: *Bread, Bread, Bread; Houses and Homes; On the Go; Tools; Families; Work*)

Postcards from ... series. For a list of titles, go to www.steckvaughn.com

Smith, David J. *If the World Were a Village: A Book about the World*. Kids Can Press, 2002.

WEB SITES FOR KIDS

The following Web sites are engaging and informative. For kid-friendly sites related to specific countries, see the "Countries A to Z" list at

www.cantonpl.org/kids/country.html

Africa for Kids

pbskids.org/africa/index.html

In "My World," students from South Africa, Uganda, Ghana, and Kenya have created photo journals about their schools. Check out their email exchange with students in the U.S.

Breaking Down the Walls

<http://library.thinkquest.org/CR0212302/index.html>

Created by 4th and 5th graders in Wisconsin. Click on "A Kid's Life in..." to learn about daily life in 25 countries.

In Search of the Ways of Knowing Trail

www.brookfieldzoo.org/pagegen/wok/index_f4.html

An interactive journey through the Ituri Forest in central Africa.

Cool Planet

oxfam.org.uk/coolplanet/kidsweb/children.htm

Learn about the everyday lives of kids from many countries.

India for Kids

<http://home.freeuk.net/elloughton13/india.htm>

Visit five different locations in India. Each visit includes a kid-friendly slide show, a bedtime story, and more.

Japan for Kids

jinjapan.org/kidsweb/index.html

Check out the Q&A section under "Schools" and the "What's Cool" listings.

Mexico for Kids

elbalero.gob.mx/index_kids.html

Explore Mexico from a child's point of view. Lots of topics; easy to navigate.

Vietnam: A Children's Guide

www2.lhric.org/pocantico/vietnam/vietnam.htm

Created by a second grade class.

MAPS AND GEOGRAPHY

Chiarelli, Brunette. *The Atlas of World Cultures*. Peter Bedrick Books, 2001.

Cobb, Vicki. *Imagine Living Here* series. Walker and Company. Includes *This Place Is Cold; This Place is Dry; This Place Is Wet; This Place Is High*.

Leedy, Loreen. *Mapping Penny's World*. Henry Holt, 2000.

Sweeney, Joan. *Me on the Map*. Crown, 1996.

National Geographic Beginner's World Atlas. National Geographic Society, 1999.

WorldAtlas.com. Good source of simple, clear maps. For a time zone map, go to timeanddate.com/worldclock

ARTHUR'S WORLD NEIGHBORHOOD EPISODES

Videotape these episodes to share with children. For local dates and times, go to **pbskids.org/arthur/grownups**

"Arthur's Perfect Christmas"
(available on home video)

"Big Horns George"

"Dear Adil"

"Flea to Be You and Me"

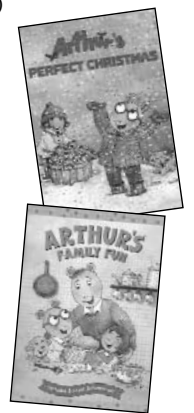
"Kids Are from Earth;
Parents Are from Pluto"

"Los Vecinos"
(available on the home video,
Arthur's Family Fun)

"Postcards from Buster"

"Sue Ellen Moves In"

Educators interested in purchasing the video or DVD of *Arthur's Perfect Christmas* or *Arthur's Family Fun* (includes "Los Vecinos /The Neighbors") can call 1-800-949-8670 or write WGBH Boston Video, PO Box 2284, South Burlington, VT 05407-2284. Mention the keycode "ARTWN" to get 10% off each video. Offer expires December 31, 2003.



Dear Educator:

Post® Alpha-Bits® cereal is proud to sponsor the PBS ARTHUR® television series. Programming like ARTHUR provides a perfect mix of education and fun, both of which are critical to fueling a child's desire to explore and discover all that the world has to offer.

Post Alpha-Bits is especially committed to the importance of reading. Our unique letter-shaped cereal provides kids with all 26 letters of the alphabet they need to spell words and feed their imaginations and minds. We are pleased to support *Arthur's World Neighborhood* and the opportunities it offers for kids to communicate with people from different cultures—an invaluable skill for any child in today's diverse world.

Post Alpha-Bits hopes that you and your students find these materials to be helpful and enjoyable.

Sincerely,

Post Alpha-Bits



Dear Educator:

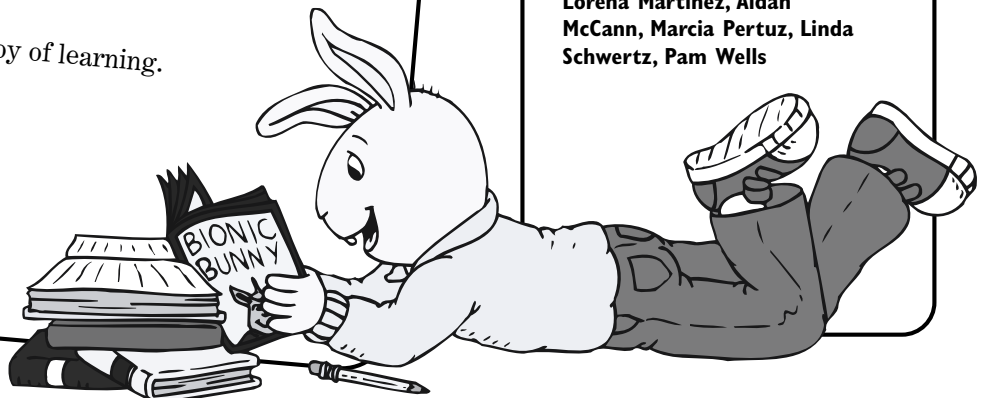
Chuck E. Cheese's is proud to sponsor ARTHUR, the award-winning PBS television series. Like the creators of ARTHUR, we at Chuck E. Cheese's recognize that having fun is an integral part of a child's development.

Chuck E. Cheese's is especially proud to support *Arthur's World Neighborhood* because of our commitment to foster wholesome, empowering, inclusive environments that encourage all children to communicate and interact in enjoyable ways, regardless of their age, sex, ethnic background, or their physical or emotional challenges.

Chuck E. Cheese's hopes this guide will help students explore and appreciate the rich cultural diversity that exists within their own communities and throughout the world.

Here's to ARTHUR and the joy of learning.

Chuck E. Cheese's



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