GLOBAL SCHOLARS

Global Scholars is a digital exchange program that connects students ages 10 to 13 in cities around the world. Guided by their teachers, students participate in a project-based curriculum and engage with international peers in e-classroom discussion boards to learn how to solve a global problem.

The curriculum advances nine student learning outcomes developed by Global Cities, Inc., which are designed to prepare students to be globally competent adults. There are four global learning outcomes (appreciation for diversity, cultural understanding, global knowledge, global engagement), and five general learning outcomes that support growth in all academic subjects (digital literacy, language communication, self-efficacy, academic engagement, critical thinking). Each unit emphasizes a thematic group of indicators across these outcomes, supporting students' ongoing development of global competency.

Global Scholars, which is conducted in English, is operated by **Global Cities, Inc.**, a program of Bloomberg Philanthropies. Global Cities provides the curriculum, access to the password-protected e-classroom, and professional development for educators. **Schools** agree to provide access to devices with internet connection, two hours per week for Global Scholars activities, and an enthusiastic educator to lead activities and participate in required professional development.

There are no fees to participate. For more information, visit www.globalcities.org.

2026-27 Curriculum: World of Water

In 2026-27, Global Scholars students study the importance of water in their lives, cities, and the world. Students exchange ideas and perspectives in discussion boards as they investigate some of today's most pressing water security issues: water pollution, the impacts of climate change, and providing equitable access to safe water.

Unit 1: Introduction to Global Scholars

Students are oriented to the Global Scholars e-classroom and begin to develop global and digital citizenship skills. They write their first discussion posts, reply to international peers, and exchange perspectives. They create videos to introduce their class, school, cultures, and city, and share what it means to be a Global Scholar.

Unit 2: Water Every Day

Students explore the role of water in their cultures and everyday lives. They learn the importance of safe water to individual and community health. They calculate their water footprints to evaluate the impact of individual choices. Students conduct a school water audit and create a guide to share the results.

Unit 3: Water in Our Cities

Students analyze how local waterways contribute to the economy, transportation, and cultures in their cities. They research the impact of local water security issues, consider questions of equity, and discuss actions that could make their city more water-secure. They create a news story to share their findings.

Unit 4: Water Connects Us

Students examine how climate change threatens water security. They research the connections between water, people, and the environment to understand how protecting water can mitigate climate change and its effects. Students conduct a survey to identify water security issues in their community and recommend solutions.

Unit 5: Community Action Project

As a class, students plan, complete, and document a project to improve water security in their communities. They collaborate with peers around the world as they create local solutions. They may start a community waterway clean-up club or paint conservation messages on city storm drains to reduce pollution. Students may organize an event to teach others how to reduce their water footprints or present a proposal to school leaders about ways to use water more sustainably. They may also create their own innovation.

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