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International Learning:
Learning to be International
A world of Views

Presentation Abstract

Strand 1: Curricular Approaches to International Learning	
Presenter	Transformation or Confirmation of Timeless Notions? Abstract
Deborah Grosseck Principal Glendal Primary School grosseck.deborah.a@edumail.vic.gov	Glendal Primary School and the JEM project Glendal Primary School is the Australian representative school and one of 3 founding members of a unique international group of schools called the JEM, Joint Environmental Mission, schools. JEM began in the early 1990s when two teachers, one American (from Buckingham Friends School, Pennsylvania) and one Russian (From school 213, St Petersburg), met at a conference and began to talk about how valuable it would be to visit each other's schools and develop international friendships and relationships between



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students and teachers. Soon after a teacher from Glendal became involved and the group grew to include one school from each continent with a focus studying the environment.

Last year children from schools in Kenya, India, China, Russia, Australia, USA, Hawaii met at the Earth Summit, which is held in Pennsylvania every 3-5 years, to share ideas and learn about Climate Change and each country's culture. The Earth Summit concluded with a presentation of a 'Declaration' written collaboratively by the children to the American Senate. This Declaration was presented to Kevin Rudd, via our local federal Member of Parliament, by our students on their return to Australia

The mission of JEM is to help children of all nations walk this earth together in balance with the environment.

The presentation will detail Glendal Primary School's JEM projects and explain how JEM supports our aim of: "preparing our students so that they understand and appreciate different cultures and thrive within a global community in the challenging, complex 21st-century world".



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