

Why Offer a Global Awareness Program?

Global Awareness offers something special to all the participants—to the children, it offers a glimpse of international diversity and helps to spark an interest in different cultures.

To the Au Pairs, the program presents an opportunity to volunteer in the community which is such a unique part of American culture. Au Pairs also have the added benefit of learning more about American education.

For all participants, this program presents an opportunity to see that cultural diversity is a source of enrichment rather than a source of confusion and strife.

It was a great experience. The kids from both 3rd Grade classes were very interested in all things. They were very well informed about how Germany has old and new states. It surprised me. It was awesome!"

Pauline , Au Pair from Germany

Would your school like to participate in the Global Awareness Program?

Contact your Global Awareness representative to set up an appointment to discuss the needs of your school:

For further information please visit our website:

www.GlobalAwareness.aifs.com

Global Awareness is a community based program sponsored by the American Institute For Foreign Study® (AIFS). For more than 40 years, AIFS has been providing the highest quality educational and cultural exchange programs to enrich the lives of people throughout the world.



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Global AWARENESS

a community global awareness program

What is Global Awareness?

Global Awareness, a volunteer educational program sponsored by the American Institute For Foreign Study (AIFS), is designed to foster a greater knowledge of the diversity and variety of cultures the world has to offer. Global Awareness will bring multi-cultural understanding and appreciation into elementary and middle school classrooms.

Who Will Come to the Classroom?

Au Pairs, international women between the ages of 18-26 years of age, will come to your classroom. They are in the United States on a cultural exchange visa, and live with a host family in your community for up to two years.

An important part of their stay is sharing their customs and culture with American children. The Global Awareness Au Pairs have been selected and coached by their Community Counselor who is the local program representative.

Melissa, from Brazil visited Ms. Gustella's third grade class to talk about what school is like in Brazil and answer questions!



What Will the Au Pairs Bring to the Classroom?

Au Pair involvement in the classroom can vary based on the teacher's needs. They can visit for one presentation only or return for on-going presentations.

The Au Pairs can support existing curriculum, providing information requested by classroom teachers, or they can present Global Awareness modules developed to increase the children's knowledge of different countries and customs.

All presentations are interactive and encourage feedback and questions.

How the program works

- Teacher/principal contacts local Global Awareness Counselor (*name and contact information enclosed*)
- Classroom needs are discussed to determine type of presentation

- Global Awareness Counselor sets up appointment for Au Pair presentation with school and coordinates time and content with both parties
- Au Pair gives presentation

Global Awareness Modules for Elementary Aged Children

- Schools Around the World
- Preparing Children's Favorite Treats: Dining Customs
- Holidays Around the World
- The Hemispheres: Is it Winter or is it Summer?
- Learn a New Language
- Popular Games from other Countries
- Let's Fly a Flag
- Let's Host a Culture Fair
- Christmas Around the World
- Country-Specific Modules

For me going to an American school and presenting my home country, South Africa, was a privilege and an honor. I represented South Africa. I think that the children found it very interesting to hear about another country. It was great to see them arriving in the room to present their "passports" for stamping with a sticker of South Africa, receiving a brochure of South Africa, seeing a video about South Africa and receiving some information about South Africa; the people, the culture and the land itself. I know that there was a lot of information to be taken in by the children. "Visiting" four or five countries at the "Around the World Day" was a lot, but somewhere one thing of every country got into their brains. Hopefully that fact or story will be with them all their lives and maybe make a difference in their outlook on life. Thank you for inviting me and having me share my country, life, memories and again my love for my country with you. I'm far away from home in a different country, but that day I felt a little bit closer to my own home country. Thank you again for that privilege.

Helena Koegelenberg (Au Pair from South Africa)