ASIA-EUROPE CLASSROOM NETWORK (AEC-NET) PROJECTS FOR 2012/2013

PROJECT FACTSHEET

NAME AND CONTACT DETAILS OF PROJECT CO-ORDINATOR(S)

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NAME AND MAILING ADDRESS OF HIGH SCHOOL OR SECONDARY SCHOOL:

Pioneer Secondary School
21 Jurong West St 81
Singapore 649075

COUNTRY:

Singapore

PROPOSED PROJECT NAME:

Origins@VirtualHomeStay

PROJECT DESCRIPTION / SUMMARY

Our country's iconic Esplanade is shaped like a durian. Overlooking the Singapore River is our signature Merlion that has a head of a lion and the tail of a fish. Our annual multicultural showcase of soaring dragons, exhilarating and hypnotic dances moving through the Padang or the F1 track is called "Chingay parade". Closer to the heart, the delicious cubes of pan fried flour soaked in dark soya sauce is lovingly dubbed 'Chai Tao Kuey' (carrot top cake). The hefty one dollar coin in our wallets has two octagons imbued on its sides. Just like each and every one of us, there is a story behind each piece of our heritage and culture. To enable students to have a better understanding of the origins of different areas of their home countries, that's what our project aims to do – to tell the story.

Groups of 4-5 students from at least 2 participating schools will fix a period of virtual homestay with participant focus on origins of areas such as places, events, food, culture and interesting practices in their respective countries.

A) <u>Itinerary:</u>

Prepare a 3-day itinerary that requires the host (4-5 students from one school) to include visitation to local places. The different areas include:

(i) **Places**
(ii) **Events**
(iii) **Culture**
(iv) **Food**
(v) **Interesting Practices**
(vi) **Significant icons**

B) <u>Research and Information exchange</u>

Student participants will research, upload and share on at least 3 different origins of the different areas mentioned above. They should provide accurate and detailed description of their research when uploading information on the online ICT platform for sharing.

C) <u>Development</u>

Using the shared information with partnering school(s), student participants in the team are to encompass their own research and their partners' research in their end product. The end product can be in the form of a video clip, TV Programme, webpage or any other appropriate forms of showcasing.

Students will also showcase their end product to their fellow school mates and may even extend the sharing during school to more people during events like annual exchange programme, Open House or International Friendship Week.

D) <u>Reflections on project and collaboration</u>

Students will conclude the project through reflections on the tasks and what they have learnt from the project. They will also reflect on the benefits of working with students from another country and the collaboration they had with them.

As per previous Virtual Homestay projects, an online platform will be available for the exchange to take place. The exchange includes interaction, posting of pictures and video clips. Live chats will also be conducted to allow students to interact and perhaps, clarify any doubts regarding the arts introduced, uploaded and product designed by the students.

Partnering schools can invite one another to have face-to-face exchange for a real life experience.

RATIONALE FOR THE PROJECT:

The objective of the project is to allow students to have a better understanding of the origins of different areas of their home countries. These will be divided into 6 broad categories, namely, Places, Events, Cultures, Food, Interesting Practices and Significant Icons. Students are to find out what and when were the first time certain event takes place or a building is being constructed etc. They will research on where certain delicacies in their respective country originated from or how the delicacies got their names. Through their research, students will get to find out more about the past events, places and even food in their own country's history as well as others through sharing. Finally, the project will require students to create a video clip, a TV Programme, webpage or other ways and

means to showcase their findings.

The project aims to have the following outcomes:

- Allow participants to share and exchange knowledge and experiences in a personal setting with people from different cultures and geographical regions and engaging participants in this totally different learning experience.
- Foster deeper understanding and appreciation for cultural diversity between participants of different countries and building friendships through the exchange of ideas and collaboration.
- Enable participants to gain ownership of their learning process through research and exchange of views on the ICT platform.
- Development of self-directed inquiry by applying creative and critical thinking skills in the interpretation of information.
- Enhance the level of awareness in participants of their own country as a tourist destination and the importance of the tourism industry.
- To strengthen the collaborative skills by working effectively as a team.

EXPECTED CONTRIBUTION FROM ASIAN SCHOOLS/STUDENTS:

Participants have to contribute in the following areas:

- Write a self-portrait and familiarize themselves with the project portal and project members from other schools.
- Research on the origins of places of interest, food, events etc in their own countries.
- Present the information on the ICT project platform.
- Attend online discussions / live chats and interact with other participants through the use of communication tools available on the ICT platform to find out from each other on their plans on the products
- Plan an itinerary for homestay for 3 days, taking into consideration the budget, accommodation, transport and places of interest etc.
- Develop a video clip, TV Programme, webpage or other creative ways to showcase their findings
- Reflect on the project, their sharing and the collaboration with team partners from other countries.
- Face-to-face exchange with partnering countries if possible.

EXPECTED CONTRIBUTION FROM EUROPEAN SCHOOLS/STUDENTS:

Same as above.

MINIMUM NUMBER OF SCHOOLS/STUDENTS INVOLVED:

No. of Schools / Students	:	3 schools / 40 students
Students Age Group	:	13 - 17
Level of English	:	Intermediate

PROPOSED DURATION OF PROJECT (PLEASE STATE TENTATIVE START AND END DATE):

Duration	:	6 months including planning, execution and evaluation of project.
Start Date	:	January 2013
End Date	:	June 2013

ICT TOOLS / SOFTWARE REQUIRED:

- Internet
- Multimedia tools & editing tools for video editing
- Video camera or recorder for video recording

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES NEEDED:

Books that have information on the origins.

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