



CULTURE IN A BOX PROJECT KIT

ENGLISH NATIONAL CURRICULUM:

- Understanding the world and languages
- Citizenship
- Social studies
- Values
- Cultural capital.

SCOTTISH CURRICULUM FOR EXCELLENCE:

- Social studies
- 1+2 Language learning
- Citizenship.

NATIONAL CURRICULUM FOR NORTHERN IRELAND:

- The world around us
- Local and global citizenship
- Modern languages.

WELSH NATIONAL CURRICULUM:

- Knowledge and understanding of the world
- Sustainable development and global citizenship
- Personal and social development
- Well-being and cultural diversity.

“The cultural roots of democracy must literally stem from society’s cultural heritage (Living Democracy, 2019).”

AGE GROUP

3-11 and 11-19

SECTORS

Pre-primary, Primary, Secondary, Special Educational Needs, Further Education.

RESOURCE TYPE

- A starter eTwinning project
- A European Day of Languages activity
- Christmas box activity
- Assembly activity

SHORT DESCRIPTION

This ‘Culture in a Box’ project kit is a fun and motivational way for pupils of all ages to explore cultural aspects of their region and to share their reflections with new friends in other classrooms across Europe and neighbouring countries.

16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS



Aligned with Sustainable Development Goal 16, this activity aims to highlight the need for citizen participation.

SCENARIO

Pupils are given the scenario that they have been selected to showcase their region at an intergalactic conference (younger pupils). Older pupils could be give the scenario that planet earth is dying and that there is limited time and resource for them to save the culture of their region.

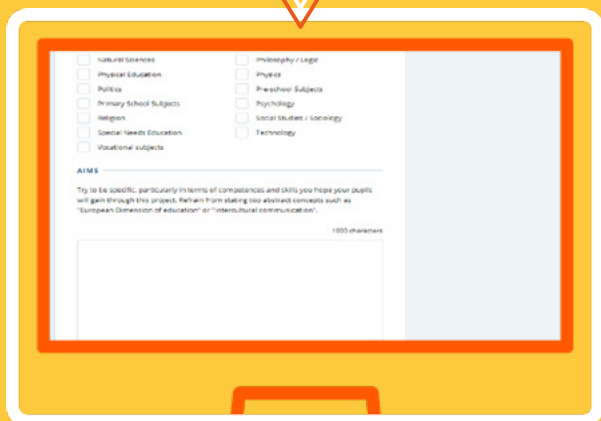
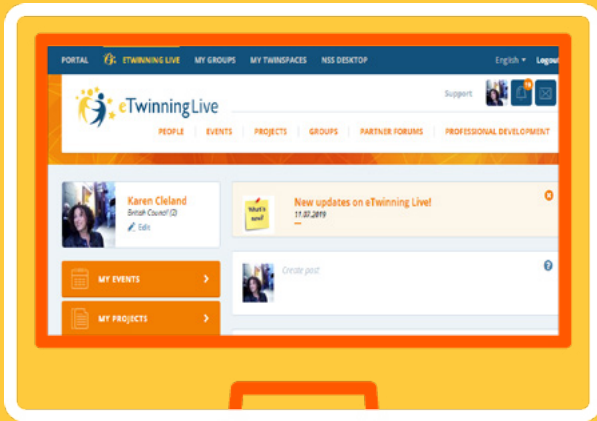


Pupils are asked to identify the most significant aspects of their regions’ culture which they believe should be saved. They will discuss in groups and take part in a democratic vote to decide which aspects should be saved and brought to a new planet.

TIME

Two - four weeks. If you want to post your ‘Culture Box’ to your partner school, please allow at least four weeks before the intended sending of your parcel e.g. for a Christmas parcel exchange.

STEP-BY-STEP START A PROJECT GUIDE



1. GETTING STARTED

If you have yet to find a partner, please visit the [partner finding forums on eTwinning Live](#).

- Log into [eTwinning Live](#).
- Go to the [PROJECTS](#) tab.
- Create project.
- Select your school.
- Select your partner's name.

2. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Copy, paste and amend the below so that it's relevant to your class and curriculum context.

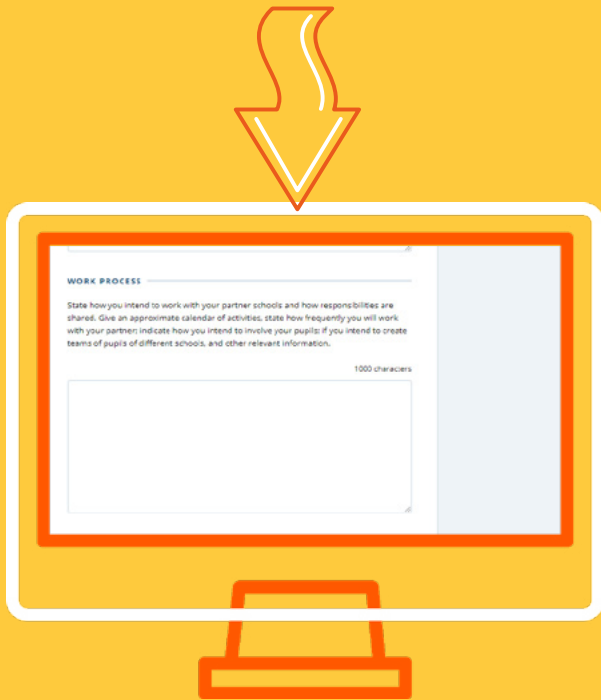
- **Title:** Culture in a box - [Name of your school]
- **Short description:** This 'Culture in a Box' project is a fun and motivational way for pupils of all ages to explore cultural aspects of their region and to share their reflections with new friends in other classrooms across Europe and neighbouring countries.
- **Language:** tick English or any other language of your choice as agreed with your project partner.
- **Age:** Select the age range of the pupils who will take part in the project.
- **Subject areas:** select as most relevant to you.

3. AIMS

As above, copy, paste and amend the below

- Challenge pupils' perception about their region and your partner countries' region.
- Contribute to pupils' development as informed global citizens.
- Develop pupils' skills in creativity, team working, collaboration, time management, communication and their ability to prepare and present ideas to an audience.
- Increase recognition and relevance of how their vote matters.
- Pupils will learn about 'how others see us' and in turn how they see other countries and whether those reflections are accurate or not. By explaining their choices they will try to tell their partner school 'how we see ourselves'.

STEP-BY-STEP START A PROJECT GUIDE



4. WORK PROCESS

STAGE ONE

- Arrange pupils into groups of four or five and ask them what they know about your partner country and its associated culture or customs.
- Give pupils time to choose:
 - Five **tangible** cultural aspects to save e.g. buildings, monuments, food, instruments, natural landscapes.
 - Five **intangible** cultural aspects to save e.g. practices, expressions, songs, traditional craftsmanship, a famous person from your region.
- Ask each pupil to discuss and write ten choices for their group on separate pieces of paper and to place their ten votes in the box.
- Gather and count all of the groups votes.
- The top ten tangible and non tangible aspects from across all groups will form the class manifesto.
- Allocate a cultural aspect and outside section of the box to each group. Ask pupils to draw or decorate the section with that aspect. Add written votes, artefacts, or images of the artefacts to inside of the box.
- Exchange boxes with your partner(s) via the post so that your partner receives a filled and decorated box from you and you receive one back from them.

STAGE TWO

- Pupils decide how to generate interest and intrigue in their partner schools. (They might want to create a quiz on the TwinSpace to see if the items can be guessed before they arrive).
- The box could contain items of relevance to national celebrations e.g. Christmas or Easter or to other cultural dimensions.
- Arrange a time and date with your partner school to video call or photograph their pupils receiving the box.

STAGE THREE

- Photograph or live video the boxes arriving and being opened.
- Arrange with your partner teacher for their pupils to guess and / or translate cultural details, artefacts and images on the inside and outside of the box.
- Were the guesses correct? Do the pupils know how to treat the objects? What did they expect and what was a surprise?
- Ask pupils what they now know about your partner country and its associated culture or customs. Ask what they most enjoyed, and what they feel they have improved as a result of their participation. Has your pupils' understanding of their own culture changed at all through taking part in these activities?

STAGE FOUR - EXTENSION ACTIVITY

- Write an essay about the most surprising aspect or item in the box.
- Create a presentation, bilingual magazine, newspaper or travel guide about the partner country.

EXPECTED RESULTS

- A TwinSpace with pupils work for parents and governors to see (see below).

TIPS

- Allow enough time to establish a link with a partner school e.g. four weeks.
- Send parcels in good time. Remember that pupils may be out of class for rehearsals etc. more often than usual during December. Think about the weight (and cost) of the parcel.
- Uploading videos and images of pupils whilst decorating and receiving the boxes can work really well, however, check your school policy and procedures regards consent.

