



March 2007

Elephant Thoughts

Dear Global Workshop Contributors, Members and Mirik Alumni,

Thank you to those who sent us ideas for our new Global Perspectives Workshop program! John Millar, Lisa Farano, Jeremy Rhodes, Mandy Bridson and Emily Hastings-Speck spent weeks pouring over the material and getting creative, to develop a first-rate (kick-a__ if we may say so!) program! Thanks also to Lisa's sister-in-law, Shelly, a graphic designer, for staying up all night (more than a night?) and producing 2 equally amazing workbooks for students and teachers attending the Workshops in Peel! The workshops have been designed to inform the students of the issues surrounding Global Development, Equality issues in the Developing World, and also ties into the new Language Curriculum strand of "Media Literacy" (a definite selling feature for teachers!).

John Millar has already completed instruction of the first phase down at the Peel School Board office (see sidebar), presenting the different aspects of "What is Global Development?", "Media Images of the Developing World", "People Who Have Made a Difference" and "Developing an Action Plan". Throughout March, John and Jeremy will be working with the groups on "Part 2", to develop and film "Public Service Announcements" on current Development issues, giving the kids experience with "Video Media", one of the most powerful tools in the promotion of a cause.

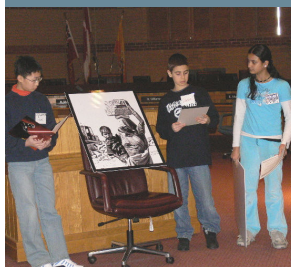
The third workshop will be presented in April, in partnership with CPAR (Canadian Physicians for Aid and Relief), another amazing organization. They have a representative coming from Tanzania, to present to the kids and help the kids pack hockey bags of supplies to send back to Tanzania. The whole thing will end in a culmination ceremony at the Board Office, with the children presenting what they've learned, and their Public Service Announcements to their parents and Board members!

These workshops will also be used in our new "Schools4Schools" program whereby classes, clubs or schools sign up to help fundraise for another school in the Developing World (our current project is building our first school in Bunkalung, near Mirik, India). In return for helping us through their fundraising efforts, schools will receive curriculum connections, newsletters, updates and workshops very similar to the ones described above. What a great partnership!

We are currently looking for those members keen on Global Development, as well as "Mirik Alumni" to help write curriculum to go with our "Schools4Schools" program. Any aspect of life in India especially around the Mirik/Darjeeling/Himalayan area can be tied into the elementary curriculum, and will give our teachers and students a chance to connect more fully with the project. For example, Mandy Bridson is currently in the process of field-testing her two units for Grade 7 and 8 Geography. "Landscape, Climate and Agriculture of the Mirik Region" for grade 7, and "Economics, Trade and Standards of Living in the Mirik Region" for grade 8. Along with meeting the expectations for these grades in Geography, she has also incorporated a Media Literacy component by having the kids design their own Window Movie Maker presentation based on their findings.

Attached is a brochure for our new "**Schools4Schools**" project, and if anyone would like to participate in our curriculum development, or sign-up your school for participation next year, please contact Mandy at mandy@elephantthoughts.com

Thanks!



SAMPLE WORKSHOPS*

Day 1 Intro to the Developing World? (2 hours)

- >Definitions, locations, examples, issues
- >Intro to Elephant Thoughts, NGO's and people who have made a difference
- >Team building and leadership activities

Day 2 Media = Power to Change (1/2 day)

- >Using media to affect change
- >View a variety of Media categories (e.g. photos, documentaries, public service announcements).
- >Analyze media messages on various Canadian and Global issues
- >Examine emotional impact and moral issues
- >Recognize filming and audience appeal techniques
- >Team building and leadership activities

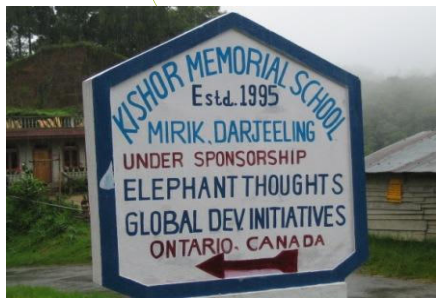
Day 3 A Just Cause (1/2 day) **

- >Round table discussion – issues of development and moral responsibility
- >How to start an action committee
- >Choosing a cause, developing a plan
- >Effectual presentation
- >Teambuilding and leadership activities
- >Design a Public Service Announcement

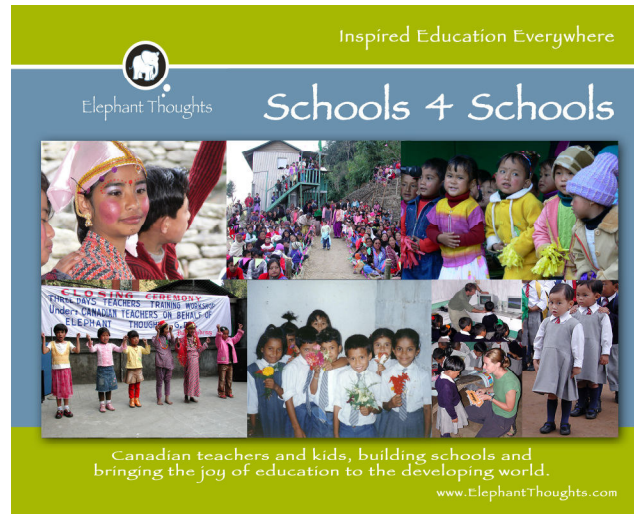


Day 4 Film-Aid (full day)

- >Film groups' Public Service Announcements
- >Program feedback and student self-assessment
- >View PSA "rough cuts". Copies will be edited and sent out to the groups at a later date
- >Round table discussion – Closure – Global issues, Character issues, goal setting, etc.



*may be subject to change due to improvements in programming
 **contact us for number of students eligible



Ask about the many ways
 your staff and students
 can get involved!

SCHOOLS 4 SCHOOLS

LIBRARIES 4 LIBRARIES

TEACHERS 4 TEACHERS

Elephant Thoughts

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Elephant Thoughts

Global Perspectives
 Workshops



Inspired
 Education
 Everywhere



In an ever changing world where cultural diversity and the interdependence of nations abound, schools across Canada are eager to educate their students and open young minds to the knowledge that we are all equal and we must all work together to create a sustainable world for future generations.

Through our mandate of "Inspired Education Everywhere", Elephant Thoughts is bringing Global Perspectives workshops to schools in Canada. In return, our students are developing leadership, critical thinking and fundraising skills as well as helping Elephant Thoughts build and operate schools in developing countries. By bringing children around the world together, we hope to make the world a better place.



Goals

- Introduce **Global Development** issues
- Coach **goal setting** and leadership skills
- Teach **action planning**, **teamwork** and fundraising techniques
- Develop **critical thinking** skills around world issues (e.g. interdependence, economics, gender equality, environment, resources, standards of living, education)
- Use **Multi-Media** to encourage analytical thought and aid teachers in administering **Media Literacy** expectations
- Encourage **Character Development** through exercises in caring, empathy and understanding
- Examine **gender—equality** issues around the world
- Teach **Environmental** and **Global** responsibility through **Education** and teamwork amongst children

Workshops and Fundraising

By partnering in Elephant Thoughts Schools4Schools program you are supporting a great cause and earning free global workshops for your class, division or school!

You may choose from our unique workshop offerings depending on what best suits your teaching situation.

Our program comes with Elephant Thoughts support and workshop instructors, student workbook, ideas and blackline masters for teachers and assessment rubrics.

Our partner schools will receive newsletters and updates on School building projects

"Never doubt that a small, committed group of people can change the world.

Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has."

Margaret Mead ~ Cultural Anthropologist