Getting started with iEARN Participation

iEARN (International Education and Resource Network) is the world’s largest non-profit global network that enables teachers and youth to use the Internet and other technologies to collaborate on projects that enhance learning and make a difference in the world. iEARN is a big community of over 30,000 primary and secondary schools and youth organizations in over 130 countries, making it the largest online K-12 network in the world.

iEARN Centre, Pakistan is working under Society for International Education (Rgd.) and a member of the iEARN International. iEARN in Pakistan is committed to providing K-12 educators, students and schools with an invaluable structure to engage in online curriculum based telecommunications projects. Learn more about iEARN Pakistan at http://www.iearnpk.org.

If you are not yet an iEARN member, please click on “Join iEARN” link.

Getting Started with iEARN Online Projects

Guide to NEW iEARN Collaboration Centre

Welcome! This short guide covers the basic sections and functionality of the NEW iEARN Collaboration Centre. For those who are familiar with the earlier iEARN Collaboration Centre, many parts of the site will be familiar. However, there are many new and improved features added to the site.

Please remember! The old collaboration center was at www.media.iearn.org. This is now used for reference purposes only! We are now using the NEW collaboration Centre http://collaborate.iearn.org/ for active forum and project participation!
iEARN Projects!!!
At the core of this platform, as on the earlier Collaboration Centre, are student and teacher designed and facilitated projects. These can be found in the "Collaboration" section of the site in their own "Space" called "iEARN Projects." In this Space, as in others across the site, projects are searchable by a variety of categories, including Title, Keywords, Age Level, Language, and Subject Area.

Collaboration Spaces

Getting Started - Introduce Yourself and Meet Others!

Meet others in iEARN -- we invite new members to introduce themselves and greet new members on our forums for connecting people.

- For teachers, a great starting point is the iEARN Teachers Forum.
- For students, a great starting point is the iEARN Youth Forum.

These two forums are located in the iEARN Discussion Groups Space (see next page).
Within the iEARN Discussion Groups Space, you will find these two key iEARN forums --
1- Teachers Forum
2- Youth Forum

To post a message in either of these forums, or any of the iEARN forums, you will need to first click "Join Group."
You will be asked once to confirm that you would like to join the group. Click Join Group again on the next page.

Once you have joined the group, you can visit the Forum and post an introduction of yourself.

Once you have joined, you can go to the forum and begin participating!

You can add a new message by clicking to "Add a Topic."
Please also read and respond to messages from others in the forum. We encourage all iEARN participants to post two responses for every new message they post.
Getting Started - Find Projects

One of the best ways to become involved is to be part of a collaborative iEARN project. An iEARN project is a collaborative endeavor between two or more groups of students and educators in different parts of the world.

Experienced teachers will advise that you and your classroom start by getting involved in an existing iEARN project, rather than trying to start a new one. Participating in other projects is a great way to meet potential partners, and learn about the many different projects initiated by teachers and students throughout the world. It can be a great way to develop ideas for how to integrate collaborative projects into your classroom, without having to take on the role of facilitating the involvement of other classes your first time participating.

Try to choose a project that is:
• in your language or in a language you are open to learning
• relevant to your students and their needs
• able to fit into your school’s curriculum
• age-appropriate for your students
• happening at an appropriate time for you in your academic schedule

Ready? You can browse and search iEARN projects in the iEARN Projects Space of the iEARN Collaboration Centre.
Once you enter the iEARN Projects Space of the Collaboration Centre, you will be able to search the various groups to find a project of interest, or can click "View All" to see a full listing of all projects.

Once you find a project of interest, make contact! You can find the Project Facilitator’s email contact information on the specific group page of the project you are interested in joining. If you have any questions, feel free to get in touch with the facilitator(s).

You can also post a message directly in the project's forum. To do so, you will need to click "Join Group" in order to be able to post a message in the group's forum.
Once you have joined, visit the project's Forum and post a message, including:

- An introduction to yourself and your students
- Your objectives for joining the project

You can also read and respond to messages from others in the project forum. Taking this step into a project group prior to bringing a group of students on board is a great way to get familiar with the project to be sure it's a good fit. Once you are ready to have your students get involved, you can direct them to join you in the project forum, and follow the same steps as you (clicking "Join Group") and then reading and responding to other messages in the forum. Again, please ask your students to post two responses for each new message they post in any iEARN forum.

How do I add a student manually?

Step 1: Log into the Collaboration Centre
Step 2: In left side bar, go to "Student Management"

Step 3: Click on "Manually Register Students."

Step 4: Fill in the form. Make sure you check the box next to "This account is active," then click "Register."
• How do I add a student using a keycode?
• How do I add teachers?
• How do I reply to a forum post?

Step 1: Log into the Collaboration Centre using your username and password.

Step 2: In your Membership Dashboard, scroll down to "Institution Management." Then, click "Student Management."

Step 3: On the left sidebar, go to the "Student Registration Code" and copy the code. Give it to your student. (NOTE: You may register more than one student using one code.)

Step 4: Direct your students to collaborate.iearn.org/login. Have them click on "Students Connect Here."
Step 5: Have them enter their registration code.

Step 6: Have them fill out the form and click "Register." (NOTE: They may set their own passwords.)
How do I add teachers?

Step 1: Login to the collaboration centre

Step 2: In the left side bar, go to "Teacher Management"

Step 3: In the left side bar, Click on "Manually register teachers"

Step 4: Fill out the information and click "Save Teacher"

How do I reply to a forum post?

It's great that you want to reply to someone and want to have a conversation! There are two ways to reply to a forum post:

• Reply on the website
• Reply by email
How do I reply to a forum post via the web?

Step 1: Go to the forum post you want to reply to.

Step 2: If you want to reply to the main topic. Click on "Add Comment".

OR

If you want to reply to an already submitted comment on the topic. Go to the comment and click on "Reply to Comment".
How to reply to a post via email?

You will receive an email with the new forum post every time someone writes something new.

To reply to that forum post via email,

1) Open the email. It will look similar to the email below.

![Email Example]

2) RED Area: In the email, there will be a line. Reply above that line in order to respond to the forum post.

The forum post that you are responding to will appear below the line in the email.

PURPLE Area: There will also be a link in the email that leads you to the online forum in the Collaboration Center.

YELLOW Area: Below the link, the email will also include the group the forum is in and the topic the forum is regarding.
Links to Some iEARN Resources

• Project Description Booklet - This annual publication is available to all members of iEARN at http://iearnpk.org/PD/2012-2013-iEARNProjectBook.pdf

• For a simple step by step process for participating in an iEARN project, click at the link http://www.iearnpk.org/Steps.htm

• Click www.iearnpk.org/PD/beginners/Forum_Response_Rubric.pdf to respond to recent postings. Remember! all students want and need responses to their messages.

• Click at http://www.iearnpk.org/featured_iearnpk-projects.htm for some of the iEARN projects which are in line with the Pakistani curriculum and popular among students and teachers.

• Some sample lesson plans can be found at http://www.iearnpk.org/iEARN_workshops/iearn_lesson.htm

• For professional development support visit: http://www.iearnpk.org/PD/12schedule.htm

• To get iEARN Pakistan latest news updates, go to http://iearnpk.org/NL/nl.htm

http://www.iearnpk.org

http://www.youtube.com/iearnpk

http://www.facebook.com/sie.iearn

http://twitter.com/iEARNPAK