



WEDNESDAY WEB SITES OF THE WEEK: **ABOUT WORLD CULTURES**

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Library of Congress Country Studies

<http://lcweb2.loc.gov/frd/cs/cshome.html>

A great teacher resource. Look up a country and read about its culture. Interesting insights about society, infrastructure, government, and education. Especially cool info about childhood rights of passage, roles of women, family life etc... May provide different perspectives about your students.

Internet Public Library: Culture Quest

<http://ipl.si.umich.edu/div/kidspace/cquest/>

Choose a subject (art & music, sports, etc) or just go on the world tour to learn about crafts, folktales, or links to authentic museums.

Mr. Dowling's Electronic Passport

<http://www.mrdowling.com/>

This Florida Geography teacher has put together a pretty simple site (try to ignore the ads) that shares the basics of world cultures for students. Looks like it's been around a while but after looking through it, I noticed some pages have been updated as recently as June, 2006. I found it through "Kids Click" so since Librarians have chosen to include it - I am confident it is reputable and valid.

Logos Multilingual Dictionary

http://www.logosdictionary.org/pls/dictionary/new_dictionary.kdic.home?lang=en

This link goes to the children's section. They select their flag of choice and choose a word from the dictionary that they are familiar with. Then, up comes a translation in English. I was thinking that some teachers might find this helpful to use "backwards" to help students better understand instructions in English, for example, by referring to the written native word as a reference point.

Yamada Language Font Guide

<http://babel.uoregon.edu/yamada/guides.html>

And here are the fonts in different languages to go with the above idea...!

Internet Public Library: Say Hello Project

<http://www.ipl.org.ar/youth/hello/>

Another kid-friendly online language dictionary.