


ASPnet Interschool Exchange Report (English)

School name	Junior High School Attached to Nara University of Education
Partner school country/region (city)	Korea
Partner school name	Girls' Middle School Attached to College of Education, Dongguk University
Exchange period	From 13/5/25 to 7/3/26
Method(s) of interaction	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Letters <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Emails <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Videos <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Online tools / e.g. Zoom, Teams etc. <input type="checkbox"/> Conference <input type="checkbox"/> School visit <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other / Please specify <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 5px;">Asynchronous exchange using Padlet, exchange of local snacks.</div>
Study area(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Global Citizenship <input type="checkbox"/> Cultural Heritage <input type="checkbox"/> Culture of peace <input type="checkbox"/> Disaster risk reduction <input type="checkbox"/> Gender Equality <input type="checkbox"/> Human rights <input type="checkbox"/> Justice and democracy <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Learning to live together <input type="checkbox"/> Media and Information Literacy <input type="checkbox"/> Migration and refugees <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Intercultural Dialogue <input type="checkbox"/> Preventing violent extremism <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) <input type="checkbox"/> School violence and bullying <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sustainable development <input type="checkbox"/> Sustainable lifestyles <input type="checkbox"/> Other / Please specify
Objective(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To understand the cultures of both Japan and Korea. • To develop global communication skills, presentation skills, and language skills. • To deepen the understanding of the SDGs. • To foster a perspective of re-evaluating one's own region through the process of communicating local issues.

<p>Details</p>	<p>May - September: Teacher meetings (confirming schedules, number of participants, exchange methods, etc. via email).</p> <p>October 16: 1st Online Exchange</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pair Talk (matching two students each from Japan and Korea). <p>October 23: 2nd Online Exchange</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentations (reporting on each country's SDG initiatives [waste issues, starvation issues, etc.]). • Q&A session <p>November 6: 3rd Online Exchange</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentations (introducing each country's lifestyle and culture). • Q&A session • Summary of the exchange program. <p>Other Activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School introductions on Padlet. • Snack exchange (sending each country's snacks to matched partners). • Letter exchange (writing and sending letters to matched partners).
<p>Results</p>	<p>Through this program, students developed a much deeper interest in Korean culture, their own culture, and their hometown of Nara.</p> <p>The presentations were more than just simple cultural introductions. By thinking hard about how to explain their lives to the Korean students, they gained a fresh perspective on their own country. They also stopped seeing social issues like the SDGs as mere textbook knowledge. Instead, they realized these are real, shared challenges to tackle together with their friends right in front of them.</p> <p>Furthermore, their hesitation to speak English changed into a strong desire to connect. They learned that "trying to communicate is much more important than speaking perfect English." They also discovered the true power of non-verbal cues—like tone of voice, nodding, and facial expressions—in understanding each other.</p> <p>On the other hand, seeing the Korean students' excellent English skills inspired our students and raised their motivation.</p> <p>Ultimately, this project provided invaluable, real-life learning that students could never get just from regular classes or the internet.</p> <p>Student Feedback (Excerpts)</p> <p>"Participating in this Japan-Korea exchange program, I realized how narrow my perspective was when I found out that the customs and ways of thinking I took for granted in Japan were not the same for our partners. I was also</p>

	<p>surprised that the vague image I had of Korea was completely changed when I actually talked with them. As we talked about each other's lives, personalities, and interest in Japan during the pair talks, I stopped feeling the barrier of being from 'different countries' and was able to converse naturally as a friend. Laughing together and finding things in common, I realized that even if our cultures are different, we can bring our hearts closer."</p> <p>"Giving presentations to each other allowed me to learn more deeply about both their culture and Nara's culture, which left a very strong impression on me."</p> <p>"I was bad at English and couldn't speak it well, but after practicing many times, I was able to speak a little more. I used to hate English, but through this Japan-Korea exchange, I came to like it a little bit."</p>
<p>Challenges and how they were overcome</p>	<p>Because our school situations are different, it was difficult to align our schedules. However, we made up for this by increasing online interactions, such as using Padlet.</p>
<p>Future plans and visions</p>	<p>Since this is an initiative with many learnings for both students and teachers, we plan to implement it next year as well.</p>
<p>Photos</p>	



Others (names of files or URLs of attachments, if any)