

# GLOBAL SCHOLARS

Global Scholars is a virtual exchange program that connects students ages 10 to 13 in cities around the world. Guided by their teachers, students participate in a project-based curriculum and engage with international peers in e-classroom discussion boards to learn how to solve a global problem.



The curriculum advances nine [student learning outcomes](#) developed by Global Cities, Inc., which are designed to prepare students to be globally competent adults. There are four global learning outcomes (appreciation for diversity, cultural understanding, global knowledge, global engagement), and five general learning outcomes that support growth in all academic subjects (digital literacy, language communication, self-efficacy, academic engagement, critical thinking). Each unit emphasizes a thematic group of indicators across these outcomes, supporting students' ongoing development of global competency.

Global Scholars, which is conducted in English, is operated by **Global Cities, Inc.**, a program of Bloomberg Philanthropies. Global Cities provides the curriculum, access to the password-protected e-classroom, and professional development for educators. **Schools** agree to provide access to devices with internet connection, two hours per week for Global Scholars activities, and an enthusiastic educator to lead activities and participate in required professional development.

**There are no fees to participate. For more information, visit [www.globalcities.org](http://www.globalcities.org).**

## 2025-26 Curriculum: Food, Cities, and Our Future

Through the Global Scholars curriculum and online communication with international peers, students learn how to solve a global problem. In 2025-26, students will analyze the relationships among food, culture, and climate. They will discuss food security challenges such as accessibility and food waste and identify local solutions to mitigate and adapt to the impacts of climate change.



### Unit 1: Introduction to Global Scholars

Students are oriented to the Global Scholars e-classroom and begin to develop global and digital citizenship skills. They exchange perspectives as they write their first discussion posts and reply to international peers. They create a video to introduce their class, school, cultures, and city, and share what it means to be a Global Scholar.



### Unit 2: My Meal Matters

Students explore the relationships among food, culture, geography, and climate and how they influence what people eat. They learn about food traditions and nutrition in their communities. Students create a community cookbook to showcase foods from their communities and cultures.



### Unit 3: City Food Environments

Students investigate their local food environment to analyze food security in their city. They discuss the availability of nutritious foods and food waste issues. Students brainstorm sustainability solutions that work for their city. They create a food environment guide to share local resources and suggest ways to improve food security in their community.



### Unit 4: Our Global Food System

Students research issues in the global food system such as food production, food waste, and climate change. They play a game to learn about these food systems issues and their impact on food security and sustainability. Students conduct a survey to identify food security issues in their community and recommend local solutions for equitable and resilient food systems.



### Unit 5: Community Action Project

As a class, students plan, complete, and document a project to improve food security in their communities. They collaborate with peers around the world as they create local solutions. They may start a school compost system to reduce food waste or create a food redistribution program to improve access to nutritious food. Students may write recipes that use local foods, organize a zero-waste cooking challenge, or brainstorm a new solution.