Children Around the World

Grade Level: 1 - 3
Time: 60 minutes

Program objectives:
- Students will learn about children their own age from four different cultures.
- Students will learn about games, families and activities of other cultures.
- Students will compare and contrast the different cultures and how their own culture relates to the others.
- Students will use observation techniques to examine an exhibit and select pertinent information to solve problems.

Program description:
Compare your homes and lives to those of children around the world. Explore cultural similarities related to school, clothing, family routines, names and leisure activities. This program includes a guided experience in Duke Energy Children’s Museum’s Children Just Like Me exhibit.

Major vocabulary and concepts:
- Canada
- Differences
- Inuit
- Language
- Mexico
- Pattern
- Similarities
- Tanzania
- Vietnam

Suggested pre-visit activities:
- Read the book, Children Just Like Me (can be purchased at Cincinnati Museum Center or checked out of a local library). In the program, we will be discussing the following four children: Esta, Thi Lien, Omar and Levi. Read over these pages of the book. How are these children alike? How are they different?
- Explore the globe by finding all of the countries we will be talking about: Mexico, Canada, Vietnam and Tanzania. Locate them on maps and discuss distance from the Cincinnati area.
- Discuss similarities and differences in the classroom. Does everyone like the same foods, wear the same clothes, celebrate the same holidays? Have students share some of their favorite things and discuss how they are different from other students’ favorites.
Suggested post-visit activities:
- In your classroom, have children write letters to the children featured in the program. What questions would they like to ask? Have them describe their own homes, families and hobbies.
- Learn about and discuss the other children in the Children Just Like Me book.
- Chart common words from other languages and how they are similar, yet very different from our own. For example – a US “yield” sign is “give way” in the U.K.
- Have students research and share the variations of the universal game, hopscotch and the universal food, pancakes.
- Ask students to pick a place or child (from the book) that they would like to visit. Have them share with the class their choice and their reasons.

Academic Standards:
Ohio Revised Academic Standards:
- History – grades 1 and 3
- Geography – grades 1, 2 and 3

Related exhibits and features:
- Children Just Like Me exhibit in the Duke Energy Children’s Museum
- The celebrations mural outside of the Celebrations room in the Duke Energy Children’s Museum depicts many holidays from around the world. How many can your students guess?

Resources:
- Children Just Like Me by Anabel and Barnabas Kindersley
- My Favorite Stories by Jamila Gavin
- The Children's Book of Myths and Legends: Extraordinary Stories from Around the World retold by Ronne Randall
- How to Make an Apple Pie and See the World by Marjorie Priceman
- Children from Australia to Zimbabwe by Maya Ajmera
- www.mamalisa.com/world Common nursery rhymes and songs in languages from around the world.
- Celebrations by Barnabas & Anabel Kindersley
- The Kids' Holiday Baking Book: 150 Favorite Dessert Recipes from Around the World by Rosemary Black