

Case Study

Eight classes from eight countries have participated in a project called Young Minds. The countries included are: Czech Republic, Denmark, England, Finland, Hungary, Ireland, Slovenia and Spain. It is an Internet-based project in which young people communicate and explore links between youth, culture, health and environment. It was initiated in 2000 and there have been several “phases” of the projects since then. The students present their countries online, to get to know each other across the physical borders. Then, depending on the topics in focus, such as the school and the environment in 2004, the students access information online provided by the Young Minds team, which they then further research and explore. Finally, the students take specific actions in their class, school, community or even internationally.

Key features of the project

- **Student participation:** students are genuinely involved in dialogue and decision making about specific aspects of the topics they are working with.
- **Action and change orientation:** the student project work is directed towards action and change. Students’ ideas and visions have a crucial role in deciding about actions to be taken with regard to improving the environment and health in their schools and communities.
- **The use of ICT:** students use the internet and other technologies to investigate the topics, exchange and discuss ideas, present their findings and reflections and initiate a broader debate.
- **Cross-cultural collaboration:** students cooperate in order to explore differences and similarities with regard to the environmental and health concerns, with an emphasis on global interconnectedness and social responsibility.

The project is linked to the ENHPS and coordinated by the **Research Programme for Environmental and Health Education at the Danish University of Education**.
For more details, visit web site: <http://www.young-minds.net>