



Highland Echoes in Education - Scotland in the Class

Mission Statement

Highland Echoes is a 501(c)3 Nonprofit with a mission 'To cultivate an awareness and preservation of Scottish culture & traditions.' Our Vision is 'To provide professional Scottish music & dance performances and educational resources to schools and communities. Connecting audiences and schools with their local Scottish organizations and businesses.'

Highland Echoes in Education Project - *Scotland in the Class*

- To provide elementary schools with resources and fully executed standards based lesson plans for k-5 grades Art, Music, PE and General classes on Scottish traditions and culture. Currently we have 24 lesson plans in the module that include all the resources needed to implement the lesson (books, activities, word work, audio tracks, videos and images)
- Students will discover how our Scottish ancestors brought their stories, music and dance to North America and how the Scottish traditions are preserved today.
- Scottish Music Lessons
 - Kindergarten: Scottish Children's Songs & Games
 - 1st Grade: Form in Scottish Tunes
 - 2nd Grade: Scots Dialect in Song
 - 3rd Grade: Scottish Dance Meter and Rhythm
 - 4th Grade: Scottish Instrumental Music
 - 5th Grade: Scottish Work Songs: Waulking Songs

- Scottish Art Lessons
 - Kindergarten: The Tartan
 - 1st Grade: Scottish Castles
 - 2nd Grade: Pictish Symbols
 - 3rd Grade: Scottish Clothing
 - 4th Grade: Charles Rennie Mackintosh
 - 5th Grade: The Thistle

- Scottish PE Lessons
 - Kindergarten: Clan Tug O'war
 - 1st Grade: The Caber Toss
 - 2nd Grade: Highland Dance
 - 3rd Grade: Scottish Country Dance
 - 4th Grade: Golf
 - 5th Grade: Shinty

- General Class Lessons
 - Kindergarten: The Story of Argyle
 - 1st Grade: Peter Pan
 - 2nd Grade: Robert the Bruce & The Spider Fable
 - 3rd Grade: Loch Ness Stories, Compare and Contrast
 - 4th Grade: The Selkie Legend
 - 5th Grade: The Poet Robert Burns

- Bonus Resources for all teacher access
 - Famous Scots Activity Bundle (Fleming, Bonnie Prince Charlie, Flora MacDonald, Mary Queen of Scots, Rob Roy, William Wallace and Robert Watson-Watt)
 - Historical Reading series

- History and meanings of Highland Dance
- Scotland Fun Facts
- Scottish Vocabulary word search, crossword puzzle and unscramble bundle.
- Scots dialect Word Search
- Scots Dialect Matching Game
- Counting in Scots Gaelic
- Music: Today Is Hogmanay
- Music: Ye Banks and Braes
- Music: The Tartan
- Music: The Bonnie Ship The Diamond
- Verified Links for finding Scottish groups in your area
- Scottish Culinary Recipes
- Scottish Country Dance Instructions

Approach

- The online access program is made available to a school complete with all the course materials, Standards based lessons, video instructions and extra optional resources.
 - **Lifetime** access for the school
 - **FREE** updates
 - **Optional Videos** made for use inside the classroom
 - **Created by certified teachers** who understand the standards alignment required by school districts.
 - All audio, video and images are **royalty free** for the teachers to use freely once the program has been licensed to their school.
 - The modules are created to be used year after year in order for the students to learn something new each year about Scotland without ever repeating the same

content. **This is essentially a 5 year Scottish learning program for the students.**

- Lessons have already been **piloted by several schools** for feedback to make improvements.
- **Support and feedback** offered inside the online module for all teachers.
- **Monitored Social media component for teachers** with access to share their success with the program and ask questions.

Phases

- Phase I is to launch the HE Scottish Unit to Elementary schools in North Carolina. The strongest Scottish torch is carried in North Carolina and the state education standards require students to learn about the Scottish Highland immigration to North Carolina.
 - There are over 2000 Elementary Schools NC
 - There are over 50,000 Elementary school teachers in NC
- Phase II overlaps with phase 1. This is a follow up phase where we contact each school who has received a module to get feedback and offer more support.
 - Feedback Reports
 - implement changes
 - provide support for changes
- Phase III Start accepting applicants from other states

Timeline

- 2018/2019: 10 Schools have the program to implement and provide feedback. We are currently receiving feedback from the 18/19 school year and changes based on feedback are being implemented over the summer 2019.

Changes include:

- Write and illustrate two books for elementary school reading levels about Scottish legends to have available for students to read as a digital version or teachers can print.
 - Scottish music arranged for recorder
 - module update to make downloadable lessons and resources easier to access, all in one place
- 2019/2020: 100 Schools
 - 2020/2021: 200 Schools
 - 2021/2022: 300 Schools
 - 2022/2023: 400 Schools
 - 2023/2024: 500 Schools

School Applicants

- We created a school application for schools to be on our waiting list. We currently have 166 schools on this list.

Financial Support

- Every \$1300 received in donations will service an entire elementary school for life regardless of the school size or location. This gives every child the opportunity to complete 31 Scottish Culture lessons during their k-5 elementary school experience. We are also seeking extra funding to promote the program to new schools, and to visit schools that are using the program to get feedback and a better understanding on how we can improve our efforts in implementing these lessons.

FAQs

Our school district has a strict curriculum and testing component that doesn't allow for these extras.

Yes, all schools comply to a strict curriculum and standards that students must be assessed on. Our certified teachers who understand those standards created the lessons in order to comply with the skills needed for testing. We provide teachers with a chart showing which lesson inside our module matches the grade level standard in each subject.

It's important to understand that the teachers are responsible for creating lessons around the required standards, therefore by doing this lesson creation for them, we are saving teachers a lot of planning time.

Why aren't teachers already teaching this about our American history?

In short, they may or may not be and if they are, it's probably a 5 minute introduction.

Teachers have a million things to do and their own knowledge base of Scottish culture is probably not at the forefront of their minds. Therefore, Scottish cultural lessons probably isn't at the top of their to do list.

How do you ensure that the teachers use these lessons?

1. We are in the teacher circles and we network with them all the time. They spend an average of \$60 per month buying lessons plans and resources from teachers pay teachers (a popular website where teachers buy lesson plans from other teachers). They are buying these lessons to save them time and energy, so that they can show up and be present for their students rather than staying up late with lesson planning and researching. They want done for you lessons and resources that are aligned to the standards.
2. We communicate with them! We send them an email every month providing them with value. These emails include inspirational stories, how other teachers have seen success with the lessons, how to integrate the lessons with their community, invitations to webinars where they can ask questions, updates to the module...etc.

We also invite them to join our private facebook social community where all the teachers can share with each other their Scottish cultural classroom moments!

How does this help us with our mission?

If your mission is also to preserve Scottish culture, then giving your local community this unit is giving Scottish culture to the largest system in the world - The school system. Using the largest system in the world to cultivate an awareness and preservation of Scottish culture cannot be overlooked.

Does this program include one of the Highland Echoes performances?

No, the program was created to reach many students and teachers at the same time. We give the schools access to the Highland Echoes performance videos to show the students. We also let our schools know when Highland Echoes is on tour in their area. At that point, they can schedule a performance with us. If you are interested in funding a school performance in your community, email us with the details at info@highlandechoes.com or call at 910 338 0787.

Teacher Testimonials

"All information was presented in an easy to follow way. There were mixtures of authentic Scotland accents and even scenery woven into the lessons. A great way to teach diversity through the universal language of music."

Mandy Bailey - Nashville Elementary, North Carolina

"Scotland in the Class is a perfectly integrated unit that is aligned with the teaching objectives required by the state of NC and it is so user friendly. The lessons, the music, the work...its all done for you. A teacher's dream!"

Kimberley Rouse Ciamillo, Holly Tree Elementary

Teacher Requests

“For the second year in a row, our schools are engaging in an event called One School One Book (OSOB). As part of this event, the entire school reads the same book, Pre K-5 including the staff. Throughout the two weeks of reading, students and staff also incorporate a variety of activities and resources to connect to the book to all academic areas. This year our school has chosen *The Waterhorse* as our OSOB book. The setting of the story is Scotland. Connections to reading, writing, math, science and social studies throughout this school event will only add to the student engagement.”

Kimberly Rollins, Alfred Elementary School

“We would love to share about Scotland as we complete an International Night event and a Christmas Around the World event. I also talk about Scotland since I read the Harry Potter series with my students. This would be such an asset to our lessons.”

Kelly Meyer, Saint Ann School