

“Backpack Ambassadors” for Global Buddy Schools

Are you planning to backpack this coming year? You will have a great time. Let us add to your experience by suggesting that you become a “Backpack Ambassador” for Global Buddy Schools (GBS). You visit a school in one of the places you go to. You arrange for a class to draw pictures or write letters that you bring with you to another school on your trip or back to your home country. After you have completed an exchange between the two schools you will be awarded a Letter of Completion that you can use when applying for school, scholarship, a job.

Sounds interesting? This is how it works:

1. Backpackers apply to GBS to become “ambassadors” by sending an email to: info@globalbuddyschools.org
2. A “Backpack Ambassador” agrees to:
 - a. Visit a school and inform about GBS (see example of introduction below. Brochures will be supplied by GBS). If the school wants to become a GBS it is up to the “Backpack Ambassador” to implement (together with designated staff from the school) the first activity with the school (suggestions for activities on the GBS website and below) including uploading information about the school on the GBS website.
 - b. Share the outcome of the activity with another school. That can either be a school already participating in GBS or a new school that the “Backpack Ambassador” has contact with.
 - c. Communicate the outcome of the activity with the first school.
 - d. Share the result of the activity with Board of Directors for Make a Kid Smile.
3. A “Letter of Completion” will be signed by the board of directors for Make a Kid Smile and will be sent to the “Backpack Ambassador” after the result of the activity has been reviewed and approved by the board.
4. A separate agreement will be decided on if the “Backpack Ambassador” is interested to continue the work with GBS.

Suggestions for activities:

- Make drawings (please include information regarding age, gender, grade)
- Write letters either from the whole class or from individual students (please include information regarding age, gender, grade)

- Design questions that both of the classes have to answer regarding their countries, hobbies, music, etc.

How does a “Backpack Ambassador” introduce Global Buddy Schools and the idea for collaboration?

Dear Sir/Madam¹,

My name is XXXX, I am a “Backpack Ambassador” for an initiative called “Global Buddy Schools” founded 2 years ago in Sweden. The vision for Global Buddy Schools is to connect schools around the world to support increased understanding among children around the world. We initiate activities at any school that is interested in the initiative, e.g., sending drawings, writing letters, or collaboration in project of mutual interest. An activity can take 20 minutes or span over several months.

We are always on the lookout for new schools that share our belief that increased communication among young people contributes to a deeper understanding and respect for different people’s living conditions, cultural beliefs, and ideas for the future.

Global Buddy School is not affiliated with, connected to, endorsed by, or associated with any political party, or any particular religion.

If you are interested to learn more about other schools in our network, please visit:

www.XXXXXX.XXXXXX.

I would very much like to present more of our ideas if this sounds interesting to you.

I will contact you in the next few days.

Sincerely,

XXXXXXX

Backpack Ambassador for Global Buddy Schools

¹ If you have a name please use it together with appropriate prefix (Dr., Mr., Mrs., Ms.)