

# Monster Exchange Guide

Use this guide to ensure you have a planned and successful collaboration project! If you need any help or have questions, contact Audra May 620-440-2099, [audramay@usd358.com](mailto:audramay@usd358.com). Have fun!

---

● **Step 1: Partner up!** Once you have registered, you will receive a partner class. Put their information below.

Teacher Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade Level: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

● **Step 2: Date/Time** – My confirmed date & time: \_\_\_\_\_

● **Step 3: Correspond with partner** – Be sure to email or call partner as soon as possible to work out any details.

● **Step 4: Create!** Now the fun begins helping your students create a fun and unique monster! Make sure to have everyone participate. You will create just one monster using common classrooms items such as construction paper, glue, tissue paper, toothpicks, pipe cleaners, etc...

● **Step 5: Write Directions** – Now that you have created a monster, you will need to write a description of it to give to your partner class. Be sure to let students do as much as they can with writing the description (this will also depend on grade level of students). Your partner class will use your description to try and re-create it! Use the 2<sup>nd</sup> page to write description.

● **Step 6: Exchange Descriptions** – Email your Monster description to your partner teacher. They will also email you their Monster's description.

● **Step 7: Create 2<sup>nd</sup> Monster** – When you receive your partner's Monster Description, have your class create a 2<sup>nd</sup> monster based on their description. (You will have 2 monsters altogether).

● **Step 8: Test Connection** – Work with your IDL Facilitator to complete a test connection with partner school to ensure things go smoothly on connection day. Schedule a test at least 2 days before your actual connection day. Below list the following information so that you have it on connection day as well:

1. Partner School IP Address: & Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_
2. Your IP Address: \_\_\_\_\_ (if you are unsure, ask your facilitator)
3. Date/Time of Test Connection: \_\_\_\_\_
4. Decide which site will dial out to the other: \_\_\_\_\_

● **Step 9: Connection time!** – On the day of your connection, be sure to have the following:

1. This guide with teacher information and IP Addresses
2. 2 Monsters (yours and theirs) with descriptions
3. Equipment is turned on and ready to go before the connection
4. Help numbers in case of technical issues: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Audra May 620-440-2099/620-435-6611)

# Monster Description:

Created by (Teacher/School): \_\_\_\_\_

Monster Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**Monster Description:** (Use this space to list description of your Monster)

# Conversation and Collaborating Ideas:

## ● Introductions

Start a collaboration with each school telling a little bit about where they are located and important things to them about their community or school. Below are suggested items to tell your partner class:

- Where you live - What city, population, and state you live in?
- School - Your school name, grade levels in your building, and how many students in your building.
- Interesting Facts - Unique things about your school or city could include school mascot, awards your school has received, events during the year, upcoming events, field trips.
- Pictures – If you have a document camera or computer hookup, you can show a brief PowerPoint with information or pictures of your community or school. Or you can hold pictures up to the camera.

## ● Presentations

Decide who will present their monster first: \_\_\_\_\_

Make sure to let the students have time to ask questions, or suggest what they did right or wrong. Always have positive remarks for students in your class and partner class. Congratulate each class for their hard work and efforts!

## ● Question/Answer

Once the Monster Exchange potion is complete, collaborations are a great way to learn about a location geographically different than your own. Research where the partner class is located and have the students prepare questions ahead of time. Some suggested topics are below. Also make sure that your students know these about where they live. Each class can take turns asking a few questions at a time.

- Landscape – find out what type of crops they grow in their area (cotton, wheat, corn, etc...) and what type of terrain they have (mountains, hills, lakes, oceans, etc...)
- Favorites – kids love discussing what they like. Find out what their favorite subjects are, favorite restaurants, playground equipment, sports, hobbies, etc...
- Sports – what type of sports do they offer in their area?
- Hobbies – what hobbies are they interested in? Examples: dance, bike riding, skateboarding, etc...
- Lunch – students love discussing the differences in their cafeterias. What is their favorite and least favorite?
- School time – what time does your school day start and end? What date does your school start and end?
- Weather – what is the weather like in your area? Do you have very many snow days?