ISTE SEAL OF ALIGNMENT REVIEW FINDINGS REPORT

Level Up Global Courses

FEBRUARY 2017
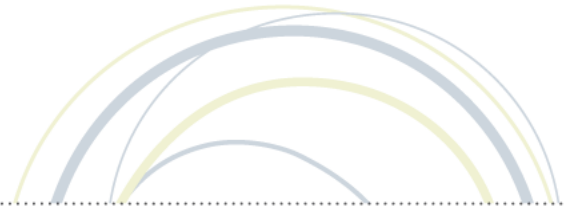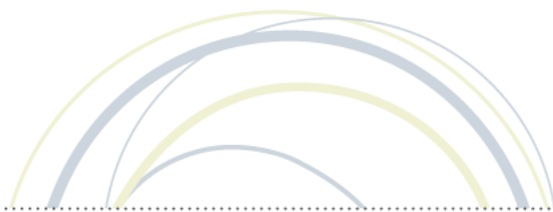
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ABOUT

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The International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE) is the premier nonprofit membership organization serving educators and education leaders. ISTE is committed to empowering connected learners in a connected world and serves more than 100,000 education stakeholders throughout the world.

As the creator and steward of the definitive education technology standards, our mission is to empower learners to nourish in a connected world by cultivating a passionate professional learning community, linking educators and partners, leveraging knowledge and expertise, advocating for strategic policies, and continually improving learning and teaching
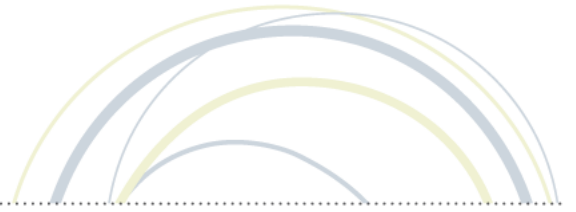
ISTE SEAL OF ALIGNMENT

Resources and products designed with the ISTE Standards in mind are choosing to demonstrate their commitment to support critical digital age learning skills and knowledge. Regardless of a solution's intended grade level, purpose or content area, by addressing the ISTE Standards and earning a Seal of Alignment, a solution is shown to consciously, purposefully and meaningfully support best practices for digital age teaching and learning.

ISTE considers a solution aligned to the ISTE Standards only after an extensive review conducted by trained ISTE Seal of Alignment reviewers, and it has been determined to meet all critical elements of a particular standard indicator in accordance with specific review criteria.

By earning a Seal of Alignment, ISTE verifies that this product:
- Promotes critical technology skills
- Supports the use of technology in appropriate ways
- Contributes to the pedagogically robust use of technology for teaching and learning
- Aligns to the ISTE Standards in specific ways as described in the review finding report
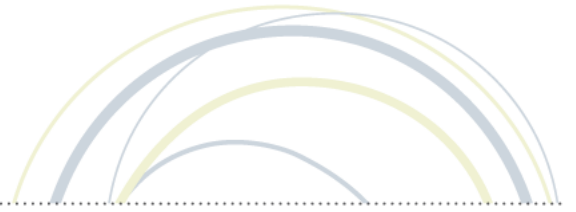
RESOURCE DESCRIPTION

WHAT ARE THE LEVEL UP GLOBAL COURSES?

Level Up Village offers STEAM courses that connect students in the US with students in countries all over the world from grades K-9. These Global Courses cover a variety of topics with titles such as Global Water Crisis, Global Web Designers, Global Inventors, Global Language Lab, and Global Doctors and are offered in 6, 8 or 10 week versions. There are eighteen student courses designed for a specific grade-level bands including K-2, 3-5, 6-8 and all courses are designed to engage students in collaboration with students in other countries by exchanging video letters, shared files, student profiles and collaborative problem-solving.

Level Up Village also provides online courses for teachers to help prepare them to facilitate the student courses as either in-class or after school learning experiences. The professional development component includes two courses, one that introduces the student curriculum and one that focuses on strategies for facilitating the content and activities found in the curriculum. Both student and professional development courses are available online.

ISTE SEAL OF ALIGNMENT REVIEW

Product: Level Up Global Courses
Company: Level Up Village
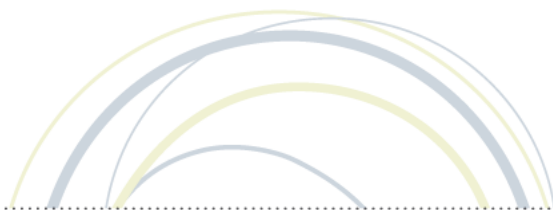**Date of Award:** February 2017

REVIEW METHODOLOGY

ISTE Seal of Alignment reviews are conducted by a panel of education and instructional experts. Reviewers use data collected both separately and collectively to determine how a solution addresses specific elements described in each of the indicators of the ISTE Standards. Special instruments are used by reviewers to collect data on potential alignment across all resource materials. Alignment is determined based on the extent to which all or some of specific elements are addressed within the materials. Reviewers conduct regular calibrations to assure the validity and reliability of the results and final review findings are combined for an overall score for alignment on each individual indicator.

SCOPE OF REVIEW

As a resource focused on "using technology to learn" with opportunities for students to practice the skills and knowledge embodied by the ISTE Standards, the Level Up Global Courses underwent a Proficiency level review against the 2016 ISTE Standards for Students.
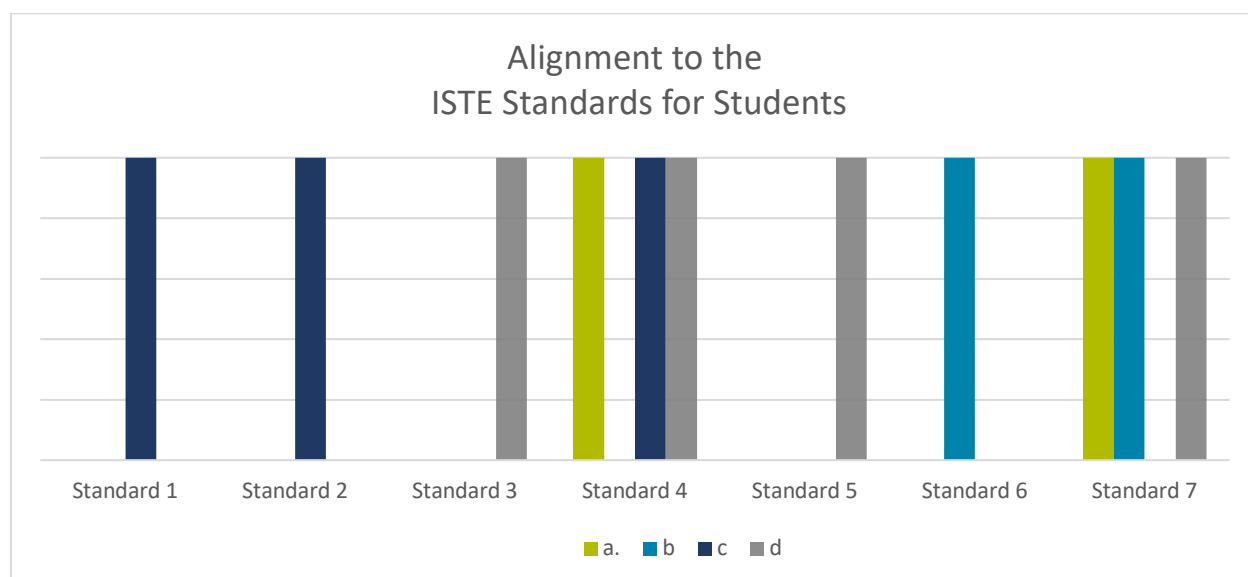
During the review process for the Level Up Global Courses, reviewers:

- collected data on when and how each activity addressed specific skills and knowledge described in the ISTE Standards for Students.
- compiled findings to determine overall alignment across all ISTE Student standards and indicators.
- used aggregate findings to form the basis of the overall alignment results.

REVIEW FINDINGS

After careful review, ISTE reviewers determined the Level Up Global Courses align to the following indicators of the 2016 ISTE Standards for Students at the Proficiency level:

Alignment to the
ISTE Standards for Students

The Level Up Global Courses align to the following indicators of the ISTE Standards for Students:

1. Empowered Learner
1.c. use technology to seek feedback that informs and improves their practice and to demonstrate their learning in a variety of ways.

2. Digital Citizen
2.c. demonstrate an understanding of and respect for the rights and obligations of using and sharing intellectual property

3. Knowledge Constructor
3.d. build knowledge by actively exploring real-world issues and problems, developing ideas and theories and pursuing answers and solutions.
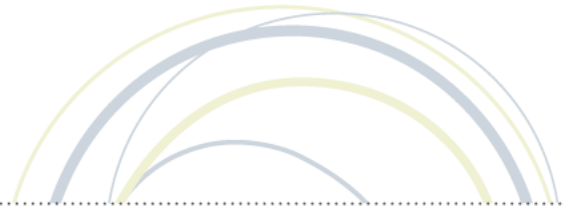
4. Innovative Designer
4.a. know and use a deliberate design process for generating ideas, testing theories, creating innovative artifacts or solving authentic problems.
4.c. develop, test and refine prototypes as part of a cyclical design process.
4.d. exhibit a tolerance for ambiguity, perseverance and the capacity to work with open-ended problems.

5. Computational Thinker
5.d. understand how automation works and use algorithmic thinking to develop a sequence of steps to create and test automated solutions.

ISTE Seal of Alignment Review Findings Report

6. Creative Communicator
6.b. Students create original works or responsibly repurpose or remix digital resources into new creations.

7. Global Collaborator
7.a. use digital tools to connect with learners from a variety of backgrounds and cultures, engaging with them in ways that broaden mutual understanding and learning.
7.b. use collaborative technologies to work with others, including peers, experts or community members, to examine issues and problems from multiple viewpoints.
7.d. explore local and global issues and use collaborative technologies to work with others to investigate solutions.

CONCLUSION
ISTE Seal of Alignment reviewers found that the Level Up Global Courses shared a consistent and effective approach to the use of technology to promote shared learning, problem-solving and work strategies, with a particular emphasis on the development of the cultural understanding necessary to work with international partners. Reviewers found the courses to be interesting, engaging, challenging and highly professional in their design and implementation.