

Teacher Jesús Gómez  
First Report

Personal Opinion

During the time I have used the active board with my students, I have seen lots of changes. Usually students working with regular blackboards are more usually not focus on class, this could be for many reasons: boring, not motivated, etc; speaking of students with learning and discipline problems.

Now we have seen that good technology like active boards increase motivation in students to participate in class, not only participating just to use the board, but doing activities right.

Like I mentioned before, the Global Citizenship Project has helped students to see and understand how is life inside their community to the life of other communities around the world.

We have seen values like justice, respect, responsibility, honesty, tolerance, dialogue, solidarity, freedom, equality, effort, diversity, etc.

Teachers work

Colleagues from my school worked with me on this Project. In academic meetings we chose teachers in charge of grades. For example, 1 teacher responsible for First and Second grade, other teacher responsible for Third and Fourth grade and myself responsible for Fifth and Sixth grade.

The three teachers responsible for the grades got together once a month to discuss and plan activities related to the Citizenship Project. In each academic meeting we gave to other

teachers the activities and they worked with them during the regular classes, trying to create the activities according the contents they see in their classroom.

They deliver me the activities that they applied to their students.

I have seen a good participation from my colleagues and I expect that new teachers from next school year will also work with the project.

### Students work

Our school is located in a difficult community. Many students are involved in gangs, also have to deal with their parents because some are divorced, alcoholic, aggressive or simply they do not care about them. So they do not teach them any kind of values, seeing the results in the classroom with bad discipline, fighting with partners, disrespecting teachers, etc.

Because of this I planned activities where students can see real situations and try to solve them according the right thing to do, debating in class the reasons that support their ideas, and not even knowing that they are using a value and also applying it.. At the end they understand the meaning of the value without an explanation from the teacher.

They have seen that they form part of the world, and the acts they do for a bad or a good reason will affect everyone in this world.

They created a strip cartoon using the active board. This strip cartoon was about a story where they had to decide to do something wrong for a good reason, or do the right thing. Some activities are:

- In **Justice** I told a students the following fable:

Very scared, the frogs from a small lake got together in a council. They where informed that, since that day on, the sun would warm up the earth only during six months of the year. The rest of the months were going to be dark and cold.

- What can we do?- they complain. The lakes and rivers will be dry. We won't be able to enjoy are actual and pleasing life. It is not fair, we should protest. They were still arguing when a voice asked them:

-Are you arguing because your own good will end?

-Yes- the frogs answered.

-You only protest for your own good... for your satisfaction wish the sun to still heating and lighting the Earth during the whole year?

-And should we do it for someone else? They asked, concerned.

They have to answer the following questions:

-What is your opinion about the complaints from the frogs?

-Would it be fair that the sun would only heat the Earth during the whole year only to pleased the frogs?

-When a teacher revise works from students, would be fair to give everyone the same grades when they have shown different effort, interest and commitment?

- In **Honesty** the following story:

One day I went to a party, we were playing and dancing. After a while everyone started to leave, I decided to leave too, in my way out I observed that a lady dropped her purse, I lifted it up and saw that it contained a lot of money, I did not know whether keep it or give it to her. I called her and gave it back to her. The lade thanked me and I went back to my house peacefully.

They answered the following questions:

-What would you do if you were in the same situation?

-Why is important to be honest?

-How do you feel when you are being honest?

-What sense does it make to act according the truth?

- In **Responsibility** the story “Words from a clock”:

I work more than any mortal, but more easily, because I do it second by second. I have to do thousands of tic-tacs in order to form a day but I dispose of a second to do each one of them. I don't want to do all of them at the same time. I never worry of what I did yesterday, or what I am going to do tomorrow. My occupation is here and now. I know that if I do things today well I won't have to bother from the past or the future.

They will answer the following questions:

-Why do you consider that is appropriate to be responsible?

-How does relate being ordained and responsible?

In their story we got two conclusions:

1. The students said that the boy did the correct thing by stealing the chocolates because his mother was in the hospital and had no money.
2. Students said that the right thing was to tell his friend that stealing was no good for any reason, even if his mother was in the hospital, that was not an excuse.

Either way they agree that each case was correct for them.

## Community

- Parents from our community went to our school and were informed about the Global Citizenship Project and the importance of their participation. They saw the board on a presentation where teachers from our school explain the aims of the project, and some students participated explaining how to use the board.

Their opinion was that they expect that with this project students from our community will respect more others and

themselves. Realizing that gangs only give them bad things and no future.

Also they commit to support their children in their activities and help them in everything they needed.