Connect with other classrooms...
Across the hall or across the globe!
This is not the only way to connect, or maybe even the best way.
We just want to share our experience.
HELLO!

I am Angie Levato
Third Grade Teacher
@levato_angie
HELLO!

I am Alison Mahoney
Technology Integration Specialist
@anmahoney
1. WHY CONNECT?
What are the benefits of connecting classrooms?
WHY CONNECT?

- Communication - 4Cs
  - Communicate, collaborate, create, critical thinking
- Teacher connections
- Authentic, engaging
  ...and many more!
2. Global Read Aloud

Gateway to connecting
Since 2010
Students all over the world hear the same story
Begins in October, runs for six weeks
AND THE WINNERS ARE...

GLOBAL READ ALOUD CHOICES 2018

WHAT WILL YOU READ?
CHALLENGES

1. Scheduling
2. Accountability
BENEFITS

1. Flexibility
2. Connections with teachers
3. Global perspective
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“BAT”
Flipgrid groups
Padlet
Skype/Hangout
Postcard exchanges
Digital postcards
Discussion questions and collaborative project ideas
Exploring relationships using Sphero
Autism intro video
Google Map of BAT participants
Pets 101 skunk video
Quizlet - 40 comprehension questions, chapters 1-22

“AMAL”
Summary, character list, vocab list, connection ideas and emoji reader response
Text graffiti
pre-reading activity
Weekly vocab bookmarks
Picture dictionary
Facts about Pakistan for kids
Henna hand designs - art activity
Character web
Kidblog GRA prompts
List of foods in the story with recipes

“REFUGEE”
Powerful related short videos
Vox-9 questions about the global refugee crisis you were too embarrassed to ask
Podcast with the author
Teaching empathy in the classroom
Newsela text sets
Info about previous (Holocaust, Cuba) and current (Syria, Rohingya) refugee crises
Poems/songs about the topic of refugees
#GRA18 connection between Maine and Illinois. Third graders ask their pen pals about #GRABat18 and other fun topics @levato_angie #RossPride

After discussing #GRABat18 with their pen pals the kids discover a common language @levato_angie #RossPride
MORE BENEFITS

1. Engaging
2. Apply learning
3. Authentic
ACROSS CURRICULUM

- Social Studies
  - Geography
  - Map skills
  - Cultural similarities and differences
3. Ways to connect

Websites that bring people together
Discuss your goals
  ◦ Writing?
  ◦ Speaking & listening?
  ◦ Awareness?
 Decide what types of connections you want
 Determine a schedule
A Boy Called AD, GLOBAL POSTCARD EXCHANGE

Find your state and fill in your contact information. Please send a postcard to each person on the list. Thank you!

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<th>Your Name</th>
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<th>School Address</th>
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<tr>
<td>Alabama</td>
<td>Alicia Hernandez</td>
<td>Pike Road Elementary School 500 Parkway of Learning, Pike Road, AL 36064</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alaska</td>
<td>Shelly Anderson</td>
<td>H.L. Ludke Elementary 103 W. Park Blvd, Knob, AR 72101</td>
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<tr>
<td>Arizona</td>
<td>Amanda Anderson</td>
<td>Glendive Valley Academy 8011 N. San Jacinto Ave. San Jacinto, CA 92580</td>
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<td>Arkansas</td>
<td>Lora Lewis</td>
<td>Amana School 1200 N. Austin Ave, Fullerton, CA 92832</td>
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<td>Georgia</td>
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</table>

Dear Class,

I am in 2nd grade. My name is A. My school name is Summit Elementary. I am 7 years old. I am a pretty nice girl. I think you are too. I am not a picky eater. I do not have a pet. I do not have a favorite color. I am not an introvert. I am not a narcissist. I like to read books. I like to play outside. I like to draw. I like to dance. I like to sing. I like to listen to music. I like to play video games. I like to play sports. I like to play with my friends.

Your friend in Texas,

Texas is the best state.

The Love Star State

Dear class,

My name is Nakia and I am in 2nd grade. My school name is Summit Elementary. I am 7 years old. I am a pretty nice girl. I think you are too. I am not a picky eater. I do not have a pet. I do not have a favorite color. I am not an introvert. I am not a narcissist. I like to read books. I like to play outside. I like to draw. I like to dance. I like to sing. I like to listen to music. I like to play video games. I like to play sports. I like to play with my friends.

Your friend in Texas,

Texas is the best state.
Dear [name],

This Google Doc is a place where you can communicate with your penpal. For your first letter, it would be helpful to introduce yourself. Tell your penpal:

- the name you like to be called;
- the name of your school;
- two things you like;
- one thing you don't like;
- and a question.

I am a 7th grader. This is my first year at [school name]. My favorite part of the week is [activity].

My favorite sport is basketball. It is fun and interesting. I hope you can visit our school someday.

In my name is [name]. I like basketball. I don't like fish. I like people when they say hello to me. Does your good food?
### SEESAW

**Boy Called Bat**

**Teacher**

#### Class Journal
370 items

<table>
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<tr>
<td>Ben/Ben</td>
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<td>Cassidy/Riley</td>
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<td>Christian/Bogdan</td>
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<td>Cora/Gabby</td>
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<td>Cordelia/Isabella</td>
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OTHER WAYS TO CONNECT

- Padlet
- Flipgrid
- Book Creator
- Google Slides
- Video Chat
A Boy Called Bat

We're a 3rd grade class from Prospect Heights, IL, and we wonder... Will Bat be able to take care of a skunk? Will anything go wrong? Let us know!

Joyceville, Ontario
Our class thinks that all are going to keep the skunk. The family is going to keep the kit and name it. We think BAT is going to convince his mom to keep it. The first person in our class to say no was Jack. He thinks they are going to give it away. Most of our class thinks they are going to keep it and live happily ever after. (by Willow and Haley)

Jackson and Brett
I think bat will take care of the baby skunk’s kit.

Nikko Red Hook NY Tori RedHook NY
No I don’t think he would be able to because it is a wild animal and when it gets older it will not remember them and spray a stinky smell on them and since it is wild it would probably rip up the furniture and Bat would get in trouble for keeping it and that’s why I say and think no from Nikko.

Yes I think that he can take care of that skunk because when the skunk grows up it will know what the rules are.

Glenna, Gobi, Emily NY.
Yes we think Bat will be able to take care of the skunk kit and he might make some mistakes but he might fix the mistakes.

Patrick, F, Chase, K NY
We think that Bat is going to take care of the baby kit because he is very organized and will do what ever it takes to keep him safe.

Aiden Asher N.Y.
We think Bat can take care of the skunk because he is asking a lot of questions about the skunk. He is almost an expert on baby skunks.

Liam, mason NY
When a baby skunk is born it is pink and small. When a baby skunk is born it can not spray.

Emerado, ND
bat don’t like to go to his dad’s because he doesn’t see the skunk for three days,

Emerado, ND
Emerado, ND
I think bat doesn’t want to go to his dad’s house because he doesn’t get to see the baby skunk for 3 days.
October 16, 2018

**Week 3 - Ch. 9-12**

Now that you have finished about half of the book, we are starting to get to know many different characters! Other than BAT, share some traits that you noticed or learned about some of the other characters in this book.

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October 9, 2018

**Week 2 - Chapters 5-8**

Fiction books can also teach us some great information! It might be a new vocabulary word, an example of figurative language, or maybe even a new fact about skunks. What is one new thing YOU learned while reading the chapters this week? It’s also helpful to cite the page or chapter you discovered this on! #GRA18

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September 18, 2018

**Introductions!**

Welcome to our classroom Grid! This is a space where we will learn together and share our ideas about A Boy Called Bat for the Global Read Aloud 2018.

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October 2, 2018

**Week 1 - Chapters 1-4...Who is Bat?**

Hi Readers!!

Now that we've been reading the first 4 chapters of this book, let's take a moment to think about Bat. What is he...
This is where we play.
Coordinate with teacher partner
Structure the experience
Prepare the students
Do a test run!
PREPARE STUDENTS

Explain what video chat is
Behavior expectations
Speak loudly and clearly
DO A TEST RUN!

- Do a video chat with just your partner teacher
- Assess:
  - Computer placement
  - Lighting
  - Volume
Making connections with #GRA partners! 5th graders do a Mystery Hangout with kids in Queensbury. Where is that?? @PHSD23 #SullivanRocks
Baby Steps

Across the hall is *still* connecting
RESEARCH & WRITING ACROSS GRADE LEVELS
4. Connect with a professional
Make learning authentic
CONNECT WITH AN AUTHOR

A Boy Called BAT

WRITTEN BY Elana K. Arnold
2nd & 3rd graders do a Google Meet with Uma Krishnaswami author of “The Book Uncle” our “Book to Bridge Two Schools.”
#RossPride @PHSD23
4th & 5th graders do a Google Meet with Uma Krishnaswami author of “The Book Uncle” our “Book to Bridge Two Schools.”
#SullivanRocks @PHSD23

Author Uma Krishnaswami talks about her writing process. "I delete my first draft then empty the trash..." 😳 "...because I know I can do better the second time." @PHSD23
#SullivanRocks
Had an amazing virtual tour with @msfunksclass of Ashfall Fossil Beds in NE! Daniel was a great tour guide. @PHSD23 #SullivanRocks
Alison Mahoney @anmahoney  ·  16 Oct 2018
Had an amazing virtual tour with @msfunksclass of Ashfall Fossil Beds in NE! Daniel was a great tour guide. @PHSD23 #SullivanRocks
5. Make that connection!
"How do I make this fit?"
• PenpalSchools.com
• TeachersCorner.net
• Empatico.org
• Epals
• Microsoft in Education
• Across the hall
JUST DO IT!

- Start with Global Read Aloud
- Connect with a friend
- Explore some of the other options