



Schools with a difference

A

Agora School, Roermond, The Netherlands

Many schools have got classrooms and tests, but not mine. At Agora, we have open areas and meeting rooms. I choose what I want to learn each day. In the morning, I show the class my plan for the day and they show me theirs. My project today is to build a table and I learn maths to help me. My classmate's project is to learn about horses and another student wants to learn Spanish. We do our projects, then there's lunch and quiet reading or thinking time. Then we do our projects again. In Agora, the teachers are like 'coaches', they guide our work and help us look for solutions. I get help from other students or their families, too. I also search for information on my laptop or phone.

B

THINK Global

My school, THINK Global, is a travelling secondary school. My friends at school are from all over the world. I bring my culture and they bring theirs. We live in four countries each year. So, one year we go to countries like China, Panama or Greece and

the next year to India, Japan or Spain. We learn languages and eat and cook food from these different countries and we also work on our teachers' projects about the place. We study biology in a river, music in a recording studio, and history in a museum. Then we do our own project in each country and we give a presentation to local experts.

C

Urban Academy Lab, New York, The US

At my school, Urban Academy Lab, we've got classes with students of different ages. We choose the classes we want to do from a course catalogue. So, one day, I do an English writing class and my classmate does art. Then I change and do science and she does music. I do my subjects and she does hers. Sometimes, I choose courses of my favourite subjects and sometimes it's a subject I need help with. Our classes start with discussions. The teachers guide the discussions and help us find our own answers. We have no tests. We show what we know during the class and in our assignments. On Wednesday afternoons, we work in our local community. Some students work at art galleries and some students at museums, schools or hospitals.