

Dear Fellow Middle School Teacher,

I would like to introduce you to a fun and educational writing activity for your entire class called “**The Great Canadian Mail Race**”. I am a grade seven and eight English Language Arts teacher from New Ross Consolidated School in New Ross, Nova Scotia.

My classes are participating and I am excited to start this going across our beautiful country! If you can do this project with your class, wonderful. If not, please pass this along to another teacher in your school to ensure that the enclosed student letter is responded to.

This is how it works:

1. Read my letter to your class.
2. Have **one** of your students read and respond to my student’s letter and mail that response letter to that student specifically, care of (%) our school (New Ross Consolidated School).
3. Have all of the other students in your class write a letter to any middle school student anywhere in Canada.
4. The students will choose the town or city that they would like to send their letter to. (I have also asked my students to research and select a middle/junior high school in the area that they would like to send their letter).
5. Other than the respondent, the student’s **envelopes** should be addressed as follows:

The Great Canadian Mail Race
Any Middle School Class
Name of the School
Address, the name of the City, Province, Postal Code

When sending the letters, place a copy of the letter that you will write, similar to this one, in the envelope with your student’s letter. Each student that mails out a letter must have their letter **and** a copy of your letter in the envelope.

This is the RACE part - the student that gets the quickest reply is the Winner of the race. I specified that they had to send it to a province in Canada *other* than in Nova Scotia since that is where we live. That way the distance their letter will travel would at least be a province away.

I hope that your students participate. My class has loved this activity. The students were very excited to send their letters out quickly, it will be fun to see who gets replies back and when. It is also a great project for Social Studies, just in case anyone in your Social Studies Department is interested.

We look forward to hearing from you!

Sincerely,

Nicole Clarke
English, Social Studies, Health and Art Teacher
New Ross Consolidated School
nicoleclarke@nlesd.ca