Yellow™ BACKPACK

What's in Your Backpack?

2026–2027 Global Learning Programs

Building curiosity, one journey at a time.

WHY YELLOW BACKPACK?

Every journey adds something powerful to your backpack, identity, empathy, courage, discernment, and connection.

Yellow Backpack Travel & Global Education Consultants designs immersive, standards-aligned learning experiences that meet students, educators, and institutions at the intersection of place, purpose, and global citizenship.

Our programs are intentionally designed to be:

- Student-Centered
- SDG-Aligned
- Project-Based
- Reflection-Focused
- Rooted in Cultural Understanding & Justice

Whether experienced through curriculum-only learning pathways or travel-enhanced study tours, each program equips learners with transferable skills for an interconnected world.

PROGRAM CATEGORIES

I. STUDY TOURS

Domestic & International | Curriculum + Travel Experience

Each Yellow Backpack study tour includes pre-learning, guided immersive experiences, and post-trip reflection or capstone options aligned to Sustainable Development Goals and global competencies.

II. PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT EXPERIENCES

Educator-Centered | Travel-Based Learning

Yellow Backpack's professional development experiences immerse educators in place-based learning that strengthens practice, deepens perspective, and connects theory to lived experience. Designed for teachers, school leaders, and program designers, these journeys blend observation, dialogue, and reflection, supporting educators in translating global and community insights into meaningful classroom and institutional change.

III. GLOBAL CITIZEN CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT- GLOBAL PATHWAYS

Curriculum-Only | Travel Optional Add-On

Programs are designed to align with family-directed education funding options where applicable.These programs deliver standards-aligned curriculum that can stand alone or be enhanced with travel.

STUDY TOURS

BLACK HILLS: SACRED LAND & SHARED HISTORY

What You'll Pack: Sovereignty, Ethical Inquiry, Historical Complexity

Target Audience: High school students, college cohorts

Description:

This immersive experience examines Indigenous sovereignty, land stewardship, and contested memory in the Black Hills. Students investigate how sacred land, federal policy, and historical narratives collide and what reconciliation requires.

Backpack Highlights:

- Indigenous-led site interpretation
- Federal policy analysis & treaty study
- Reflection on land, power, and narrative ownership

COSTA RICA: ECOLOGY, IDENTITY & GLOBAL STEWARDSHIP

What You'll Pack: Environmental Literacy, Interdependence, Global Responsibility

Target Audience: High school students, boarding school cohorts, homeschoolers

Description:

This immersive Costa Rica study tour examines the relationship between ecology, culture, and global citizenship in one of the world's most biodiverse regions. This program invites students to explore how conservation policy, Indigenous knowledge, and community practice shape sustainable living. Through field-based inquiry, cultural exchange, and guided reflection, students connect local ecosystems to global environmental challenges, developing a deeper sense of responsibility for the world they inhabit.

Backpack Highlights:

- Rainforest and coastal ecosystem field studies
- Indigenous perspectives on land stewardship and sustainability
- Reflection-based capstone connecting ecology to global citizenship

STUDY TOURS

FAITH, JUSTICE & THE JOURNEY
A THREE-PART CIVIL RIGHTS LEARNING SERIES

What You'll Pack: Legacy, Leadership, Moral Courage
Target Audience: Grades 5–12, homeschoolers, college cohorts
Description:
This multi-phase Civil Rights learning experience traces the moral arc of justice across the American South through place-based inquiry, oral histories, and civic reflection. Designed as a three-part series, the program scaffolds learning from historical foundations to contemporary application.

Participants engage with sites of resistance, faith, and policy walking the same paths where ordinary people reshaped a nation through extraordinary courage. Reflection, dialogue, and capstone work anchor learning beyond the journey.
Backpack Highlights:

- Mississippi Delta storytelling & Emmett Till legacy study
- Selma's Edmund Pettus Bridge + Montgomery's movement infrastructure
- Culminating reflection at the National Museum of African American History & Culture

ICELAND: CLIMATE SCIENCE & SUSTAINABLE FUTURES

What You'll Pack: Environmental Systems Thinking, Innovation
Target Audience: High school students, STEM educators
Description:
This international study tour explores Iceland as a living laboratory for renewable energy, climate adaptation, and sustainable design. Students examine how geology, policy, and innovation intersect in climate-forward societies.
Backpack Highlights:

- Geothermal energy and glacier studies
- Urban sustainability case studies
- Climate ethics & global responsibility dialogue

STUDY TOURS

MARTHA'S VINEYARD* DUAL TRACK STUDY TOUR INDIGENOUS & AFRICAN AMERICAN HERITAGE

What You'll Pack: Belonging, Identity, Cultural Joy
Target Audience: Middle & high school students, homeschool pods
Description:
This 7-10 day dual-track journey honors both Wampanoag history and the Vineyard's legacy as a refuge of Black leisure, landownership, and belonging. Through land-based education and storytelling, students explore who gets to belong and how place becomes resistance.
Backpack Highlights:

- Indigenous history & coastal climate study
- Inkwell District and Black heritage exploration
- Collaborative art & student-led panels

NEW ORLEANS*: CLIMATE, CULTURE & COMMUNITY RESILIENCE

What You'll Pack: Environmental Literacy, Advocacy, Urban Insight
Target Audience: High school students, STEM & humanities learners
Description:
This 7-10 day experience examines climate change, environmental justice, and cultural resilience in one of America's most vulnerable cities. From wetlands restoration to second-line traditions, students explore how communities respond creatively to systemic challenges.
Backpack Highlights:

- Bayou ecosystems & levee system analysis
- Urban planning and green design workshops
- Cultural resistance through music, food, and story

*In select destinations, accommodations are arranged in partnership with Hostelling International USA.

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STUDY TOURS

SWAMP STORIES: SCIENCE, CULTURE & CONSERVATION IN GEORGIA'S WETLANDS

What You'll Pack: Curiosity, Stewardship, Systems Thinking
Target Audience: Middle & high school students, homeschoolers
Description:
This five-day immersive study tour explores Georgia's Okefenokee Swamp as a dynamic ecosystem shaped by science, history, and human choice. Through field-based inquiry, primary source analysis, and creative expression, students investigate how wetlands function, why they matter, and how cultural narratives from Indigenous traditions to modern conservation debates, reflect evolving relationships with the land.
Backpack Highlights:

- Canoe-based ecosystem exploration and biodiversity field study
- Indigenous history, settler narratives, and primary source inquiry at Chesser Island
- Student capstone projects connecting conservation, culture, and climate action

WAR, MEMORY & THE MAKING OF A CITY: ATLANTA'S CIVIL WAR

What You'll Pack: Perspective, Inquiry, Historical Empathy
Target Audience: Middle & high school students, homeschoolers
Description:
A five-day immersive exploration of Atlanta's Civil War history through divided households, battlefield landscapes, and post-war transformation. Using neighborhoods as classrooms, participants examine loyalty, loss, and resilience through primary sources, sacred spaces, and civic memory.
Backpack Highlights:

- Civil War Trail Marker artifact hunts
- Big Bethel AME Church & Oakland Cemetery analysis
- Soldier letters, nurse payrolls, and Sherman's writings

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT EXPERIENCES

BREAKING THE PIPELINE
A JUSTICE-CENTERED EDUCATOR EXPERIENCE

Location: Seattle, Washington. **Duration:** 5–7 Days
What You'll Pack: Courage, Accountability, Liberatory Practice
Target Audience: Educators, school leaders, counselors, program designers, nonprofit and systems leaders

Program Description:
Breaking the Pipeline is an immersive professional learning experience designed to help educators confront, understand, and dismantle the systems that funnel young people, particularly Black, Indigenous, and marginalized students from schools into incarceration. Grounded in abolitionist teaching, culturally sustaining pedagogy, trauma-informed and healing-centered practice, and Indigenous frameworks for justice, this experience moves participants beyond theory and into lived, relational learning. Seattle becomes both classroom and curriculum as educators engage directly with land, community, history, and those most impacted by the school-to-prison pipeline. Participants through dialogue, testimony, and reflection, will examine how discipline policies, curriculum design, and compliance-driven systems perpetuate harm and how classrooms can instead become sites of healing, accountability, and liberation.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT EXPERIENCES

BREAKING THE PIPELINE
A JUSTICE-CENTERED EDUCATOR EXPERIENCE

Educators will explore:

- The historical and structural roots of the school-to-prison pipeline
- The difference between culturally responsive and culturally sustaining teaching
- Trauma-informed vs. healing-centered educational practice
- Abolitionist approaches to discipline, safety, and accountability
- Decolonial and Indigenous pedagogies that reconnect learning to land, community, and relationship
- Transformative justice as a framework for redesigning classrooms and school culture

Experience Highlights

- Land-Based Grounding & Indigenous Wisdom
- Direct Encounter & Testimony
- Justice-Centered Design Studios

Outcomes

- Practical, justice-centered strategies for classroom and school implementation

PRECE BRAZIL: COOPERATIVE LEARNING & COMMUNITY TRANSFORMATION

Location: Fortaleza → Cipó → Salvador, Bahia. **Duration:** 10 Days
What You'll Pack: Solidarity, Pedagogical Agency, Collective Responsibility
Target Audience: K–12 educators, instructional leaders, education faculty

Program Description
The PRECE Brazil Experience is an immersive professional development journey designed for educators seeking to reimagine teaching and learning through cooperation, autonomy, and community-rooted practice. Anchored in the internationally recognized PRECE Movement in Ceará, Brazil, this experience invites participants to study a living model of education that has transformed access, outcomes, and identity for rural and historically marginalized learners. Through workshops, classroom observations, curriculum studios, and cultural immersion, educators examine how cooperative learning, peer accountability, and student agency operate not as strategies, but as values deeply embedded in community life. The journey begins in Cipó, where educators engage directly with PRECE founders, students, and families, observing cooperative learning in action and participating in curriculum design grounded in lived context. The experience concludes in Salvador, Bahia, where Afro-Brazilian history, culture, and resistance deepen participants' understanding of identity, joy, and justice in global education. This is relational learning, designed to equip educators with practical tools, redesigned mindsets, and a renewed sense of purpose for their classrooms and communities.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT EXPERIENCES

PRECE BRAZIL: COOPERATIVE LEARNING & COMMUNITY TRANSFORMATION

Educators will explore:

- Cooperative learning as a framework for autonomy, agency, and belonging
- Assessment practices that center growth, dialogue, and collective accountability
- The role of the educator as facilitator, not deliverer
- Curriculum design rooted in peer instruction and community contribution

Experience Highlights

- PRECE Learning Communities in Practice
- Curriculum Studio Labs
- Afro-Brazilian Identity & Cultural Immersion

Outcomes

- A deep understanding of cooperative learning as a justice-centered practice
- Drafted lesson plans and unit designs grounded in student agency

GLOBAL CITIZEN CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT

GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP LEARNING PATHWAYS
PLACE • POWER • RESPONSIBILITY

What You'll Pack: Inquiry, Reflection, Global Competence
Target Audience: Homeschool networks, microschools and life long learners

Description:

Yellow Backpack curriculum pathways integrate place-based inquiry, Project-Based Learning, and guided reflection to build global competence without requiring travel.

Optional immersion experiences can be layered in as extensions.

The Global Pathways Curriculum is a modular, inquiry-driven framework that guides learners through essential questions of identity, land, power, and responsibility. Each pathway stands alone yet connects to a shared learning arc, moving students from historical understanding to reflection, synthesis, and civic or environmental agency.

GLOBAL CITIZEN CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT

CIVIL RIGHTS: FAITH, JUSTICE & THE JOURNEY

Focus: Civic Identity & Moral Courage

This pathway explores the U.S. Civil Rights Movement through the lived experiences of individuals and communities who challenged injustice and reshaped democratic participation. Students examine how faith, youth leadership, and collective action fueled social change and how those lessons remain urgent today.

Modules (8–12 weeks total):

- Who Am I in the Story?
- Foundations of the Movement
- Faith, Youth & Moral Courage
- Strategy, Resistance & Power
- Place, Memory & Narrative
- Justice Then & Now · Capstone: The Journey Forward

Enduring Question:

What does justice ask of me, here and now?

GLOBAL CITIZEN CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT

CIVIL WAR: CONFLICT, CONSEQUENCE & CIVIC RECONSTRUCTION

Focus: Democracy & National Identity — Through the Lens of Atlanta

Grounded in Atlanta's role as a strategic city shaped by conflict, destruction, rebuilding, and memory, this pathway examines the Civil War and its aftermath as a living force in civic life. Students explore how urban history reveals national struggles over citizenship, power, and belonging.

Modules (8–12 weeks total):

- A City Divided
- War Comes to Atlanta
- Emancipation & Urban Transformation
- Reconstruction & Resistance
- Burning, Rebuilding & Reinvention
- Memory & the Cityscape
- Legacy & Civic Reckoning
- Capstone: Reconstructing the City

Enduring Question:

How does a city shaped by conflict decide what it remembers and what it becomes?

HOW GLOBAL PATHWAYS ARE DELIVERED

Flexible Learning Tiers

All Global Pathways programs are offered through three instructional tiers, allowing families and learning communities to choose the level of support that best fits their needs.

Curriculum Only

Self-paced access to digital modules, primary sources, reflection prompts, and capstone frameworks.

Curriculum + Guided Instruction

Curriculum paired with educator-led sessions that deepen inquiry, discussion, and feedback.

Extended Instructional Cohort

A collaborative, cohort-based experience with extended instruction and a culminating presentation or portfolio.

All tiers are delivered as curriculum and instructional services.

-Optional experiential extensions may be offered separately.

PROGRAM PRICING & PARTICIPATION OVERVIEW

Yellow Backpack Global Education Consultants designs intentionally small, high-impact learning experiences rooted in curriculum, reflection, and place-based inquiry. Pricing reflects curriculum design, expert facilitation, program leadership, and in-country logistics (meals, ground transportation and program related activities).

Yellow Backpack also designs custom programs by request, tailored to institutional goals, learner age, geography, and budget.

Custom curation may include:

- Destination and theme alignment
- Standards-based curriculum design
- SDG and global competency integration
- Faculty-led or co-facilitated models

Custom programs are quoted individually following consultation and scope development. *Airfare is not included in program pricing.*

Student Study Tours (Domestic & International)

Minimum: 10 participants

Maximum: 15 participants

Professional Development Experiences

Minimum: 10 educators

Maximum: 15 educators

Small cohorts ensure safety, depth of engagement, and personalized learning.

STUDY TOUR PRICING

(Per participant | Sliding scale based on cohort size — subject to change)

Program	10 Participants	12 Participants	15 Participants
Atlanta Civil War* (3-5 days)	$950	$900	$875
Black Hills: Sacred Land & Shared History (7–9 days)	$3,750	$3,450	$3,150
Civil Rights Series – Part I: Foundations of Resistance* (4–5 days)	$1,750	$1,600	$1,450
Civil Rights Series – Part II: Faith, Protest & Policy* (4–5 days)	$1,750	$1,600	$1,450
Civil Rights Series – Part III: Legacy & Civic Action* (5 days)	$1,950	$1,800	$1,650
Civil Rights Series – Full Three-Part Journey* (10–15 days total)	$4,950	$4,650	$4,350
Costa Rica: Ecology & Global Stewardship (10 days)	$4,850	$4,550	$4,250

STUDY TOUR PRICING

(Per participant | Sliding scale based on cohort size — subject to change)

Program	10 Participants	12 Participants	15 Participants
Iceland: Climate & Sustainable Futures (10 days)	$5,250	$4,950	$4,650
Martha's Vineyard: Indigenous & Black Heritage (Dual Track) (10 days)	$4,250	$3,950	$3,650
New Orleans: Climate, Culture & Community Resilience (10 days)	$3,950	$3,650	$3,350
Swamp Stories: Science, Culture & Conservation (3-5 days)	$950	$900	$875

*Curriculum-only versions are available for selected programs for school-choice and funding-eligible pathways

Custom pricing available for institutional partnerships or pod buyouts

What Program Pricing Includes

- Pre-experience curriculum & orientation
- On-site facilitation and instructional leadership
- Program-related ground and air transportation (in-country only)
- Site visits, workshops, and expert engagements
- Learning materials, reflection journals, and capstone support
- Risk management planning and coordination

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT EXPERIENCE PRICING

(Per participant | Sliding scale based on cohort size- subject to change)

Program	10 Educators	15 Educators
Breaking the Pipeline: A Justice-Centered Educator Experience (5-7 days)*Seattle, WA	$3,750	$3,450
PRECE Brazil: Cooperative Learning & Community Transformation (10 days)*Fortaleza → Cipó → Salvador	$6,500	$6,000

- Professional Development experiences are designed for deep engagement and applied practice
- Pricing reflects workshops, curriculum studio labs, facilitation, and expert dialogue
- Programs may be approved for district PD hours
- Custom PD programs may be curated for schools, districts, and organizations

CURRICULUM-ONLY PROGRAM PRICING

Digital curriculum access · Self-paced · Family-guided

Tier	Delivery Model	Civil Rights (Per Part)	Civil Rights (3-Part Series)	Civil War (Full Series)
Curriculum Only	Self-paced, family-guided digital curriculum	$325	$900 (bundle)	$350
Curriculum + Guided Instruction	Curriculum plus scheduled educator-led sessions (discussion, feedback, facilitation)	$695	$1,950 (bundle)	$725
Extended Instructional Cohort	Cohort-based learning with extended instruction, small-group facilitation, and a culminating presentation	$995	$2,700(bundle)	$1,050

DEPOSIT, PAYMENT & ATTRITION POLICY

To ensure program viability and partner commitments, the following schedule applies:

Payment Schedule

- 30% Deposit – Due at enrollment (non-refundable)
- 40% Payment – Due 90 days prior to departure
- Final 30% Payment – Due 45 days prior to departure

Attrition & Cancellation

- 120+ days prior: Deposit retained; remaining balance refunded
- 90–119 days prior: 50% of total program cost retained
- 45–89 days prior: 75% of total program cost retained
- Less than 45 days: No refunds

Travel insurance is required. We recommend our Safe Travel partner Global Rescue.

SAFE TRAVEL
GLOBAL rescue
PARTNER

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