

Mentor's Introduction

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mentor's introduction

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Traditionally, graduate students approach many of the most important activities of field research with very little explicit training. But Erin had the perfect blend of imagination and experimentation to carry out the project of traveling in the Botswana bush on The Zebra Mobile--a station to station roving art program conducted by traditional contemporary artists.

Erin learned a lesson by setting her experiences of studying in Japan, Botswana and The United States, side by side. Erin proposes multi-cultural education be conducted through participation in art and ritual. It was not until after Erin returned to classrooms in The United States that she learned how visiting another place and understanding depended on encountering patterns of behavior and unraveling them. Reciprocally Erin set up in classes students' efforts of finding patterns and putting the small details of art and ritual in cultural context.