



## **sitesALIVE! History**

sitesALIVE! is an educational foundation established in 1990 to excite and engage students in learning through adventure. It was created by Rich Wilson when he realized from a teaching career in Boston's Public Schools that students learnt better when they were confronted by real world problems.

sitesALIVE! programs are designed to connect students to real life adventures in the rainforests or at sea. It has already produced 75 live, interactive, semester-long, curriculum based programs linking adventures, expeditions, field research stations, into classrooms.

Wilson is using the 2016 Vendée Globe race to extend the reach of sitesALIVE! programs to students around the world. It already has contracted programs with schools in the US, China and Taiwan and has now been approved by the Ministry of Education for use in French schools. It also reaches 100,000 students in 45 countries through partnerships with FasTrackKids, Press4kids and the Denver Post, Missourian, and Seattle Times newspapers.

The foundation's programs include a teacher's guide with 15 weeks of classroom activities, plus projects for the semester and the family at home. While at sea in the race Wilson sends an audio report, ship's log data, photos, videos, and biometric data on his sleep and asthma. Each week he answers student questions, and writes an essay corresponding to the Teacher's Guide topic for the week.

sitesALIVE! has a team of experts including doctors (for asthma and emergencies), ship captains (including Capt. Yann Cariou of *L'Hermione*), a best-selling author, a maritime art curator, a fisheries expert, a climate change expert, a marine pollution expert and an Everest veteran who will participate and answer students questions, as well as write essays on the weekly Teacher's Guide topics.

For further information go to the sitesALIVE! website: [sitesalive.com](http://sitesalive.com)

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