



Supported by National Geographic  
and the Knight Foundation  
outofedenwalk.com

An initiative of Project Zero  
Harvard Graduate School of Education  
learn.outofedenwalk.com

Greetings Families,

My name is Paul Salopek and I’m a journalist. I’m currently walking around the world following the pathways of our ancient human ancestors. My project is called the [Out of Eden Walk](#).

With support from their teacher, your child is joining me on this walk by participating in a very special learning community called Out of Eden Learn. I welcome you to follow along with us.

I set off on my journey in January 2013 from Herto Bouri in Ethiopia. Accompanied by a series of local guides, I have so far [walked across 12 countries](#), through contrasting landscapes and climates including uninhabited stretches of wilderness, through pockets of political turmoil and tension as well as through many peaceful communities.



While the journey hasn’t always been easy, [my experience of walking the world has so far been overwhelmingly positive and invigorating](#). In many ways, there is nothing more natural – or human – than taking a long walk.

My colleagues at Project Zero at the Harvard Graduate School of Education have created a learning experience for your child that reflects the underlying philosophy of my walk or what I call “slow journalism.” We are living at a moment in our collective human history when many of us are living very fast paced and busy lives. We have more information at our fingertips than we know what to do with - and while we have more opportunities than ever before to connect with people from different backgrounds, we often end up connecting with people who are similar to us.

The [Out of Eden Learn](#) curriculum and website invites young people to slow down to take a good look at the world around them and to listen carefully and respectfully to other people – both within their own communities and in different parts of the world. I hope your child will enjoy exchanging stories with other young people and exploring connections between their own lives and bigger, unfolding human stories. I also hope they’ll enjoy learning about my journey and what I’ve been learning along the way.

I encourage you to get involved in this journey with your child by following my walk and reading my stories: [www.nationalgeographic.org/projects/out-of-eden-walk](http://www.nationalgeographic.org/projects/out-of-eden-walk). Thank you.

Paul Salopek