



An integrated system of science education which puts students in touch with real life examples through multi – disciplinary teaching practice.

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Reunion Island is a UNESCO heritage site, recognized for its rich biodiversity, volcanic landscape, varied climate and outstanding beauty. Economic development, autonomous energy supply and preservation of the natural landscape and its heritage presents a challenge to such a small, isolated island.

These factors offer a different way of teaching science topics such as sustainable development; a way which motivates students, promotes independent learning and develops a critical eye.

How can we integrate this type of teaching into the French secondary school system and make our students responsible and autonomous?

- Field work comes first in order to find out, meet subject specialists and ask questions.

Four main topics are chosen (water, waste, energy, biodiversity) and within these topics other issues are discussed (e.g. transport, food, aid ...).

For each topic, educational outdoor activities are organised for the first six weeks of the school year.

e.g. educational outdoor activities on the theme of water (source, reservoir, distribution, purification...)

- Exploit field work further in order to answer the question using multi disciplinary methods.

e.g. on the theme of water : what is polluted water ?

(In Physics and Chemistry, Biology, Geography)

- Autonomous

Benefit from their motivation and the skills and knowledge they have acquired in order to set them mini-dissertations on sustainable development. This is organized in the following way :

3 students work together on one topic for twenty weeks assisted by a sixth form student and a teacher. They must achieve certain objectives in certain timeframes and to understand globally and act locally

e.g. on the theme of water : the water at our secondary school

(Consumption, saving water, recycling...)

Feedback :

Julie, sixth form : « This class is as much about sustainable development as it is about exciting discoveries, unexpected friendships and interesting field trips ... It's the beginning of a new adventure and a huge challenge to face. Don't miss out!! ».

Wendy, sixth form : « You don't like Biology, Chemistry, Geography, or English or anything else ? This class is a really enjoyable way to learn all these subjects.»