



“Estuaries and coasts” CLIL* lesson plans in English and geology fieldtrip to Cornwall for students in European section

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When the European section was created in our high school we had to choose an overarching theme. After considering that we live both in the River Seine estuary and near the English Channel it became obvious that our theme should be “estuaries and coasts”.

We began the 2012-2013 school year with a day-trip around the River Seine estuary to introduce the theme. First we made a general landscape study from a viewpoint, then we discussed the history of the navigation on the Seine, of local farming on marshland and finally we focused on farmhouse architecture. To conclude we visited the natural reserve near the “Normandy Bridge”.

As an introduction our poster aims at presenting this part of Normandy.

And then we would like to show some examples of our CLIL lesson plans about this chosen topic.

The aim of a CLIL lesson is to create interactive speaking between students working in pairs or in groups.

There are three different stages:

- Warm-up activities
- In-depth study: listening, reading, echoing, looking for information on the internet, making a slide show and doing an oral presentation, participating to a role play...
- Assessment : using what has been learnt to answer questions

Finally we wish to present our field trip to Cornwall. We have already done it twice before (in 2002 and 2004) and this year it is scheduled in May 2013 with our European section students. The aim of this trip is to study geology and botany in English in order to extend what we teach in our CLIL lessons about estuaries and coasts. It also helps promoting exchanges with British families and building intercultural knowledge and understanding.

Our program includes for example, fossil hunting and studying the Jurassic cliffs in Charmouth, observing an old ocean crust in Coverack, visiting Saint-Mickael’s mount, discovering a tin mine in Geevor, walking through the “Lost Gardens of Heligan” and thus discovering an example of this world-renowned restored English garden, and last but not least having an overview of the biodiversity in the Lizard peninsula.

*(Content and Language Integrated Learning)