



Promoting geodiversity education with the help of earthcaching in Geoparks

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The term 'geodiversity' was used as the geological equivalent of biodiversity for the first time in 1993. Education is especially relevant in the case of geodiversity and nature conservation because the greatest threat to geodiversity is ignorance (Gray 2004). Education for approving geodiversity sites can be supported by offering earth science themes in schools, in university or in national parks. The educators can use different methods, such as guided tours or normal wandering trails, in order to foster education in the field of geodiversity. In the last years the method of EarthCaching is coming up more and more, which offers the possibility of a virtual community, a physical place and the real world. Here, the question is how EarthCaching can foster geodiversity education in Geoparks. To answer this question, logged Earthcaches were also analyzed regarding to their educational content and if they function as a tool for tourism. At the end, best practice examples are presented.