Geophysical Research Abstracts Vol. 19, EGU2017-11136, 2017 EGU General Assembly 2017 © Author(s) 2017. CC Attribution 3.0 License.



A Historical, Cultural and Geoscientific approach of the Mediterranean Sea

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Students' knowledge about geosciences is often limited to their country's geographical elements. The way geosciences are connected to their everyday lives, their history and their culture is something that they do not easily grasp.

Thus, the development of a Project-Based Learning activity where 11 year-olds are asked to explore the Mediterranean Sea came as a result. The title of the activity is "An enclosed sea, an open mind, an amazing journey in STEAM". The main purpose of choosing the module of "The Mediterranean" is for the students to become aware of the special natural and cultural features of the Mediterranean region and to be able to connect the Mediterranean's geographical position and characteristics with its historical and social value.

The activity aims to develop scientific skills and attitudes, to practice the students' scientific and critical thought, to foster the co-operative spirit among them and to make them aware of how the geography of the Mediterranean affects the relationships that form around it.

In this activity, students study geological features (e.g. Orogenesis, Corinthian Rift, Islands, earthquakes, volcanoes), they experiment about the water flow and they examine the Mediterranean field and climate. In Odysseus' footsteps, they navigate using GPS, they research about the culture and the history of the people around the Mediterranean Sea and they present their findings.

They focus on the historical, geological, geographical, cultural and environmental aspects of the Mediterranean Sea. On this poster, there will be a presentation of the goals, the methodology, the series of activities and the evaluation of the program.

Key Words Mediterranean, Project-Based Learning, Geosciences, Culture