Development of educational activities
the “mon Océan & moi” project

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Context & motivations

- Ocean science are taught very few at school (at least in France)
- Lack of interest for scientific careers.
- Nevertheless the Ocean remains an attractive topic for public and pupils (during the so-called science festival)
- New remote technologies of Ocean observation (satellites & robots) deliver real-time information; they might be a way to bring ocean science to schools.
- Two large projects focused on BGC profiling floats have been awarded to our lab (~ 60 floats to be deployed within the next 2 years).
- Develop an educational project around the autonomous ocean observation and the idea of a class adopting a BGD float and following it along its scientific journey
Methodological approach

• Initial meeting with education heads, teachers and scientists
  ⇒ define the objectives and the specifications of the “targeted educational product” for 11-14 years old pupils
  ⇒ web site of dedicated “ocean resources” with quizzes and games
  ⇒ “social” network to share experiences and comments within and between classes

• Monthly meeting between scientists and teachers over 6 months
  ⇒ progressive elaboration of the content.

• Test phase and evaluation

• « opening » of the site
A tight collaboration between scientists and teachers is at the root of the content and of its presentation.

This collaboration has been (and still is) essential in the methodological approach.
Topic contribution

- Explanatory text around 3 questions

- resources, p.ex.:
  - pictures, videos, animations (e.g. float cycle)

- quizzes & games

- Lexical: Wik’Océan
Launching the web site ....

www.monoceanetmoi.com
... and of the first adoptions

... three pilot classes participated to this initiative

1/ 15 voluntary pupils (12 years) of one class
2/ 20 eco-delegates : active members of the environmental committee of a school (11-14)
3/ 15 pupils of one class focusing on a “science and sustainable development” project
The « ocean voyagers »

The three classes have adopted these three floats
Next steps

- New topics coming online
  - Ocean Acidification
  - The pelagic food chains
  - The Ocean’s seasons.
  - ....

- Involving master and PhD students
  - Resources elaboration
  - « Hot line » adopt a float

- Opening, sharing and developing
  - Translation
  - Collaboration at an international level?