Development of educational activities
the “mon Océan & moi” / “adopt a float” projects

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http://www.oao.obs-vlfr.fr/
www.monoceanetmoi.com
Context & motivations

- Ocean science is not teach at school (at least in France)
- Lack of interest for scientific careers.
- 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 (remOcean & NAOS) focused on BGC profiling floats have been awarded to our lab (~ 60 floats to be deployed within the 3 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
The WEB content and ergonomie: the results of a tight collaboration

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
....first adoptions and new coming

... 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 durable development” project
Next steps....

- New topics will come online
  - Ocean Acidification
  - The pelagic food chains
  - Sounds in the Ocean.
  - ....

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

- Opening, sharing and developing
  - Translation
  - Collaboration at an international level?
First project dedicated to science outreach and education (2014-2017)

- project funded for the development of science literacy and for “equality of chances”

- **Main objective**: give access to youth to scientific culture and especially pupils that are “socially and territorially remote” from this culture.

- **Key aspects**: Pluri-disciplinarity, rigorous methodology, experimentation, cluster of scientists, teachers, mediators and social workers.
Methodology for the Ocean Topic

- Together with partners (web designers, science mediators, teachers), the lab (scientists & students) produce the educational resources.
- These resources are disseminated through two ways:
  - **Web**, by reinforcing the « mon océan & moi » platform (new topics, quizzes, videos, animation, games)
  - **“In situ”** through “suitcases of experiments” and collaboration with organization of science disseminator
- There will be several floats adopted by MEDITES sub-projects
Acquisition of digital video globe and development of new application

- Applications in Oceanography, astronomy, and Earth science