

ABSTRACT

Ocean literacy. The young ocean generation in UN Ocean Science decade: active teaching techniques, video editing and citizen science

The idea for this thesis was born from the desire to contribute to the spread of a message of the ocean knowledge with a simple teaching techniques of Ocean Literacy in a period of particular attention to the marine environment and its dynamics and young generation under a global action. In fact the next decade will be devoted to the study of the ocean in the framework of the UN Science Ocean Decade for Sustainable Development (2021-2030). A common example is the concept of the climate change. Climate change is a trending topic, especially since the Sars covid-19 pandemic broke out, but about which very little is known. There is often confusion between the different terminologies, for example: greenhouse effect and anthropogenic greenhouse effect. We know even less about how the ocean is mitigating it, significantly modifying the marine ecosystem. The goal of this research was to answer two questions: • how can the level of education and foreknowledge of a single individual affect our daily choices? • To what extent can active teaching for ocean sciences improve knowledge and raise awareness of children and young people, guaranteeing them a better exploitation of the resources we have? To answer those questions, adult subjects were submitted to an online survey and divided by education level, while younger (aged 6 to 13) were grouped into a laboratory group where their foreknowledge emerged through active teaching techniques. The comparison between the classes showed that the level of education only partially affects the correct answers. The lab exercise in presence (children and young people) created a strong curiosity and awareness on the proposed subject. Future research could be aimed at identifying additional factors that should be taken into consideration in order to observe the issues where the greatest gaps arise among citizens. For example, if the answers to the survey were influenced by background and sensitivity to the topic, or age. As regards the second project, it would be interesting to compare the data obtained with the reply from an older age group.

KEYWORDS: climate change, seabed, active teaching technique, law of the sea, ocean dynamics, ocean literacy

Studentessa Marie-Michelle Miranda Murillo

Anno 2019/2020