How to organize NSS Geography students to conduct Enquiry-based Fieldwork – Practical experience & examples?

Jointly presented by

Mr Clement Cheng
鄭永明先生
Caritas
Chan Chun Ha
Field Studies Centre
明愛陳震夏郊野學園

&

Mr Cliff Lo
盧炳洪先生
Ho Koon Nature Education *cum* Astronomical Centre
可觀自然教育中心暨天文館

香港地理學會
HK Geog Assoc

10 March 2012

Presentation Outline

(A)	**What is fieldwork?**	•Clement Cheng
(B)	**Conceptual framework of geographical enquiry fieldwork**	•Clement Cheng
(C)	**How to actualize enquiry fieldwork?**	•Cliff Lo
(D)	**Wrapping up and Q-&-A**	•Clement Cheng •Cliff Lo •Micah Kwok •Anthony Yeung

What is fieldwork?

"Geography without fieldwork is like science without experiments; the 'field' is the geographer's laboratory where learners experience first hand information related to landscapes, places, people and issues, and where they can learn and practice geographical skills in a REAL environment (真實環境)."

(After Bland, Chambers, Donert & Thomas, 1996:165)

What is "real environment"?

A spectrum of Fieldwork Locations for Geography

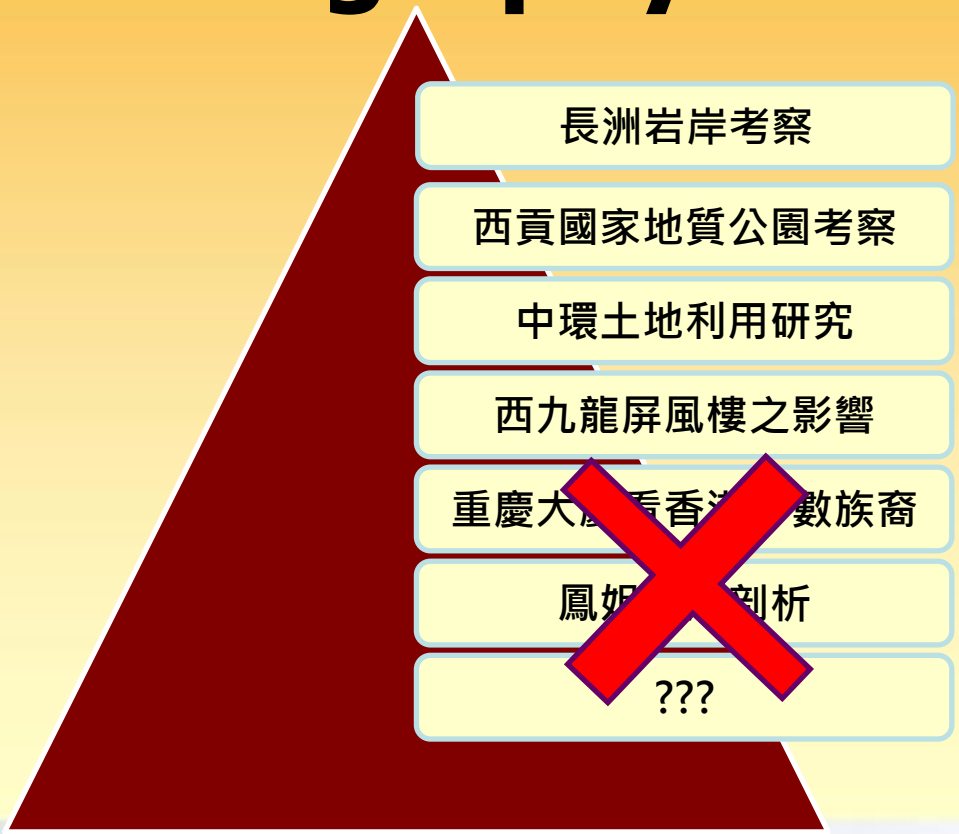
- School grounds
- School environments
- Local region
- Wider region
- Distant locality
- Overseas

Foskett (1997) p. 192

Is fieldwork the monopoly of Geography?

- 長洲岩岸考察
- 西貢國家地質公園考察
- 中環土地利用研究
- 西九龍屏風樓之影響
- 重慶大廈看香港少數族裔
- 鳳姐生活剖析
- ???

Is fieldwork the monopoly of Geography?



Geography Fieldwork

- 長洲岩岸考察
- 西貢國家地質公園考察
- 中環土地利用研究
- 西九龍屏風樓之影響

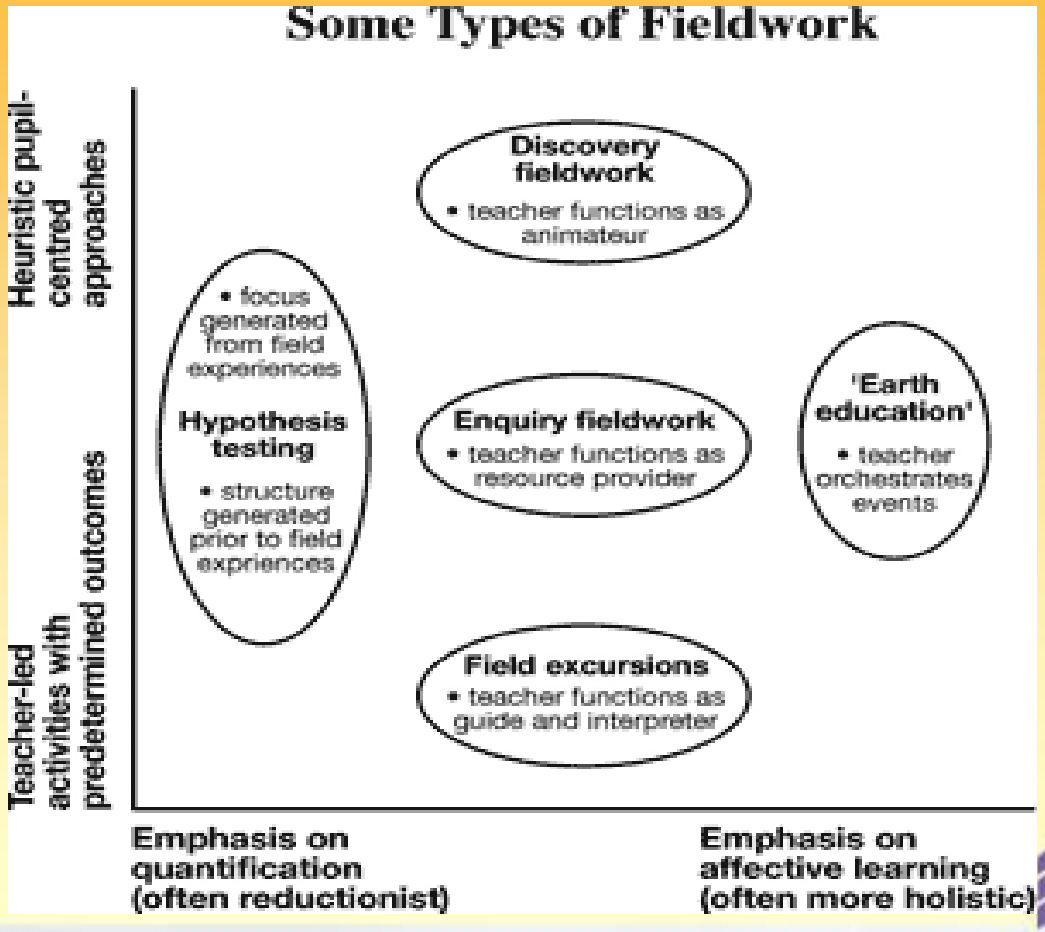
Why??

Features of Geography Fieldwork

- Spatial context (空間概念)
  - Spatial diffusion (空間散播)
  - Spatial interaction (空間互動)
  - Spatial distribution (空間分佈)
- Man-land relationship (人地關係)
- Specific geographical concepts
- Geographic skills (e.g. map skills)

Geography Fieldwork 地理考察

- 長洲岩岸考察
- 西貢國家地質公園考察
- 中環土地利用研究
- 西九龍屏風樓之影響



(Lambert. & Balderstone, 2000:27)

Geography Fieldwork 地理考察

- 長洲岩岸考察
- 西貢國家地質公園考察

導賞式
(guided tour)

- 中環土地利用研究
- 西九龍屏風樓之影響

探究式
(enquiry)

Any difference?

Paradigm Shift of Fieldwork

- From guided tour to enquiry
- From observation to participation
- From dependent to autonomous
- From passive to active
- From knowledge-based to skill-based
- From knowledge transmissioner to facilitator

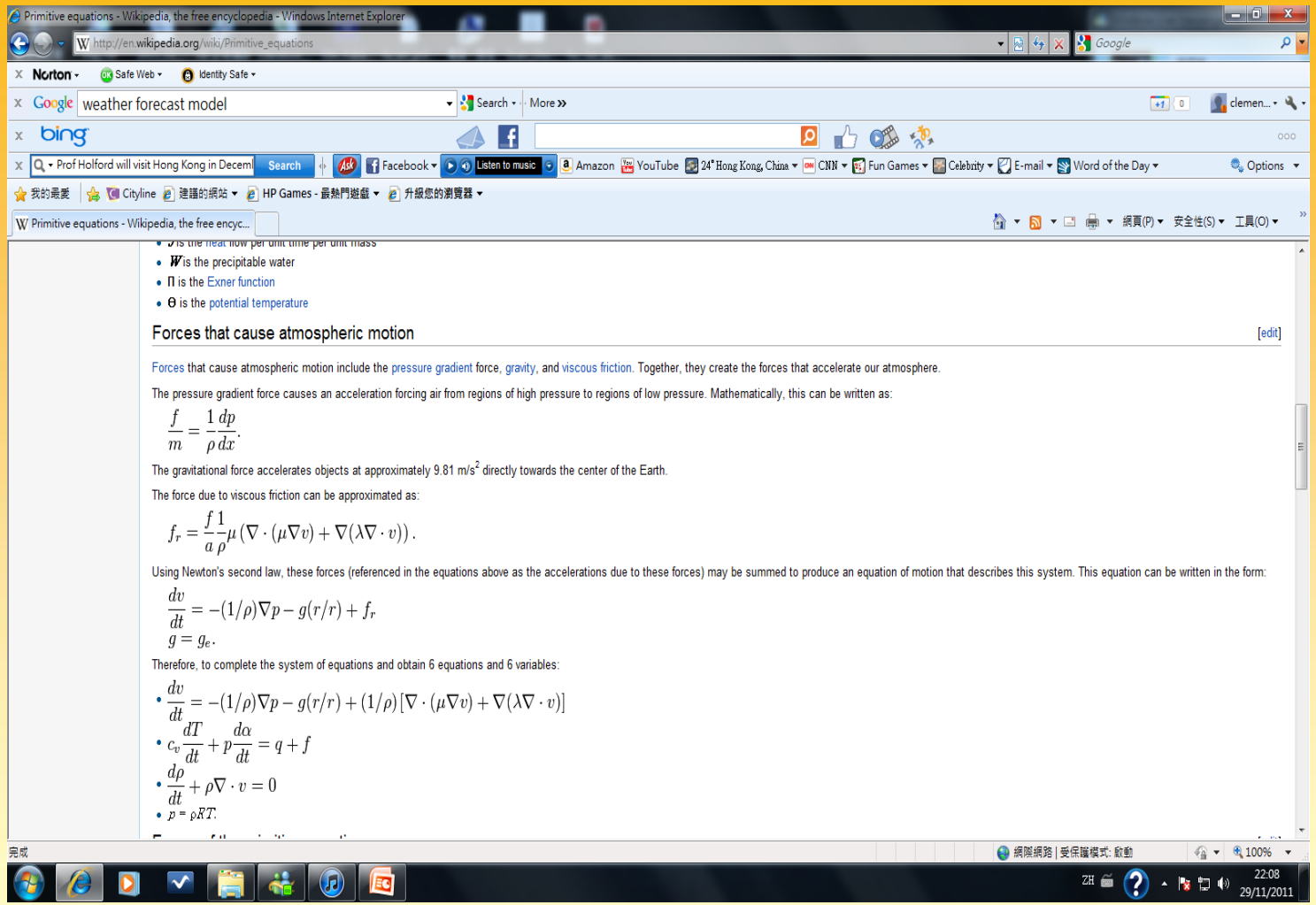
(After Kent et al., 1997)

Final Remarks

How do a **meteorologist** and

a **geographer** understand

weather and climate?



http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Primitive_equations

香港中文大學地理及資源管理系

課程：氣候、能源與生命

1. 氣候 - 生命的氣息
2. 生命 - 能量的流動
3. 流動 - 自然的循環
4. 冰河 - 人性的塑造
5. 氣候 - 生物的分布
6. 溫暖 - 農牧的出現
7. 豐裕 - 文明的福禍
8. 波動 - 歷史的軌跡
9. 季風 - 帝國的助力
10. 煤油 - 燃燒的時代
11. 巨變 - 人為的氣候
12. 危機 - 自然的失衡
13. 中國 - 艱難的巨人
14. 未來 - 應對的選擇

講師林超英榮譽教授

Other Sharing

3

3 letters

3 3 4

D S E

I E S

S B A

Enquiry Fieldwork = SBA

Enquiry Fieldwork = SBA ?

Enquiry Fieldwork ≠ SBA

How to actualize enquiry fieldwork? (Experience Sharing)

- What
- Where
- When
- How
- Why
- and so...

- What
- Where
- When
- How
- Why
- and so...

- Title Setting
- Field Site Selection
- Data Collection
- Data Collection
- Analysis & Interpretation
- Conclusion & Evaluation

- What
- Where
- When
- How
- Why
- and so...

WHO

- Title Setting
- Field Site Selection
- Data Collection
- Data Collection
- Analysis & Interpretation
- Conclusion & Evaluation

Title Setting

Subject Relevant

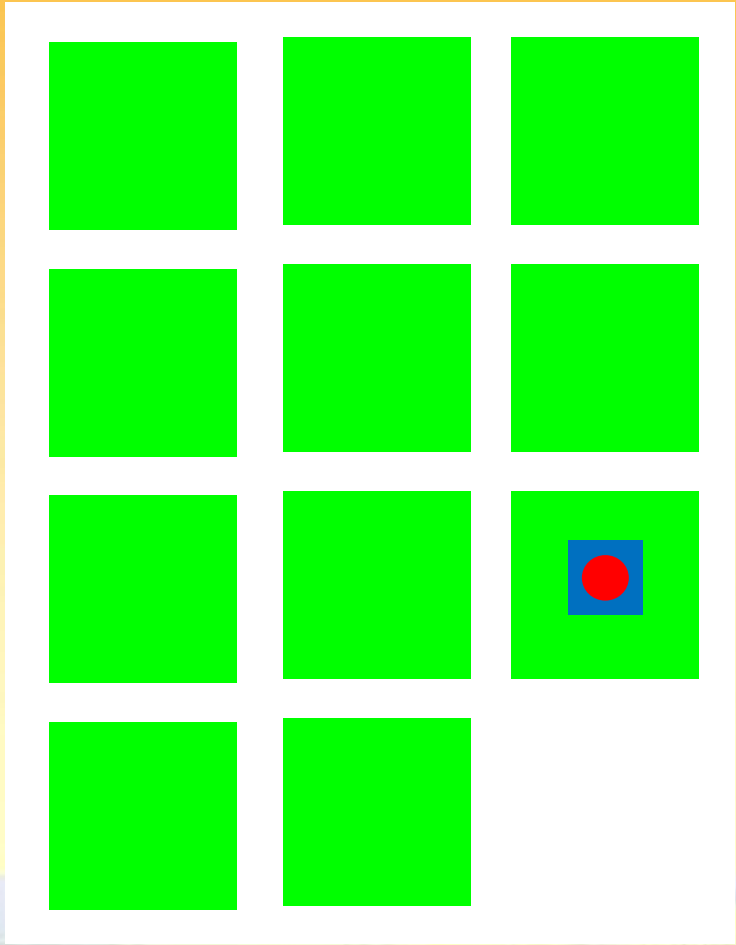
Title Setting

Curriculum

Topic

Title

Objectives



Title Setting

Opportunities and Risks

Managing River and Coastal Environments

Changing Industrial Location

Building a Sustainable City

Combating Famine

Disappearing Green Canopy

Global Warming

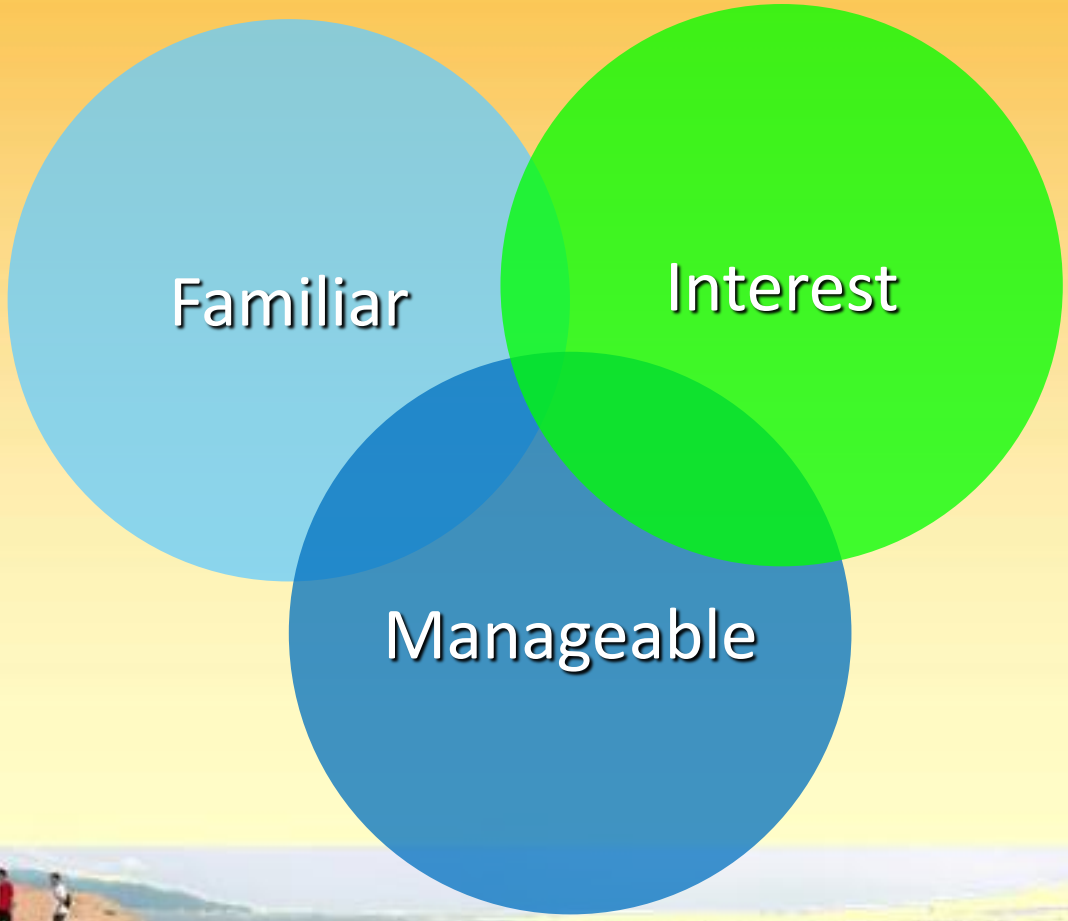
Weather and Climate

Dynamic Earth

Transport

Regional Study of Zhujiang Delta

Title Setting



Title Setting

- Concepts
- Mind Map
- References
- Objectives

Title Setting

•Concepts	•e.g. land use conflicts, urbanization, etc.
•Mind Map	•interrelationship
•References	•e.g. bid rent mechanism, models, etc.
•Objectives	•guidelines for data collection

Field Site Selection

Possibility & Familiarity

Field Site Selection

Possibility & Familiarity

Pre-trip

Data Collection

- Boundary
- Target variable(s)
- Qualitative vs Quantitative
- Sampling
- Accuracy & Precision
- Primary & Secondary Data

Analysis & Interpretation

- Graphs
- Diagrams
- Maps
- Statistics, etc.

Conclusion

Conclusion vs Summary

Evaluation

Limitations vs Difficulties

TITLE SETTING

FIELD SITE SELECTION

DATA COLLECTION

CONCLUSION

TITLE SETTING

CONCLUSION

FIELD SITE SELECTION

DATA COLLECTION

Wrapping Up

- Fieldwork in Geography → **ESSENTIAL**
- Geography Fieldwork → **GEOGRAPHY / SPATIAL CONCEPTS**
- NSS Geography Fieldwork → NSS Geography **Curriculum related**

Wrapping Up

- NSS Geography Fieldwork → NSS Geography Curriculum related
- NSS Geography Fieldwork → Enquiry-based
- SBA Fieldwork → Enquiry-based
- NSS Geography Fieldwork → = ≠ SBA Fieldwork
- There are various types of enquiry!

Wrapping Up

- Fieldwork in NSS Geog → ESSENTIAL
- NSS Geog Fieldwork → ≠ SBA Fieldwork
- NSS Geog Fieldwork → HELPFUL in pen-and-paper public examination
- NSS Geog Fieldwork → Support for teachers needed
- **There are various supports for teachers!**

Wrapping Up

- **There are various supports for teachers!**
- Resources from CDI (Geography Section), EDB
- Field Studies Centres in Hong Kong → Various types of NSS Geog Fieldworks of different durations for students of different abilities (≠ SBA Fieldwork)

Fieldwork is ENJOYABLE

Holistic experience!

Students should never forget the challenging & enjoyable fieldwork.


Thank You