

教育局 小學校本課程發展組 二零一二年三月十日

前	言	2
中	文學習領域	
1.	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	4
2.	感受·欣賞·創作 — 如何在中國語文教育中加強文學元素	7
3.	善用「概念模式」加強學生分析抒情性文章篇章結構的能力	9
4.	Rasch Model在中國語文科閱讀範疇的應用 — 從量化的角度看評估數據的分析與回饋	13
5.	情境教學在閱讀教學的實踐與反思	16
英	文學習領域	
6.	Developing a school-based English writing curriculum: integrating both grammar and skills in the writing process	19
7.	How Directed Reading Thinking Activity (DRTA) promotes understanding of reading texts in GE lessons	22
8.	Catering for the needs of low achievers in the writing classroom	25
9.	Weaving thoughts into action: creating space through a curriculum initiative	30
10.	The magic of words: a learning programme to enhance pupils' vocabulary building strategies	35
11.	From understanding to renovating: optimizing the KS1 English reading and writing programme	40
12.	An attempt to promote reading culture through newspapers	45
數	學學習領域	
13.	「除」機應變 — 調適除法教學策略,提升學生探究能力	49
14.	費煞思「量」— 小一至小三長度教學縱向課程設計分享	53
15.	非華語學童的數學學習歷程 — 從數數到加法和減法(小一至小二)	57
16.	「分」外有理 — 探討小三分數基本概念的教學點子	61
17.	成「千」上「萬」— 從「五位數」教學設計説起	64
18.	初小教室內的實作評量	67
19.	「相差」與「比較」的成長路 — 小一及小二基本加、減與比較應用題的縱 向課程發展	69
20.	平面圖形教學的反思 — 四邊形教學 (小四) 的另類嘗試	72
常	識學習領域	
21.	服務學習 — 在常識科發展社會探究的平台	75
22.	如何運用報章新聞作為常識科教學資源	79
	科學探究工作坊 — 讓學生透過數據蒐集及演繹探索世界	83
9.4	<b>炒「立玄革会阳</b> 孩山山」留示 <u></u>	0.0



# 以行求知 — 學與教·思與情

### 小學校本課程發展組

小學校本課程發展組的任務是到校支援教師,提升他們的專業能量,促進教學效能。為了 鼓勵教師在教學環境中,通過解決實際的教學疑難去建構新的工作知識,我們提出了「以行求 知」的概念去支援教師。我們明白沒有理論基礎的實踐是盲目的,而沒有實踐經驗的理論是空 泛的。因此,要把理論和實踐緊密地結合起來,我們認為教師需要積極地參與知識建構的過程。

一方面,我們把一些教育研究者已建立的知識帶進學校,包括心理學、課程、學科教學、評估等理論,與教師共同商討如何在香港的教育目標下,根據學生的需要和教師的經驗,把這些理論知識轉化為實踐的方法和策略。另一方面,我們借用研究者的方法和工具,與教師在這些課堂實踐中蒐集證據,進行分析、檢核、討論和反思。通過較科學化和系統化的方法,產生「新」的教學知識,提升教師的實踐智慧 (practical wisdom)。

正如我們在 2009 年以「創新·深思」為題的研討會 ¹ 中指出,「創新」不是指要發展出一些前所未有的嶄新想法,教學策略或教材,而是通過理論與實踐的結合,加上在實地現場蒐集的證據,讓教師以不同的角度,更深入地分析和了解教與學的過程,提升教師辨識事物和專業判斷的能力,促進學生的深層學習 (deep learning) ² 和學會學習的能力。

在過去數十年,不論是杜威 (Dewey) 提出「經驗與教育」(Experience and Education) 的哲學思想 ³ ,還是其他學術研究的結果,例如:嬰兒與母親的互動 ⁴、兒童如何在朋輩的對話中改變自己的想法 ⁵、兒童如何管理自己的學習 ⁵等,都證明每個人自出生以來,都受到身邊的事、物、人影響。這些經驗和前提認知,也會影響他們對學習新事物的看法。當然,這些研究者的基本假設就是人,不論嬰兒或成年人,都有思想,不是空的容器,等待其他人填滿。因此,他們的研究都重視「互為主體性」(intersubjectivity) <sup>7</sup>的概念,認為人與人之間既有「共通感」(common sense),也有「意義分歧」(divergence of meaning)。

香港教育改革提出以「學生為本」的理念,也是建基於這些理論知識。教改文件中鼓勵推動「學與教」的文化,正是強調學習者在教學過程中的角色和重要性。只有通過關心和了解學生的想法,明白學生學習新事物的經歷和困難,教師才可以更有效率地組織校本課程、提供有質素的學習經歷、搭建適當的鷹架(scaffolds),幫助學生擴展他們的「近側發展區間」(zone of proximal development)<sup>8</sup>,達到他們潛在的發展水平。

¹ 小學校本課程發展組 (2009)。《「以行求知」—— 創新·深思經驗分享會》。香港:教育局。

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Biggs, J. B. (1996). Western misperceptions of the Confucian-heritage learning culture. In D. A. Walkins, & J. B. Biggs (Eds.), The Chinese learner: Cultural, psychological and contextual influences (pp. 45-68). Hong Kong/Melbourne: Comparative Education Research Centre, University of Hong Kong/Australian Council of Educational Research.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Dewey, J. (1997). Experience and education. New York: Simon & Schuster.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Moore, C., & Dunham, P. J. (Eds.). (1995). Joint attention: Its origins and role in development. New Jersey: Lawrence Erlbaum Associates, Inc.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Olson, D.R., & Torrance, N. (Eds.). (1991). Literacy and orality. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Pramling, I. (1990). Learning to learn: A study of Swedish preschool children. New York: Springer Verlag Press.

Bruner, J. (1996). The culture of education. Cambridge: Harvard University Press.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Vygotsky, L. S. (1978). Mind in society: The development of higher psychological processes. Cambridge: Harvard University Press.

作為到校支援教師的夥伴,我們明白這種轉變在實際情況的困難和複雜性。正如Kogan<sup>9</sup>提出教育有三方面的「問責」(accountability):專業、市場、行政。由於立場不同,看法不一,在實際的工作中,這三方面的問責會出現矛盾和衝突。教師很多時候都受到很大的困擾,茫然地站在三種問責的交叉點。

雖然這些研究是以高等教育為背景,中小學的現況也相差不遠。根據我們的經驗,教師在課堂中結合理論與實踐,以驗證為本產生的專業知識和智慧,可以幫助他們分析三種問責的矛盾,釐清思緒,作出判斷。事實上,我們不少同事也曾與教師協作,以學生的學習證據、嚴謹的學習理論和具體的課堂教學,向家長們闡述和解釋校本課程和教學改變的需要,同樣的情形也曾發生在行政安排的討論和決策。這些有理有據的解釋和專業對話都得到很大的認同。當然,這些專業知識和學習證據並不是唾手可得,而是需要教師用上不少時間和精力,更重要的是面對轉變的勇氣、接受挑戰的毅力、放棄一些固有想法的寬容。這些轉變的動力都是來自教師對學生的情意 (affection) 和對教育的熱忱 (passion)。

本組「以行求知」研討會,今年特意以「學與教·思與情」為題,希望説出小學課堂的轉變, 表揚教師的專業勇氣,更鼓勵大家對教育的情意多加思考。

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Kogan, M., & Hanney, S. (1999). Reforming higher education. London: Jessica Kingsley Publishers.



# 張開閱讀的翅膀,拓寬圖書教學的視角

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# 閱讀和語文能力的關係

閱讀可以提升語文能力是無庸置疑的,閱讀和聆聽、説話、寫作息息相關,學生的閱讀能力提高,亦可間接提高聆聽、説話以及寫作能力。此外,學生也可透過閱讀培養高層次的思維能力,如批判性思考能力、創造力和解決問題的能力等。

陳文鏗 (2004) 指出越來越多科學研究發現,通往美好未來的必經之路在閱讀,而且越早啟蒙越好。然 Lyon (1998) 及 Zimmermann & Hutchins (2003) 均指出閱讀並不是自然而然就會的,閱讀必須靠後天刻意的學習。因此如何有效地讓孩子透過閱讀來提升自己的語文能力實在有必要深入探討。

# 香港小學推動閱讀風氣的現況

自2001年香港教育界開展課程改革以來,相信不少學校也積極響應四大關鍵項目中「從閱讀中學習」的建議,在學校推動閱讀風氣,期望能透過連串活動引發學生的閱讀興趣及培養良好閱讀習慣。然而純粹培養學生的閱讀興趣和增加閱讀量,也不能保證學生的語文能力一定會提升。目前一般學校都有推行廣泛閱讀計劃以及為學生訂購課外書讓學生課餘自行閱讀。學生縱然多閱讀,但側重的多是文本內容的理解;而教師往往忽略與學生一起分析書中的故事結構、人物性格及寫作技巧等,以致學生多未能賞析當中寫作的佳妙處,因而錯過學習其他語文能力如説話、品德情意、創造力以及思維訓練等機會。

《中國語文課程指引(小一至小六)》(2004)建議開放學習材料,學生學習中文也不必局限於教科書的篇章,因此目前一些小學已嘗試將課外讀物納入語文領域的課程內,期望能透過在課堂上與學生一起研讀課外圖書,引導他們從中得到樂趣,繼而自發地持續閱讀,培養出閱讀能力和習慣。在推行圖書教學時,教師宜發展學生對閱讀的警覺性,明瞭閱讀的目的和文本的特點,以及教授不同的閱讀策略,讓學生從複述內容,到解釋概念和程序,進而評鑑內容和創作(即建構閱讀能力的進程:認讀(詞義解碼)——理解——評鑑欣賞)(陳枝田,2004)。

# 校本小説單元

聖公會聖彼得小學的老師嘗試在小學五年級設計一個以小說為重心的學習單元,作為推廣 閱讀及加强文學元素的校本課程實踐。我們選取了《草房子》的《禿鶴》作為小說的學習單元; 為激發和啟發學生閱讀,我們盡量提供機會和多樣的方法,讓學生反思並與人分享自己的閱讀 歷程。老師通過課堂的討論及小組活動,與學生一起分析小說的「情節」、「人物性格」及「主題」 等,從而讓學生掌握不同的閱讀策略及提升學生的閱讀興趣。

在評鑑學生的閱讀成效方面,我們並不局限學生只撰寫慣常的讀書報告,而是透過多元化的分項練習及小組互動方式培養學生不同的語文能力,例如:說話語氣、想像力、高階思維能力、批判性思考能力、解難能力、綜合歸納能力以及辯論技巧等。



- 學生與教師互動
- 學生與學生互動
- 學生與教材互動

究竟如何藉著圖書教學培養學生多方面的語文能力呢?以下是圖書教學的一些活動設計示例:

#### 一、內容理解

- 1. 就重點/難點/疑點提問及自擬不同層次問題(複述/闡述/組織/伸展/評鑑/創意)
- 2. 分析人物性格
- 3. 品德情意教育 (價值觀/態度)
- 4. 增進對中華文化的認識

#### 二、謀篇佈局/思維

- 1. 情節鋪排(起承轉合)
- 2. 伏筆/巧設懸念
- 3. 心象閱讀 (using sensory images): 引導學生 邊讀邊作多感官想像,開展形象思維
- 4. 對比/烘托
- 5. 轉折

#### 三、寫作技巧

- 1. 人物描寫(外貌描寫/心理描寫/性格刻劃)
- 2. 修辭手法(比喻/擬人/誇張/疊字/擬聲)
- 3. 場景描寫/氣氛營造
- 4. 五感
- 5. 特別句式 (遞進關係/並列假設關係)

## 四、設計/繪畫

- 1. 海報
- 2. 廣告
- 3. 尋人啟事
- 4. 表揚狀
- 5. 插圖
- 6. 概念圖/故事框(歸納重點,增進理解)

#### 五、寫作練習(不同文類)

- 1. 與書中人物對話/寫信(鼓勵/道歉/邀請/ 祝賀/關懷)
- 2. 角色代入/情境代入(寫日記/週記/感受,拉近學生與角色的距離,設身處地體會人物的感情)
- 3. 訓練歸納能力: 編寫日程表 / 人物檔案
- 4. 改寫/續寫/補寫(培養創造性思考能力)
- 5. 構思解決問題方法
- 6. 撰寫書評/建議書

#### 六、説話/扮演活動

- 1. 角色扮演:增加學習趣味,加深學生對作品的感受
- 2. 演繹書中人物説話語氣/神態
- 3. 辯論(立論、論點、論據)
- 4. 模擬法庭審訊
- 5. 設計對白
- 6. 朗讀最感人段落(通過範讀、領讀,或朗讀 提示,引導學生掌握誦讀時聲調的抑揚變 化,從中體會作品的情意、讀出作品的情 意,感受聲韻之美)

#### 七、延伸活動

課堂教學後,鼓勵學生閱讀與教材相關、富於 形象和情意的書籍、漫畫,或安排電影欣賞, 在內容、主題、情意上加以點撥,引發學生深 一層的感受和思考

在是次分享會中,該校老師將與同工分享她們的設計理念和構思、教學計劃和進程、教案 及教學片段、教學資源、評估工具及評鑑結果。希望與會同工能夠積極提供回饋,讓校本課程 發展不斷完善。

# 我們的反思

- 一、老師經常運用互動方式及引領思維的技巧帶引學生分析小説劇情,以致學生對學習小説這 新體裁的興趣非常濃厚。據老師反映,每次上小說課,學生都是懷着非常期待的心情迎接 中文課。學生上課時不但十分投入活動,他們的寫作及設計方面的課業也甚具創意。
- 二、老師認同圖書教學為語文學習提供了創新的學習方式,尤其是思維發展方面;老師在設計閱讀理解問題時提問不同層次的「高階思維」問題(組織、伸展、評鑑、創意)讓學生互相討論及思考,從而引發學生深層思考,提升他們的思維層次;學生的共通能力——探究



能力、批判性思考能力、解難能力、創意等因而得到培養。

- 三、教授小説跟教「課文」的方式不同,我們將重點放在分析「情節鋪排」、「人物性格」以及寫作手法上。至於詞語、句式及語文知識等則會略教。
- 四、設計課業練習方面,除以紙筆表達外,可設計一些活動加強人際溝通(例如角色扮演),讓 靜態的閱讀轉為動態的感受(將平面化為立體),提升學生閱讀的投入感。
- 五、教完小說單元後,我們發問卷給學生及家長調查他們對小說教學的意見;結果顯示,受訪 者均認為小說教學有助提升學生的閱讀興趣及寫作能力,並建議來年繼續推行圖書教學。
- 六、閱讀能力並不是與生俱來的,須靠後天刻意的學習,才能掌握閱讀的方法和策略,因此, 加強閱讀指導甚為重要。

閱讀是開啟知識殿堂的鑰匙,學生閱讀能力的發展,應有完整的規劃,才能達到預期的效果。越能夠獨立思考、與書對話、自主閱讀的人,越能夠迎接未來知識的挑戰,誠盼每一位孩子都喜愛閱讀及享受當中的樂趣。

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感受·欣賞·創作 — 如何在中國語文教育中加強 文學元素

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# 文學學習與語文學習的關係

文學學習是語文學習的重要組成部分,是語文學習的九大範疇之一。文學是以語言為媒介的藝術,語言精確妥貼是優秀文學作品的重要條件。文學本身有着美學、文化和語言的特質。因此,文學教學並不是獨立於語文教學之外,它既是語文教學的一部分,同時又超越了字詞解碼、辨析修辭手法,學習句式結構等,文學學習的總體取向其實就是審美的學習(張永德,2006)。文學教學目標乃在於讓學生感受文學閱讀的愉快經驗,欣賞文學之美,提高學習語文的興趣和語文能力;同時,培養審美情趣、態度和能力;鼓勵學生分享作品中的思想感情,引起個人對生活和生命的體悟(課程發展議會,2004)。在《中國語文課程指引(小一至小六)》(2004)中指出,文學學習可以從三個層面進行:感受、欣賞、創作。換言之,文學學習應從直觀感受出發,轉向知性的分析判斷,再從借鑒開始,體味創作的樂趣。

# 文學教學

隨着新課程的落實,文學學習日漸受到重視。近年,全港性系統評估中,六年級的閱讀評估卷便以王安憶、金波、林海音等名家美文為考材。事實上,為配合新課程加強文學元素的發展方向,不少學校均推行不同形式的古詩文背誦計劃。不過,文學在古典世界,也在現代作家筆下,只要求學生背誦古詩文就等同於進行文學教學嗎?背誦古詩文就能引發學生文學閱讀的興趣嗎?怎樣才能通過文學教學以提高學生的語文能力,引發他們對生活和生命的體悟?

本環節分享的兩所學校:嘉諾撒聖瑪利學校和伊利沙伯中學舊生會小學同設一條龍升中制度,中小學課程銜接成為兩校共同關注的課題。相對於小學中文課程,初中學生往往需要學習較多文言篇章,當中更涉及不少古漢語語法知識。部分閱讀篇章篇幅較長,思想內容較深,學生不容易理解。同時,中學考評著重考核學生較高層次的思考能力,例如賞析和評價文章的能力(課程發展處,2010)。因此,兩所學校去年在六年級從「理解文言文」、「閱讀古典小説」和「培養審美能力」三個範疇著意加強文學教學元素,以配合小學語文課程發展方向,並裝備學生迎接初中語文學習的挑戰。

# 掌握閱讀文言文的鑰匙,打開古典文學之門

文言作品語言凝練準確,既具有形象性,亦是增進學生語文素養的重要途徑,是打開古典文學之門的一把鑰匙。事實上,「理解所學篇章中與現代語義不同的文言詞語」是第二學習階段的建議學習重點(課程發展議會,2008),惟文言文畢竟是一種與現今實際使用的語言相去甚遠的古代書面語,學生學習時會有一定難度。嘉諾撒聖瑪利學校的老師配合教科書課文《公儀休好魚》,輯錄了《史記》中有關公儀休好魚的記載,運用「字形透視機」、「字詞放大鏡」和「前後搜索器」等推斷詞義策略,以協助學生推測文言文的詞義。同時,設計文言文閱讀小錦囊,教



授淺易的古漢語法知識,例如:虛詞多義和古漢語中的人稱代詞,讓學生掌握閱讀文言文的方 法,提升閱讀文言文的興趣。

# 運用閱讀策略,走進古典小説世界

在學生初步掌握閱讀文言文的方法後,老師嘗試引入校本古典小說單元一《西遊記》。老師突破以往以白話本或故事改編為教材,不再因為學生缺乏文本解碼能力,而放棄讓學生閱讀古典文學作品的機會。教師運用引領思維閱讀法,引領學生走進《西遊記》中〈三借芭蕉扇〉和〈三打白骨精〉的故事世界。「引領思維閱讀活動」是教授小説或記敘性文字常用的閱讀策略,當中包括推測、細讀和查驗三個步驟。推測絕不是純然的主觀猜測,而是從已知推未知的技巧,逐步找出故事線索,推測故事內容發展。由理解到評析,老師運用故事手掌、情節結構圖和角色腦圖等(Stahl & Hayes,1997),協助學生分析故事的場景、情節發展,以及評價角色的性格和行為。事實上,角色是其中一個重要的文學要素。故此,教師除了在〈三借芭蕉扇〉中選取不同的情境,鼓勵學生創作劇本,進行角色扮演,以激發學生藝術創造力;更在〈三打白骨精〉的課業中佈置日記寫作,要求學生以唐三藏或孫悟空的身份,寫一則日記,剖析角色的心情和想法,以協助學生填補角色未公開的想法、感情和動機(趙鏡中,2007)。從學生的課業和課堂表現,老師喜見學生閱讀古典文學作品的興趣和信心均有所提升。

# 培養審美能力,鼓勵借鑒與創造

文學教學的目的之一是培養學生審美情趣、態度和能力。張永德曾就香港小學文學教學進行研究,他指出不少教師的難題是不知道應教些什麼。事實上,不少教師仍然採用慣常教「課文」的方式去處理文學教學,即以教詞語、句式、段意及語文知識為重心,關涉欣賞審美的只是小部分(張永德,2006)。那麼,怎樣才能培養學生的審美能力?要培養學生審美能力,就要教授他們賞析方法。賞析方法是可學的,因為它是一種分析方法,不像感受、情意等不能傳授(白雲開,2005)。伊利沙伯中學舊生會小學的老師以親情為主題,設計校本單元,以名家美文為教材,例如:朱自清的《背影》和魯迅的《風箏》,著重教授學生賞析文章的抒情手法:直接心理描寫、記事抒情、借景抒情、觸物生情,以及運用不同的修辭手法和標點符號增強抒情效果。然後,老師鼓勵學生借鑒作家的表達手法,以生活經驗為題材進行寫作,以發揮讀寫結合之效。從學生的作文所見,學生的佈局謀篇花上了不少心思,情感流露日見深刻,文章的感染力因此而有所提升。

在是次分享會中,嘉諾撒聖瑪利學校和伊利沙伯中學舊生會小學的老師將會分享她們的教學設計和構思,以及實踐經驗。我們期望在分享會上能夠和與會老師共同思考如何加強文學教學,以培養學生的審美能力,提升語文教學的效能。

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善用「概念模式」加強學生分析抒情性文章篇章結構的能力

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# 學習「概念模式」與篇章結構對提升語文能力有甚麼關係?

語文的表達之所以被理解,因為有它的結構。寫作人根據本身的意圖,形成概念;聯結概念,成立命題;聯結命題,編成概念結構或語文結構。王開府(2008)探討了概念圖與心智圖在語文課程的運用,分析各種文體的結構、閱讀能力的指標及寫作構思過程,提出了「概念模式」(concept model)的構思。他認為學習者使用這些思考工具時,其內心須累積一些可以放在主幹層的概念群。這些概念群往往自成一組,屬於同一層級,可被成套的使用,形成思考的常用模式。不同文體篇章有著不同的概念模式。閱讀時循著這個結構,能有效地理解與掌握篇章的內容。「概念模式」本身也是一種認知結構。因為當「概念模式」建立後,便會儲存在腦中成為「基模」(schema),變成可以隨時提取的先備知識。因此在語文教學中,學習不同文體的「概念模式」對於閱讀與寫作思考,都是十分重要的。

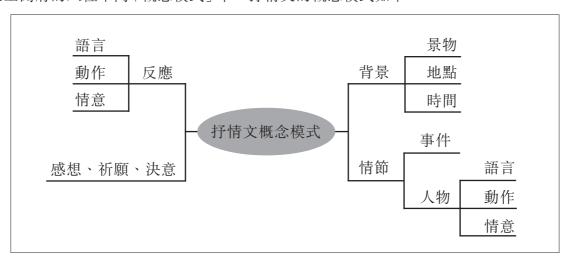
篇章結構是指篇章的外部表達形式及內部各要素的相互關係。因為作者分析了客觀事物後,自身會產生獨特的看法。為了有效地傳達這些看法,他會利用嚴謹的篇章結構,把本身的意圖順暢地體現。故此,篇章結構對於表達寫作主旨起了直接的關係。中國傳統的辭章學稱之為「章法」,也概括出篇章結構的基本規律:起承轉合。「起」是文章的開端,「承」是對事件的延續描寫,「轉」是為了使文章起伏而使筆鋒作一個轉向,「合」是對事件結果的交代,對全文主旨的概括。

因為篇章結構反映了典型的思維方式,學生利用它對文章進行分析及鑒賞,便能達到閱讀的高階要求。抒情文以情貫串全篇,學生洞悉了篇章結構的外部表達形式,便能整理出文章的脈絡層次,找到各段落之間的內部相互關係,分析情感抒發的位置和作用,從而欣賞抒情作品的深層意義。再者,掌握了篇章結構後,應用於思想的表達上也有良好的效果。所謂「文似看山不喜平」,為了增強表達效果,學生需要對一個完整的事件找出一個最佳的切入點,需要把事件片段整合及情緒剪碎再拼接,這就是篇章的修辭。學習、積累常用的抒情文的篇章結構及相關的句式選擇,句群的運用以至語言的錘鍊,更有助達致以事抒情的寫作要求。

聖公會聖約翰小學在2009年度開始參與小學校本課程發展組的支援計畫,學校的中文科發展理念是應用不同文體的篇章結構,利用相關的「概念模式」組織不同級別的學習單元。每個級別的單元會抽取相近的概念結構編制學習單元內的讀文,使學生吸收學習單元內的語意知識。初小級別以句群及段落的「概念模式」為核心,中小級別以記事及描述能力的「概念模式」及篇章結構為核心,高小級別以緣事抒情及說解事理的「概念模式」及篇章結構為發展主線。是次分享會中學校會以詳細的教材框架分析使與會同工了解如何把抒情文的常用「概念模式」及其篇章結構結合單元內的閱讀深究教學上。此外,同工也會掌握到怎樣安排對應的語文知識,使不同範疇的學習重點銜接得更有機,提升學生辨識抒情文的特色及寫作抒情文的能力。

# 學校如何應用抒情文的「概念模式 | ?

在王開府的八種不同「概念模式|中,抒情文的概念模式如下:



#### 聖公會聖約翰小學高小抒情單元的概念模式分佈表:

學習單元	文體	概念模式
記事細寫	事中抒情的記事文	背景(地點、時間);情節(事件、人物動作); 反應(主角動作、主角情意)及感想
先苦後甜先甜後苦	抒情文	背景(景物、地點、時間);情節(人物動作、人 物情意);反應(語言、主角情意)及感想、祈願
日記	實用文	反應 (主角情意) 及決意、祈願

為了提升學生掌握抒情文常見「概念模式」的能力,小五老師在上學期的第二學習單元中以「先苦後甜」為學習主題,引導學生觀察人物在生活小事中的內心掙扎及遇上波折時的退縮心態。他們並且著意地沿用上述的抒情文「概念模式」編寫單元內的校本閱讀範文。如其中一篇校本範文《朗誦比賽有感》的第二段,老師利用了「概念模式」中的「主角反應」(情意),使學生從「一向不善詞令的我怎會被選中,我覺得老師實在有點『強人所難』」初步了解主角參加朗誦比賽這一件小事的可能發展趨勢是負面的,再透過第三段的「主角反應」(動作)「望着陌生的字句,根本不知道從何背起,更不知道『感情』從哪裏跑來。誦材在我抖震的手中,變得濕漉漉了」,以及第四段的人物心理語言「即使你再多給我三小時,都是徒然的,因為我根本不是朗誦的料子。可能平時我不討老師歡喜,他便藉這個機會,要我當眾出醜吧!」,理解抒情文中常用的「概念模式」。形成了初階的認知後,老師還會利用單元內其他閱讀範文加強學生的學習。學生閱讀抒情文時循著這個結構,能有效地理解篇章的內容與掌握文章的命題。當學生掌握了抒情文「概念模式」後,老師更透過閱讀的深究環節,使學生總結這三個重點片段,歸納出何謂事中抒情的具體要求,進行「先苦後甜」單元的寫作練習及活動。

#### 《朗誦比賽有感》(節錄)

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每當我看見這份朗誦比賽的誦材時,心裏那份暖暖的滿足感,就會湧上心頭。	以景物引入抒情
昨天上中文課時,老師竟然選我作為參加校際朗誦比賽的代表。一向 不善詞令的我怎會被選中,我覺得老師實在有點「強人所難」。	片段① 苦情伏筆(主角 情意)
午膳時,我在課室進行第一次的練習。老師先要我把內容背下,並要配合感情,把誦材朗讀出來。我望着陌生的字句,根本不知道從何背起, 更不知道「感情」從哪裏跑來。誦材在我抖震的手中,變得濕漉漉了。	片段② 主角反應 (動作)
這時的我在想:即使你再多給我三小時,都是徒然的,因為我根本不 是朗誦的料子。可能平時我不討老師歡喜,他便藉這個機會,要我當眾出 醜吧!	片段③ 心理語言

分享會的上半部份主要集中分析高小級別的緣事抒情學習單元中的「概念模式」及其相關的篇章結構。聖公會聖約翰小學的老師會展示如何設計小五的「先苦後甜」、「先甜後苦」兩個學習單元中的篇章結構,以及與之相配的語意知識。與會老師除了可以透過經驗分享認識抒情文的篇章結構外,還能通過利用相配的語意知識設計校本的抒情文學習材料,進一步掌握「概念模式」的學習意義及其應用於閱讀教學上的策略。

# 學校如何應用抒情文篇章結構?

根據鄭文貞(1991)的分析,抒情文有兩種篇章結構。聖公會聖約翰小學的高小緣事抒情單元組織介紹了抒情文的第二種篇章結構:以感情發展組織結構。文章以作者的心理前後變化為主線,並安排「起承轉合」的篇章結構。內容題材上利用小學生的日常情感資源,如:學校生活的喜悲、家庭小事的挫折、與人相處過程中的挑戰,以及成長中的困惑等。如下學期「先甜後苦」單元的範文《班際足球比賽》,篇章結構利用了「起承轉合」概念模式。文章的第一及二段為「起」,老師利用了伏筆的手法,使學生從「五乙班一向是我們的手下敗將,所以我感到特別輕鬆,沒有多大的壓力」初步了解主角輕視這次的比賽。文章的第三及四段為「承」,學生理解了伏筆中的情意,再利用段落中的人物反應「我跟隊友都欣喜若狂,振臂歡呼。自滿的我更伸出大拇指嘖嘖稱讚,還不停地扭動身子」以及主角的心理反應「五乙班的防守實在太差勁!既然敵方兵敗如山倒,我們即使合上眼睛,也可多進數球呢!」掌握到輕敵情緒的進一步惡化。老師在學生掌握了這兩個結構特點之後,引用了閱讀策略中「上文下理」的推論方法,安排學生進行小組討論,推測出合理的事情發展概況。然後透過第五段的「轉」及第六段的「合」,讓學生從具體的情節及人物反應中體會「驕兵必敗」的道理。學生從校本單元的幾篇抒情文中,經過分析、歸納及引證,建立了理解抒情文常見的篇章結構的能力。

與會老師掌握了抒情文的篇章結構以及其相關的「概念模式」後,本分享會的下半部份將會以聖公會聖約翰小學高小緣事抒情單元內的閱讀課堂實踐的材料及片段,展示學生如何利用抒情文的篇章結構,形成自己的策略,協助分析相關的抒情篇章,深入了解文本中的隱含信息及歸納作者的寫作意圖。此外,分享老師也會從學生作品分析及寫作回饋課堂片段中,驗證學生能運用抒情文的篇章結構及概念模式於寫作策略上,有效地監察自己的寫作過程、反思寫作及作出改善。

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範疇/學習重點	材料	發展的能力	學習活動
閱讀/理解抒情	校本閱讀範文 (一)《朗誦比賽 有感》	建立「概念 模式」及抒 情文的篇章 結構概念	引領思維:因應上文,師生討論下文的 事情發展 辨識範文內的「概念模式」(主角情意、 主角反應(動作)、心理語言)
文結構	(二)《第一次下 廚記》	應用「概念 模式」分析 文章	合作活動:拆解文章中的「概念模式」及 匯報文章中如何銜接「苦」情的不同片段
語文知識	句式仿作 (1) 倒敘句 (2) 「苦」情伏筆 (3) 心理獨白	學習與抒情 文「概念模 式」及相關 的語意知識	認識轉折關係句、遞進關係句,單項訓練相關句式 初步應用於寫作練習上,學生互評當中 是否句意通順
説話及寫作	師生共作:《畢生 難忘的接力比賽》	因應上文推 斷下文的 「苦」段	以説帶寫:老師引導學生按照情景續寫 「苦」段及心理獨白兩段(抒情重點素材) 進一步應用單元內的語文知識(關係句式 及情緒詞彙)
寫作/協作及 評鑑	小組寫作:《一次 失而復得的經歷》	同儕協作下 應用篇章結 構及抒情文 「概念模式」	利用單元內抒情文的「起承轉合」章法編排情節,並以「概念模式」即主角情意、 主角反應(動作)及心理語言豐富當中的 情感
寫作/評鑑及 修改	個人寫作:《課後迷途記》	自行應用整 個單元內的 學習重點作 單元測試	加入TSA 題型的要求,學生進行審題 後,應用抒情文的篇章結構安排文章的 佈局 運作「概念模式」及相對的語文知識(句 式及修辭)強化片段中的情緒

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Rasch Model在中國語文科閱讀範疇的應用 — 從量 化的角度看評估數據的分析與回饋

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# 評估在學習過程中的重要性

評估在學生的學習歷程中扮演著重要的角色,由最初僅僅作為篩選學生的工具,到近年評估促進學習(assessment for learning)已經成為學界接納的價值觀。如何分析學生評估的結果以及作出適切的教學回饋,是評估促進學習成功與否的關鍵所在。老師由於日常工作繁重,在分析評估數據及作出跟進工作時,往往是依靠教師的教學經驗,憑感覺去判斷,然後便得出一個總體的印象。例如:某一班的平均分比另一班高,我們便會說這一班學生的表現較佳;某同學這次評估的分數比上次的高,我們便說這位同學的學業水平提高了。在擬定跟進工作時,我們一般只能講述整體學生在評估中的表現,但甚少能夠指出個別學生在是次評估中不同能力範疇的表現。如此的分析及回饋缺乏科學化的數據支持和理論根據,以致老師和學生都很難真正看清學生的評估表現。於是,在很多前線教師的腦海中,時常會縈繞著一系列的問題:如何有系統地分析學生在評估中的整體表現以及個人表現?如何衡量題目的內容效度(content validity)與建構效度(construct validity)能否適切地反映學生的學業水平?如何根據學生在評估中的表現,因應學生的個別差異,作出個人化的回饋(individual feedback),讓每個學生都能夠清楚知道自己的強項及弱項,更重要的是未來努力的方向?很明顯,以上這些都是評估促進學習的核心問題,實在值得我們深入探討。

# 教師在分析評估數據及擬定跟進工作的困難

傳統的做法用評估的得分來定義學生語文能力的程度,用答對率來定義題目的深淺程度。如果評估的題目很簡單,學生的得分就高,因此老師、學生、家長都認為學生的程度很高;反之,如果評估的題目很困難,學生的得分就低,因此大家就認為學生的程度很低。在這種情況下,學生的程度的高低,乃是取決於評估的特性,因此是「評估依賴」(test-dependent)的。同樣道理,一份相同的評估卷給不同能力的學生做。程度好的學生會覺得題目很簡單,而程度差的學生會覺得題目很困難。在這種情況下,題目的程度是難是易,取決於學生樣本的特性,因此是「樣本依賴」(sample-dependent)的。由此可見,學生的程度與題目的難易互為因果,且互相干擾。在日常的教學經驗中,教師也明白以上的道理:學生的成績進步了,並不等於學生的能力水平提升了,因為可能是題目的難度較低;相反,很多學生都做錯的題目並不表示那道題目本身的難度很高,而可能是學生在這方面的能力比較薄弱。但礙於日常繁重的教學工作,教師只能憑感覺去分析學生每次評估後的表現,很難以「能力」為依歸,去探究學生的語文能力是否有提升。Rasch Model是一個很好的評估分析工具,不但能分析出整體學生的成績和題目難度之間相對應的關係,更加能夠以「能力」為依歸,找出學生的語文水平是否真正提高了。

# 為甚麼在中國語文科推行 Rasch Model

Rasch Model在國際上不同的領域都獲得認同,特別是在醫療、教育和心理學方面。在教



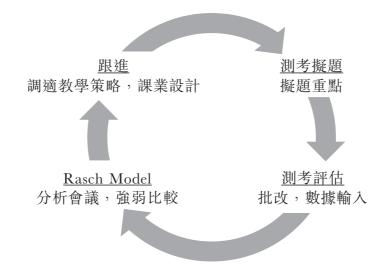
育測量的領域中,它的優點在於能夠為教學人員提供不同範疇的詳盡資訊,例如:Rasch Model 能夠讓學生對自己的學業水平有一個深入的了解;能夠讓教學人員分析試題的難易程度以及題目的適切性,從而幫助擬題人員改善試卷的質素。

同時,Rasch Model也具備診斷性評估 (diagnostic assessment) 的特質,可根據「基本能力評估」的重點進行閱讀理解評估卷擬題:

第一學習階段	第二學習階段
BR1.2 能理解所學詞語	BR2.2 能理解所學詞語
BR1.3 理解簡淺敘述性文字的段意及段落關	BR2.3 能理解敘述性、説明性文字的段落關
係	係及段意
BR1.4 概括理解篇章中簡淺的順敘/倒敘事	BR2.4 能理解篇章中具體事件的寓意
件	BR2.5 能理解作者概括出來的事理及例證的
	作用
	BR2.6 能理解篇章中例證的作用

Rasch Model可以幫助中文科老師有系統地量化每位學生在每道題目的表現,找出他們個別語文基礎知識的強與弱,從而促使老師在教學設計上作出調整,在課堂上更有效地照顧個別差異,甚至擬訂一些個別學習輔導計劃,給予每一個學生適切的關顧。而整個分析數據和反思教學的的經歷,亦是促進老師專業發展,提升學科教學知識的過程。

怎樣在中國語文科運用 Rasch Model 進行評估回饋:



每次評估之後,天主教石鐘山紀念學校的老師都會收集學生的評估數據,然後輸入電腦, 再經由Rasch Model的軟件,製做一系列的圖表。從這些圖表中,顯示下列數據:

- 一、學生成績的整體分佈
- 二、題目難易度的整體分佈
- 三、學生成績的平均值與題目難易度平均值的對應關係
- 四、找出哪些學生在哪些能力範疇的題目表現出色或遜色

在每次的評估之後,同年級的中文科任老師都會聚在一起開會,借助Rasch Model的評估分析量表,審視學生在是次評估中的表現,討論學生的表現數據,這不但加深了對學生學習語文基礎知識難點的認知,我們亦以此為基礎,調整教學策略,幫助學生鞏固有關的語文知識。

此外,Rasch Model亦可幫助老師找出學生的一些出異常反應 (unexpected response),幫助老師更聚焦地發現個別學生在某道試題的學習難點,讓老師可以有效地透過分析學生的試題表現或面談,找出學生了解犯錯的原因,幫助他們重新修訂語文知識。例如:以下抽取該校某次六年級中文科測驗後,用Rasch Model來舉例分析如何找出學生異常反應 (unexpected response) 的部分數據:

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題號	學生編號	觀察值	期望值
A41	D02	0	0.97
A52	E07	0	0.97
A52	E12	0	0.97
A52	A23	0	0.97
A61	A17	0	0.99
A63	B11	0	0.98
A63	C24	0	0.97

如表列數據所示,Rasch Model能夠根據學生答題的能力和題目本身的難度而找一個對學生能否答對某道題目的預期,這就是期望值,期望值越高,學生答對問題的可能性就越高;相反,期望值越低,學生答對問題的可能性就越低。那觀察值又是甚麼意思呢?觀察值就是指學生實際答題的情況。答對用1表示,答錯用0表示。表中所列出的題號和學生編號有甚麼參考價值呢?例如A41(詞語運用)、A52(段旨)、A61(段落理解)、A63(綜合理解)這幾道題目都分別有1至3位同學期望值很高,但是實際情況是做錯了。這些問題會通過中文科任老師和個別學生的面談或分析這些學生的試卷得到解答。通過個別化的分析,能讓老師增加了解學生學習的認知能力,亦可聚焦地分析個別學生的學習難點,對提升教學效能也是有所裨益的。

# 善用評估得來的數據

整體而言,教學評估配合測量工具 Rasch Model 能把學生在閱讀範疇的表現量化,讓老師根據有關數據分析,調整教學內容及策略,修訂教學設計和擬定適切的跟進計劃。對於表現較弱的學生,老師可透過分析,找到較理想的切入點,按他們的學習困難和需要,提供輔導;至於能力較高的學生,老師亦可掌握他們相對其他同學能力的差距,為他們提供合適的增潤學習活動,達到因材施教的效果。

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# 情境教學在閱讀教學的實踐與反思

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香港中國語文課程發展方向之一是培養學生對美的感受和欣賞。感受,是對篇章的內容美和形式美產生的情緒反應。欣賞,是先得到真切的感受,再由感性轉向知性,分析作品表情達意的手法,從而加深感受(香港課程發展議會,2004)。國內中國語文教育學者認為語文是負載思想感情的工具,而從學習心理學角度來看,學習過程是認知過程與情意過程同步進行的,因此,發展以感情為核心的非智力心理因素是語文教學的一個重要目標(吳天錫,1998)。以感情為核心的非智力心理因素,就是情意過程,就是從感受到欣賞的過程。

# 視學所見小學閱讀教學的現象

過去數年在視學組工作,透過校外評核及中文科重點視學,觀察了不少小學閱讀教學的課堂。部分教師側重從知性層面,如解釋字詞,概括段意,分析中心思想及寫作手法,幫助學生理解篇章,未能引導學生從感性層面感受和欣賞篇章的內容美和形式美,以提升學習興趣及對篇章的理解。

# 從國內語文教育學者提倡情境教學得到的啟示

國內小學閱讀教學也曾出現與香港小學閱讀教學相同的情況,重視**認知**領域,忽視**情意**領域,造成語文教學中知和情的脫離。為補救這種情況,國內語文教育學者提倡情境教學(吳天錫,1998)。

在閱讀教學中,情境教學指充分創設具體場景,再現篇章中的形象,以激起學生學習情緒,並運用想像感受篇章描寫的形象,領悟篇章語言的美。這樣把形象、情感活動、認知活動結合起來,優點是:

- 一、能增強學生的學習興趣
- 二、使文字成為可感知的具體形象,有利學生感知篇章,從而加深對篇章內容的理解 和印象
- 三、通過篇章和情境間的聯繫,能發展學生的想像力
- 四、培養學生審美情趣
- 五、學生身臨具體的場景中,有利情感的薰陶

#### 教師可通過不同途徑達致情境教學,例如:

- 一、聯繫生活展示情境,如安排學生實地考察,或與學生分享經驗
- 二、借助圖畫、照片、實物、模型、電影等再現情境
- 三、用語言描述情境
- 四、讓學生透過朗讀進入情境
- 五、讓學生透過表演體會情境,如角色扮演
- 六、播放音樂渲染情境

根據過去視學所見,教師雖然因應篇章內容,與學生分享經驗以展示情境,或借助圖畫、照片、實物再現情境,或讓學生進行角色扮演體會情境,但課堂整體的情境教學成分不多,難以讓學生感受篇章的內容和形式美,達到形象、情感、認知三者融合。因此,在與老師共同設計閱讀教學時,嘗試加強情境教學元素。

### 教學設計

分享會中,三所學校的老師從教學設計,課堂實踐及課後反思三方面,分享初次運用不同的情境教學方法,帶領學生感受和欣賞篇章的經驗。她們均採用一種以上的情境教學方法教授新詩《我們去聽秋的聲音》和成語故事《推己及人》、《亡羊補牢》,但選取哪種方法及如何組織不同的方法,新詩和成語故事的教學設計則有所不同。

#### 一、新詩《我們去聽秋的聲音》

學習目標:讓學生透過圖象、音樂、朗讀、想像,感受及欣賞詩的意境和語言及大自然的美。

<b>学自自保</b> • 晚学生/ 透過多、自未、Ŋ與、芯体、恋文次/ 人具的的总统和明白次八日恋的关。				
教學步驟	教學策略	注意事項		
1.情境導入	- 請學生説出對秋天的感覺	- 要多讓學生講述生活經驗,增加學生對篇 章的親切感		
2.情境營造	- 教師朗讀,學生邊聽音樂, 邊聽教師範讀,邊看與篇章	- 示範朗讀,讓學生初步掌握讀音 - 用直觀方式協助學生初步理解篇章內容		
初步感知	相關的秋天景物畫面 - 講解字詞	- 用語音和圖片結合呈現的方式,能促進 學生的閱讀理解能力(丁道群、李國紅,		
	- 學生邊聽音樂邊朗讀	2011) - 使學生稍後能流暢地朗讀 - 要學生有感情及流暢地朗讀,從而進入篇章的情境及培養語感		
完全感知	- 教師朗讀,學生邊聽音樂, 邊聽教師範讀,邊看畫面 - 學生分組輪讀。一組朗讀, 另一組閉上眼睛,邊聽音 樂,邊朗讀,邊想像	<ul><li>加深學生對秋天景物圖片的印象,幫助他們稍後閉目想像時,腦海裏能浮現篇章內容相似的畫面</li><li>使學生進一步感受詩的景象及語言</li></ul>		
3. 課堂評估	- 請學生説出想像的景象及欣 賞詩的哪部分	<ul><li>評估學生能否感受及欣賞篇章的內容美和 形式美</li><li>多讓學生講述對篇章的感受,培養學生對 篇章的評賞力</li></ul>		
4.分析寫作手法	- 教師講述或提問	- 引導學生由感性轉向知性,分析作品表情 達意的手法,從而加深感受及提高評賞力		

#### 二、成語故事《推己及人》、《亡羊補牢》

學習目標:用語言描述故事內容,引導學生想像自己身處故事中的情境,以體會成語的意義。

教學步驟	教學策略	注意事項
1.情境導入	- 教師分享與成語相關的生活經驗	- 讓學生初步了解成語的意義



2.情境營造	- 教師分段敘述,並適當提問,讓	- 用語言描述,要有恰當的聲調、節
	學生想像自己是故事中人物,説	奏、感情,像講故事般,以達到繪聲
	出個人感受及行動	繪影的效果,使學生投入篇章的情境
		- 要適當地質疑問難,引導學生的思維
		進入探究、發現、解決的過程,使他
		們的情感進一步融入篇章的情境,
		也使他們的思維得以發展(紀玲玲,
		2005)
	- 教師朗讀,講解字詞	- 示範朗讀,讓學生初步掌握讀音
	- 學生分角色朗讀	- 要學生有感情及流暢地朗讀,從而進
		入篇章的情境及培養語感
3. 課堂評估	- 請學生分享與成語相關的生活經	- 要多讓學生講述生活經驗,以評估他
	驗	們能否體會成語意義

從三所學校的課堂實踐所見,老師充分運用情境教學,使情境教學貫串整個課堂。透過情境教學,學生能感受及欣賞詩中情境,或想像自己是故事中人物,從而體會成語的意義,這就把形象、認知活動與情感活動結合起來。這種結合,使語文教學應該培養的情感素養,也在系統的認知活動中得到落實(李吉林,2002)。

### 反思及建議

- 一、學生運用想像感受篇章描寫的形象,除可培養創意外,也可增加對事物的感受力及對生活的反思,從而誘發生活的情味和意趣,有助豐富寫作內容。
- 二、教授詩篇時,除讓學生運用想像感受詩的意境,可引導學生聯想更多相關的事物和景象, 進一步發展學生的創意。
- 三、教授成語故事時,可進一步請學生寫生活反思,以加強品德情意的培育及訓練寫作能力。
- 四、有多種方法達致情境教學,究竟選取哪種,選取一種還是一種以上,如何組織所選的方法,以達致充分運用情境教學,使情境教學貫串整個課堂,須因應篇章的內容、類型、學習目標而定。例如《我們去聽秋的聲音》一詩描繪具體的景物及寧靜平和的氣氛,並不是在城市長大的學生所熟悉的。為使學生能欣賞詩的景物、氣氛和節奏,教師展示圖片,播放音樂及讓學生多朗讀。又如《推己及人》、《亡羊補牢》,故事性強,為提高學生學習興趣及引發他們思考,教師用説故事般的語言描述內容,並適時提問。

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# 英文學習領域

# Developing a school-based English writing curriculum: integrating both grammar and skills in the writing process

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From a recent sharing session on students' performance on **Pre-S1 writing**, some markers had the following comments on students' writing:

- Most students have little awareness of tenses, noun forms, parts of speech, and Subject Verb Object (SVO) pattern etc.
- Most students manage to produce relevant content but not enough elaboration on ideas.
- Students fail to write dialogues in pictures correctly.

• The ideas are not so organised (From sentences to paragraphs, from paragraphs to essays).

As in TSA, markers reported that although students were eager to write and were able to produce a written task 80 words in length, they had problems with grammar, spelling and sentence structures. Literal translation from Chinese was found in their writing.

It is generally agreed that writing is a difficult area to teach. It is commonly found that students have difficulty in making connection between the grammar structures they have learned and the subsequent writing tasks. From the exchange with English teachers, we know that they constantly doubt whether formal grammar instructions are necessary in today's English language curriculum, how this can be integrated in writing, and most importantly how much time they need to spend on writing lessons.

Building up the grammar structures before students could write is fundamentally important. Weaver (1996) thinks that grammar is best taught in context. She also suggests that teaching grammar within the context of students' own writing is more effective than teaching it in isolation. Similarly, the English Language Curriculum Guide published in 2004 also advises us that the learning and teaching of language forms is most effective in the context of writing.

Teaching grammar structures in the context of writing was tried out with students of SKH Chi Fu Chi Nam Primary School and in a number of primary schools. In SKH Chi Fu Chi Nam Primary School, teachers teach language structures through models, for example, reading passages in the textbook, teachers' model writing and students' own writing. Feedback on content and ideas development, lessons on sentence pattern building, and peer editing were used to help students learn how to apply the learned structures in their process writing tasks. It was found that students had raised their awareness in using target language structures appropriately and had improved their writing skills.

In her book 'The Grammar Plan Book — a guide to smart teaching', Weaver (2007) suggests that teaching grammar in isolation doesn't improve writing...while teaching fewer things deeply and in the context of writing holds more promise for long term gains. In an attempt to integrate this idea into the school-based curriculum, teachers from SKH Chi Fu Chi Nam Primary School designed a brief



planning checklist for each writing module that gave a 'scope' and possible sequence when teaching grammar in the context of writing. They tried to organize the writing modules according to what needs to be taught for a particular text type. After teaching students how to expand and enrich content, teachers also incorporated the practice of revision and editing into the writing process. For instance, teachers came up with a P. 4 module writing plan:

Week	Date	Module Writing Task	Language Input	Writing Skills
1	5/9 – 16/9	Unit 1 & 2	Vocabulary input - both	• Expanding sentences
		Module Writing – Me	previously and currently	(e.g. John runs.
		and my friends	learned (adjectives to	John runs quickly.
		Text type: descriptive	describe appearances/-	John runs quickly
		writing	ed adjectives to describe	in the playground.
			feelings/ comparatives/	John runs quickly
		Questions for thought:	hobbies, interests/likes/	in the playground
		1. What do I expect my	dislikes)	because)
		students to write?	• Sentence starters like 'Sam	<ul> <li>Mind-map</li> </ul>
		2. What can my	wears a (size), (colour),	
		students write?	thing).', 'is good at',	[*Improving choice
		(previous	'I think he/she is', 'I like	of words/ sentences
		knowledge)	him / her because' etc.	/ proofreading skills
		3. What input they	• Reading texts input (e.g. use	/ punctuation/
		need?(grammar,	past students' model writing)	paragraphing skills
		vocabulary, sentence	<ul> <li>Students make use of Word</li> </ul>	were incorporated into
		patterns/starters	& Sentence bank Booklet	the writing packages
		etc.)		throughout the term]

The plan helped teachers to focus less on single grammar items in units and modules. Instead, they were more aware of the language students needed in their writing. They were more aware of drawing on both students' previous knowledge and currently learned language so that students could apply the skills in a more integrated manner. As seen from student work, the content of their writing was richer than before.

Students were also introduced to a variety of text-types for writing throughout the past three years for a better understanding of their different formats and language features. Ample inputs were needed before students could write procedures, stories, travel journals etc. Teachers spent more time at the pre-writing stage on scaffolding students with lists of words, phrases and sentence starters. They then taught students how to apply in their writing elaboration skills such as giving reasons, explaining the procedures, using dialogues in story writing and expressing feelings whenever appropriate.

In SKH Chi Fu Chi Nam Primary School, teachers made a good start by planning the lessons on writing a procedural text together. They had made adjustment according to the needs and abilities of their students in different classes especially the split class of less able students. From watching a video from their teacher Miss Lee (Miss Lee Can Cook Wonton) as motivational activity to watching funny inventions on Youtube and reading different kinds of procedural texts, the module lesson plan was integrated with a series of scaffolding activities for building up their knowledge in using appropriate imperative verb form 'bake, stir, beat, remove...', 'Glue, fold, unfold, staple, hang...' and procedural language structures 'This is a ... It is made of ... It is used for ...', 'We can glue this...with

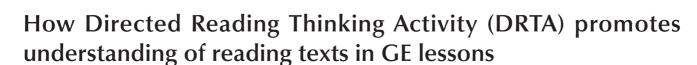
...', and the connectives 'First, Second...' Guessing game and miming games were found in the midst of the lesson plan to sustain their interests in making crafts and design their inventions. The less able students were well-supported with a list of words, phrases and sentence starters before and while they were engaged in group discussions. Positive results were identified in students' final writing tasks.

Following these steps and strategies of planning and implementing the writing curriculum, the framework for writing was gradually constructed and the flow of writing lessons became smooth and more systematic. Positive results were identified in students' work over the years. Students have developed some writing skills and techniques for writing different text types. Since story-writing is still demanding for Chi Fu students, teachers attempt to integrate different elements like teaching a variety of time markers as often used in stories, dialogue writing including punctuation use, use of interjections to express different feelings of the speakers, onomatopoeia to make stories more lively. Lesson plans and materials will be shared in the sharing session.

In this sharing session, teachers from SKH Chi Fu Chi Nam Primary School will help teacher participants to gain understanding of how students develop their writing skills; identify strategies to promote writing; explore techniques and materials to stimulate students' thinking; and learn that becoming a competent writer involves knowing and understanding the forms, functions and features of writing; and understand how writing should be integrated in the English lessons. A number of other cases of how teachers attempt to improve students' writing will also be shared with teacher participants.

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思随。..O°00..O°00..O°0

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What comes to your mind when you plan your reading lessons? Do you plan differently when you handle passages in the textbook and materials from other books? Some teachers tend to focus more on vocabulary and key structures when they teach textbook materials; and more on concepts (e.g. book concept and story structure) and reading skills when they conduct Reading Workshops. No matter what emphases you prefer at the initial stage of teaching (in both GE lessons and Reading Workshops), your students need to have a global understanding of the text before they can proceed to other focus.

At this stage, you may need to employ a wide repertoire of teaching strategies to guide and scaffold the reading process. Contextual factors like students' interests, their language competencies, and difficulty level of instructional texts may affect your choice of teaching strategies. Given the same reading material, the teaching strategy you used in a class with a majority of good readers will certainly be different from what you used in another class with struggling readers. However, you should consider the intriguing relationship between texts and readers as well. When facing unfamiliar and highly challenging text, good readers can become struggling ones. The exact opposite may happen to struggling readers. It is highly likely that in certain contexts, given less challenging text and more scaffolding, struggling readers can become fluent ones. Hence teachers should not conclude too early that certain teaching strategies are only appropriate for strong readers.

Recent studies show that **good readers are active readers**. Pearson et al. (1992) have identified, among good readers, certain important thinking processes. It includes using prior knowledge to make sense of new information; asking questions about the text before, during and after reading; drawing inferences from text; and monitoring comprehension. Further research (Dole et al, 1991, Duffy and Roehler, 1991 and Smagorinsky & Smith, 1992) points out that learners cannot acquire active reading process subtly, they need **explicit teacher-led demonstration**. This active reading process needs to be taught at an early stage; and it needs **regular practices and a lot of reinforcement** before achieving any degree of automaticity. In this aspect, the message to educators is clear: active reading is important to fluent readers and emergent readers alike. Hence, **teachers should not compromise the process**. They may adapt the content by reducing the length or by simplifying the text, and/or provide more scaffolding during the reading process.

# What is Directed Reading Thinking Activity (DRTA)?

Directed Reading Thinking Activity (DRTA) (Stauffer, 1968) is **one of the many possible comprehension strategies** that can be used to promote active reading process. It aims to engage readers in an active thinking process whilst reading. This process includes using prior knowledge to

make sense of new information; making predictions before reading; asking oneself if the predictions match with the text whilst reading; and using information from the materials to prove or disprove one's own predictions. This strategy is highly versatile, it allows adaptations and can be used for teaching real books (in Reading Workshops) as well as passages in the textbook.

DRTA involves mainly three procedures: predicting, reading and proving. Details are as follows:

- 1. First, the teacher encourages students to predict by presenting them with graphics, title/subheading and/or introductory paragraph;
- 2. After readers have made their predictions, they are asked to read to a predetermined point in the text;
- 3. Then readers have to check the accuracy of their own predictions. They need to use information in the text to prove or disprove their predictions. The whole process continues until the entire text is finished.

Different from the conventional practice when teachers control the reading process, DRTA encourages students to take control of the reading process.

### Why DRTA?

Most teachers in Hong Kong are familiar with a range of reading strategies and activities, which can be applied at different stages of reading. For example, teachers frequently use brainstorming and visual presentations like video and photos in the pre-reading stage; reading aloud and guiding questions in the during-reading stage; role play, readers' theatre and retelling in the post-reading stage.

DRTA, like shared reading and supported reading, is an example of general teaching strategy, which can be applied at different stages of the reading process. It is grounded on the interactive theories which suggest that reading involves more than recognition of printed words. It is both a top-down process as well as a bottom-up process. Readers, in the reading process, generate hypotheses or predictions about the reading material (top-down) as well as making use of graphic information and application of various skills to understand the text. Hence, DRTA aims at guiding readers to predict before they read, think whilst they read, and reflect on their own thinking/predictions.

Teachers at T.W.G.Hs Tang Siu Kin Primary School are going to share with the audience the experience of using DRTA in a P.6 classroom. They will share with the audience the lesson design, adaptations they made to the teaching procedures and texts; and teaching episodes.

Teachers have used this teaching strategy to teach a range of materials in the textbook: namely narrative and information texts (categorization based on the Curriculum Guide). Teachers have found that for predictions to work well in class, students need to be sensitive to text features and its discourse. For example, students need to know that newspaper/magazine articles are about stories of real people and place; and reporters may want to put across certain messages to their readers; hence their predictions should be logical and rational. Yet, when they interact with narrative texts, they are allowed to be creative and imaginative in their predictions. Also, they need to apply the concept of story grammar including characters, setting, problem(s) and solution(s) in the thinking process.

Teachers have used DRTA in different ways when handling familiar and unfamiliar topics. For familiar topics, only key words and title are given as prompts to facilitate predictions. For unfamiliar topics like poverty and problems around the world, because learners usually lack interests, ideas or vocabulary to express themselves, teachers scaffold more before asking students to do predictions. Photos, title, subheadings and introductory paragraph are used as inputs and/or prompt to activate students' schema. In addition, in classes with great student diversity, teachers used other strategies like mixed ability grouping, reducing lengthy reading text into manageable parts and reading aloud to scaffold the thinking and reading activities.

The presenters will share with the audience the procedural knowledge, their pedagogical considerations and reflections. They will critically evaluate this strategy. Firstly, they will examine the quality of students' predictions. Initial findings show that students' predictions can be of two types: namely text-based predictions and experience-based predictions. Text-based predictions refer to those ideas that students generated based on information from the text. Experience-based predictions refer to those ideas that students got from their prior knowledge and experiences. Both types of predictions are of equal value in students' thinking process. However, teachers have reflected that their feedback to these two types of predictions should be different, and that they should encourage learners to include both types of predictions in their thinking process.

Secondly, teachers believe that this strategy can help their students interact with the text actively. When students have the confidence and purposes to read, they have strong intention to read for meanings. In such case, it is not difficult for them to get the main ideas of the text. However, teachers have found that there are many details which students may ignore or overlook in the reading process. Teachers need to be aware of that and use explicit instructions and conventional methods like guiding questions or comprehension exercise to probe, clarify or check understanding.

Finally, teachers will **compare DRTA** with **KWL**<sup>1</sup>, another commonly used reading strategy among Hong Kong teachers. It is hoped that through this kind of comparison, audience can have a deeper understanding of DRTA in relation to another reading strategy; and most importantly, teachers will become more conscious of their considerations when making pedagogical decisions.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> For details on KWL (what I know, I want to know, I have learnt), please refer to "2008 Journey on Learning in Action - Changing Practice, Changing Minds" in the sharing session titled: Reading information texts with joy and tear. Powerpoint can be retrieved from http://www.edb.gov.hk/index.aspx?nodeID=7603&langno=1).

# Catering for the needs of low achievers in the writing classroom

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Today, learner diversity is getting more attention from Hong Kong teachers. The recently introduced small class teaching policy, the inclusive education, the increasing number of South-Asian students and newly arrived children from China are current contextual forces shaping most schools' ecology in which students of diverse academic needs are found. All these realities have put Hong Kong teachers under extra pressure to go beyond the one-size-fits-all teaching. They need to think about what they can do to help different groups of students.

Using graded worksheets is a traditional practice to cater for different learners' diverse learning needs. However, over the years, most teachers have been skeptical about its effectiveness. Teachers are not convinced that graded worksheets with less content and lower standard can help struggling, in-between and advanced learners. After some research and study about the topic and having the faith that academically low achievers can still learn in classrooms, though at different paces or need different teaching and learning pedagogical practices, teachers of Tung Wah Group of Hospitals Wong See Sum believe that a focus on different strategies in the classroom would bring about more effective and fundamental changes in students' learning. The first step they took is to look at students' learning in the writing classroom.

Research (e.g. Beecher and Sweeny 2008 P.516; Tomlinson 1999 P.15) often groups different differentiation strategies into content, process and products. Teachers found this categorization helpful. However, teachers also realized that an understanding of the interplay of these strategies in the classroom context, rather than seeing them as separated skills to be used before, during and after the writing class, is just as important. Also, the implementation of all these strategies has not been studied thoroughly in local primary school context. Teachers believe that the classroom, where the process of teaching happens, should be a real focus to investigate how different teaching and learning strategies can be used effectively to cater for different learner needs.

#### **Curriculum Content**

To cater for the varied student needs, flexibility of curriculum content is important. Facing students who cannot catch up with the standard writing curriculum, teachers' professionalism to unearth the root of the problem, identifying the missing building blocks and working out possible solutions to narrow the gap between students' current level and the desirable goal is fundamental. Teachers in the school noticed that most weak students, from P.3 and P.6, were still struggling with writing simple sentences using the basic patterns when they were asked to write simple stories. Teachers could have



ignored the students and continued the standard curriculum. However, understanding this missing block was fundamental to writing skills, teachers chose to intervene. Reducing the number of words in the writing task was not their option. Instead, teachers intervened by rephrasing the adult-only rule Subject + Verb + Object to become Noun + Verb + Ideas. Teachers were amazed that this simplified children-friendly rule could help students to write grammatical sentences quickly. Table 1 below shows the sentences students can write with the rule Noun + Verb + Ideas in which Ideas can be noun phrase, adjectival phrase, prepositional phrase and adverbial phrase.

Table 1						
Noun	Noun Verb Ideas					
Mary is a student. (noun phrase)						
She	is	hard-working.	(adjectival phrase)			
She	studies	at the Hong Kong Primary School.	(prepositional phrase)			
She	reads	very quickly.	(adverbial phrase)			

After students have mastered the Noun + Verb + Ideas pattern, teachers can stretch their knowledge of sentence patterns by introducing to them **Ideas** can be further divided into nouns, action details, places and time and combining them would make more interesting and detailed sentences possible. With these fundamental sentences, students could write stories with a proper standard. Although it took some time to teach students concepts of nouns, verbs, or adjectives, teachers agreed that the process was very valuable and meaningful to students' learning.

Table 2						
Noun	Verb		Ide	eas		
Nouli	verb	Noun	Action Details	Place	Time	
A grass-hopper	sang	some songs.				
A grass-hopper	sang	some songs	beautifully	on the tree.		
A grass-hopper	sang	some songs	beautifully	on the tree	every morning.	
The ants	moved	some food.				
The ants	moved	some food	busily	under the tree		
The ants	moved	some food	busily	under the tree	every morning	

The experience has provided teachers with another perspective of catering for different learner needs. They realized that trimming down or lowering curriculum content may not be the priority when it comes to helping the less-achieving students. Instead, teachers should strive to have deep understanding of where their students are and be flexible and creative in curriculum content design as Tomlinson (1999 P.2) puts it, "In differentiated classrooms, teachers begin where students are, not the front of a curriculum guide".

#### **Process**

It is common sense to most teachers that clear and solid learning goals can help students to learn. Teachers from the school also found that purposeful repetition of the learning goals at the beginning, middle and end of the writing lesson can help students with an array of needs to

understand what they are learning. This is particularly necessary to students who usually have rather short concentration span. Integrating goals into multi-sensory engaging tasks during the writing process would avoid boredom among students brought about by mechanical repetition.

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Most research would support that tasks requiring high-level of participation and motivation (Lynch and Warner 2008) from students are effective to cater for different learning needs. In the actual writing classrooms in the school, teachers witnessed that authentic, engaging and challenging input could keep students stay on task and develop their understanding of writing skills. In P.3 writing lessons, students were excited being able to touch and move word cards with nouns, verbs and adjectives, discuss with classmates their categories and to make grammatically correct and meaningful sentences. Interesting Power Point slides with appropriate questions also helped less able P.3 students to visualize and imagine development of a story. In P6 writing classrooms, a discussion on how to help characters in a story to overcome problems would help to engage students' minds. A simple role-playing activity could have significant impact on students' understanding of how and why dialogues should be used in story writing. A Power Point presentation with access to You-tube would allow students to see, hear and feel how similes can be used to compare real songs made by a real bird, a music box and a singer. All these multi-sensory activities help teachers to engage students through body movements, senses activation and imagination. Their experience tells language teachers clearly that in a writing classroom, vocabulary and sentence patterns should not be the only input that students can access to. An enriched classroom with multiple tasks helps students of different abilities to perform in paper-and-pen tasks.

Group work is an indispensible strategy to help cater for learner diversity in the writing classroom. The peer-to-peer talks can facilitate the idea generation and sharing among all ability students during the initial writing stage. The peer comments and suggestions are essential in the actual writing and editing process. However, teachers in the school found that shallow application of the co-operative learning strategies would not be effective to promote learning among students. To facilitate real ideas exchange between students, teachers should make sure that the turn-taking process is in place in every group and students have the co-operative attitude to help group mates express and learn. Also co-operative learning terms such as round-robin and think-pair-share-square have misled some teachers to believe that co-operative learning only means 4-student work. However, teachers found that pair work is as effective as 4-student group work if used purposefully and skillfully. Pair work guarantees high participation from less-able to more-able students and is necessary when a new concept or difficult writing skill is taught.

Sensible and reasonable scaffolding is necessary to help cater for learner diversity. While it is known that scaffolding can help students learn, teachers also realized that scaffolding can be class-specific and across skills. More-able class teacher would opt to use different thinking level questions to guide students to write stories, teachers in less-achieving classes could use nouns, verbs, adjectives and adverbs as the starting point. Teachers also noticed that more students could write better when speaking is integrated into the pre-writing stage.

Careful scaffolding also means teachers have time to regulate and monitor students' learning



progress in the classroom. Teachers in the school noticed that reserving time to check students' learning progress in the whole-class or small group writing sessions is a vital assessment-for-learning strategy. Peer-to-peer sharing, such as partner talks in which students tell each other what they have learned and peer-editing aloud at the end of a writing class are impactful and yet easy strategies to help students to recapitulate their learning.

Giving students timely feedback is a strategy that Hong Kong teachers should develop further. Substantial research has shown that timely teacher feedback in the classroom is one of the most effective teaching pedagogies impacting learning (Hattie 2007). Teachers can do timely small group feedback when students are still engaged in their writing with their group members. This is the very moment teachers can identify a less able student making a worthwhile contribution to learning and give the student the individualized encouragement he deserves. Teachers can also do quality instant whole-class feedback when they compare and contrast students' work. Less-achieving students could benefit from teachers' focus on spelling and basic sentence patterns. For more-achieving students, feedback on ideas and complex sentence patterns would be inspiring. Yet, to some teachers, giving instant feedback in the classroom is risky. It is because this kind of feedback implies immediate professional judgment of students' work regarding content and language. This is daunting as teachers are not omnipotent. It took some time for teachers to master how this pedagogy works effectively and benefits students.

#### **Product**

It has been a common practice that evaluation criteria on writing are kept to teachers only. Students only know how their work would be judged after teachers give them back their work. Teachers in Wong See Sum Primary School, however, found that telling students assessment criteria before and during the writing process is a useful strategy to cater for learner diversity. A clear list of criteria helps students to understand the pathway to success. As explained by Black et al (2003 P.49), "It is very difficult for students to achieve a learning goal unless they understand that goal and can assess what they need to do to reach it." Also, students' final writing could be important feedback information. Target error correction and good writing sharing are useful practices to help average and less able students to excel further. Analyzing and appreciating classmates' final products enable students to avoid mistakes classmates made and set higher targets for themselves.

Table 3 below is a summary of the strategies teachers have attempted to help students in the writing classroom.

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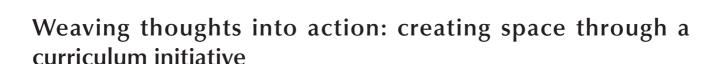
Table 3	
	Strategies attempted to cater for learner diversity in the writing classroom
Curriculum Content	Achievable goals to individual classes when necessary
Process	Explicit teaching with clear goals
	Design authentic and challenging activities or tasks requiring active participation and high-level engagement from students
	Form effective groups to facilitate peer-to-peer help
	Deploy scaffolding to facilitate teaching and learning in reasonable steps
	Check and regulate students' learning in group and whole-class sessions
	Give timely feedback to facilitate learning in group and whole-class sessions
Product	Make sure students understand assessment rubrics
	Design assessment criteria to meet students' learning needs
	Recognize students' achievement through good writing appreciation
	Identify students' weaknesses through target error correction

After observing students' learning in different writing classrooms, teachers agreed that their mind-set about how students learn is vital for maximizing students' talent. Teachers' acceptance of student differences and their enthusiasm to understand student needs would be pre-requisites. Also teachers realized that many existing classroom teaching and learning pedagogical strategies, such as group learning and scaffolding, have impact on different kinds of students. Teachers could make better use of these strategies more skillfully and sensibly to help less-achieving students. Last but not least, teachers have learnt that catering for learner diversity is a long-running task requiring their willingness to have continuous collaborative professional dialogue, whole school support and comprehensive curriculum planning. Catering for learner diversity should not be an individual's effort.

In this sharing, teachers will share with participants the actual classroom experiences they have gone through using the different strategies to cater for learner diversity in P.3 and P.6 classrooms. Classroom videos, lesson plans and student work will be shown to help participants develop better understanding of the whole situation. It is hoped that teacher participants could equip themselves with some strategies from the sharing and adapt them for use sensibly to meet the learning needs of their students.

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#### An Anecdote to a Curriculum Initiative

English Enhancement Grant Scheme (EEGS) as a curriculum initiative to raise language proficiency of primary students in support of the MOI fine-tuning policy provides primary schools with the opportunity to acquire additional resources to address specific areas of concern identified in their SWOT analysis in their application proposals. The EEGS drew interest from local primary schools and the majority of schools submitted their application over the past two years. EEGS as provisions to schools to renovate selected areas of concern in the English KLA curriculum require at least 2 critical aspects of development: teacher professional development to sustain the efforts, and tangible 'products' and evidence of student learning.

The English Enhancement Grant Scheme has been implemented in Choi Wan St Joseph's Primary School (CWSJ) since 2010 September and significant changes in both teaching and learning are emerging in the school. In retrospect, teachers at the school identified from the SWOT analysis that students had problems in writing cohesive passages. Though they were given regular writing practices, they had problems in organizing ideas in a coherent way. They were short of vocabulary, weak in developing and elaborating ideas, and unable to express connected ideas grammatically. All pointed to the weaknesses identified in the annual TSA reports on students' writing performance.

On reviewing the teaching of writing at the school, teachers noted that they spent much effort preparing students to write on different topics. Plenty of writing exercises were given to students. Teachers were extremely busy marking one composition after another. But students' compositions were always covered in red marks, thus creating frustrations for both teachers and students. Teachers regretted that they lacked time to sit back and reflect on the curriculum and their own teaching practice. The support of the EEGS gave the school a golden opportunity to create space for the panel of English language teachers to examine the issues and deliberate upon both teaching and learning in the writing curriculum. In the EEGS proposal, they identified three general directions for the curriculum initiative:

- 1) Curriculum development renovating the teaching, learning and assessment in the writing curriculum
- 2) Student learning improving students' reading and writing proficiency
- 3) Teacher development building up their capacities as curriculum developers

The 3 necessary components for a curriculum initiative: directions, tools and space proposed by Marton (2000) are taken into consideration in the development of the writing curriculum. Drawing

on our school-based curriculum development experiences, we consider that for the curriculum initiative to be viable and implementable, general and specific directions must be conceptualized from the onset of the development. Theoretical tools, conceptual tools should be used to explore the subject knowledge, pedagogical reasoning, and student learning and cognition. And analytical tools should be employed to identify the methods in analyzing student outcomes. Regarding space, participants should have the time space to engage in meetings and data analysis, cognitive space to think and reflect on data, open space to enhance critical inquiry, collaborative space to nurture trust and learning together, and public space to facilitate building a community of practice. Taking the necessary components into consideration, the school formed a core group comprising of the panel chairpersons and level coordinators to start off the development tasks. Time space has been created for the core group with the recruitment of an extra language teacher who would take up part of their teaching load.

# **Developing the Writing Packages**

At the onset of the curriculum renovation last year, the core group teachers examined the practice in the teaching of writing. They noted that all writing tasks were topic based. Content, titles, writing skills were built around modules in textbooks. However, teachers seldom linked reading input with the writing elements. There was neither a horizontal nor a vertical writing framework. There was not a strong scaffold of language input to help students cope with their writing tasks either.

To address the pitfalls in the old writing curriculum, one language teacher from each level was invited as the core member of the development team. The core team met regularly in studying the designs and reviewing the strategy or skill focuses for each level in the school based curriculum. Core members developed a better understanding of the strategies and skill focuses for different levels. The rationale of design and implementation procedures was brought up in planning meetings by the core members who would explore with colleagues the design and its application in the writing lessons, thus creating a cognitive space to reflect on the design and examine the implementation and conduct analysis of student performance in the writing process.

Carl (2006) stated that reading development does not take place in isolation; instead, a child develops simultaneously as reader, listener, speaker, and writer. Integrating reading and writing has multiple benefits for the development of literacy. Taking the findings from research studies into consideration, teachers at CWSJ mapped reading and writing skills for each grade as guidelines for teachers. Figure 1 shows the development process for the writing curriculum. Students' language input, reading texts, writing contents, writing skills focus, are all put into thought before shaping the writing packages. The reading inputs and writing inputs are closely connected. Students were exposed to a text type and its key features before they were asked to write it. Detailed scoring rubrics have been introduced as assessment tools for writing.



Figure 1 Weaving thoughts into Action in consideration the 3 components of a curriculum initiative: Directions, Tools and Space

Teacher thought and actions in consideration of theoretical and conceptual tools

- Deciding on the writing themes based on the learning modules
- Adapting and enriching teaching and learning materials
- Introducing reading input
- Identifying language structures
- Preparing write frame
- Designing learning activities
- Using rubrics as teaching/ learning tools for writing purposes and as analytical tools for assessment

Creating space for teacher development and reflections: time space/ open space/ cognitive space/ public space Designing the school-based writing packages and formulating teaching plans

Action 1: Core group initiates designs, prepare T/L materials and write teaching plans
Action 2: Grade teachers give feedback to the core group
Action 3: Finalizing the teaching plans

#### Student actions

- Accessing reading materials
- Experiencing learning activities in speaking and listening tasks Class / Group / Peer / Individual Writing
- Conferencing with teacher and self editing
- Good work appreciation

Working in line with the school annual development focus, the writing packages have to cater for learners' diversity. For each writing package, the learning materials were categorized into three different levels. It is the most challenging job for teachers. The differentiated learning materials include readings, vocabulary, language structures, and write frames or graphic organizers for the writing products.

In Key Stage 1, core group members developed a close link between the writing packages and the course book. All the vocabulary items and target structures in the course books were taught in the process. Students have the foundation knowledge to do the activities before writing. To build up writing confidence, students are led through reading, speaking, listening, group writing and small writing before individual writing. Hoch (2003) suggested that writing is an extension of listening and speaking for a second language learner. Hudelson (1989) shared the same viewpoint with Hoch, he stated that all the language processes are interrelated and students become more able language users when they are asked to use both oral and written language in varied ways and for varied purposes. Yet, it is a challenging job for teachers to incorporate these pre-writing activities in such a limited number of teaching lessons.

In Key Stage 2, P.4 to P.6 writing packages are to be developed in 2011 to 2012. But there is a big difference between the two key stages. With more complex content and language structures, demand on coherence, fluency and transition, an effective writing assignment should engage students in a series of cognitive processes such as reflection, analysis and synthesis so that students can transform the reading materials and use the right language structures in the writing context. Time cost is great but it helps the designer plan the writing materials and teaching processes more precisely and scrupulously.

### Creating space for teacher development – from isolation to collaboration

For teacher development, the EEGS provided monetary grants for the school to recruit a regular teacher to take up the teaching loads for the core group. The grants created time space for teacher development. A core group was set up and individual group member was responsible for designing writing materials for each level. The materials will then be critically examined in the core group meetings. A school-based learning community gradually emerged to promote professional capacity of the core group members. Through weaving thoughts into action, they are challenged critically on the design and feasibility of the learning materials and the teaching plans. With such an open space in verbalizing thoughts behind the writing packages, a collaborative and open culture has emerged. To satisfy the funding criteria of the grants, 8 writing packages were committed to be produced for each level within two years from 2010 to 2012. The core group has opportunities to review the schoolbased curriculum collaboratively and comment on the design of the writing materials in regular meetings. It promotes collaboration and cooperation among the group members. The core group seeks comments from English teachers of the levels before the implementation of the writing program. Teachers shared their experiences with each other to stimulate changes and make amendments to the writing materials. The design rationale of the writing packages were briefed clearly and explained thoroughly. All teachers participated in the process of making and refining the learning materials and teaching plan and they cultivated an open attitude to accept changes.

# Creating success-oriented experiences for students – from anxiety to confidence

In the past, students were allowed to write at home so they got support from family or private tutors. The real writing ability of individual students was not reflected. After implementing the new curriculum, students showed change in their writing practice and attitude and the majority of them attempted to write with confidence on their own with supportive writing processes and activities in the writing lessons.

Students improved in writing skills as the materials in the writing packages are structured with the four integrated skills. Before producing the final draft of the writing, students experienced vocabulary building through reading authentic materials and books and practicing speaking and using the target languages. These are the prerequisite steps in writing the final draft. Reading, speaking and writing are deliberately linked in each writing package. Students benefited not only from writing but also the reading, speaking and listening skills throughout the writing process.

Out of the expectations of the core group members, students also nurture a cooperative learning atmosphere through learning activities. The writing packages coincidently serve the purpose for students to equip with those generic skills through the writing process. Students' generic skills like cooperative learning, collaborative learning and creativity develop naturally in activities. Students feel free to speak up in the speaking activities as they notice that group mates are available to help. They sometimes get ideas from the group members or other groups as they tour around the classrooms. They produce writing in groups and they share the responsibilities. All these activities enhance



students' generic skills in a natural way. In the end of year survey on their views on writing, students believed that the writing program built up their confidence. It created a safe environment for them to learn to write.

# Sustaining what has been attained

To sustain the initial success experienced in the writing program, teachers needed to address limitations identified in the design. Students were given more opportunities to write extended tasks to the topics that they experienced in the writing packages. Regarding catering for learner diversities, teachers discovered that they needed to take into considerations students' personal factors, learning ability, interests, and communication styles rather than relying solely on the differentiated worksheets. They all came to realise the importance of effective teaching processes, accessible learning activities, regular checking for understanding and timely feedback in the teaching of reading and writing. Teachers understand that the teaching of the writing process is complex and it involves the integration of the four skills and the writing strategies such as drafting and editing, proofreading and revising, rereading and revising and, more importantly, student-teacher conference in different stages of writing. They recognized the need for teacher learning in the curriculum development process. All these factors need to be considered in future endeavour on new curriculum initiatives.

In this presentation session, the planning and implementation of the writing packages and the problems that the core group encountered will be addressed. The presenters will also discuss how teachers changed their beliefs in terms of teacher development, curriculum development and students learning. They also experienced positive changes in teaching and the learning culture and team spirits. Last but not the least; the limitations of the writing packages and the links between the writing materials and the internal and external assessments will be deliberated for considerations when implementing a curriculum initiative.

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# The magic of words: a learning programme to enhance pupils' vocabulary building strategies

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#### What does it mean to know a word?

One of Richard's (1976) assumptions on "what does it mean to know a word?" is that he identifies word knowledge as knowing many of the different meanings associated with the word. It is generally agreed that knowing how to use the word in different contexts are important to help pupils read and write.

A widely accepted distinction related to vocabulary knowledge is lexical "receptive knowledge", which involves the ability to understand a word while listening or reading, versus "productive knowledge", the ability to use a word in speaking or writing (Nation, 2001, p. 25). As a rule of thumb, the receptive vocabulary is at least twice the size of the productive vocabulary.

Lexical studies suggest that some words are more frequent than others, therefore more useful for second language learners. Recent research has suggested that it is better for learners at the beginning of their second language acquisition journey to focus on learning the most frequent words first, that is the High Frequency Words (HFC). The focus of lexical research on beginning ESL learners is not on average vocabulary size, but on learning the "right words".

# What are the problems of the Hong Kong pupils?

In the course of English language learning, most of the primary pupils in Hong Kong are confronting problems in vocabulary learning and thus reading comprehension.

As evident in the Territory-Wide Assessment (TSA) reports on Basic Competencies of pupils in reading from 2005 to 2010, for example, primary 6 pupils were frequently found to have the following difficulties.

- 1. interpreting unfamiliar words or expressions from context
- 2. extracting specific information from a text where a greater reading load was required
- 3. using supporting details to deduce main ideas
- 4. distinguishing between a noun and a verb when looking up meaning in a dictionary

Vocabulary knowledge seems to be closely related to pupils' ability to read in a second language. Although reading comprehension is not determined by vocabulary knowledge alone, it plays a pivotal role. Laufer (1998) points out that the greatest lexical obstacle to good reading is insufficient number of words in the learner's lexicon.

One of the most common strategies for acquisition of vocabulary is extensive reading. There is a general consent that through extensive reading, vocabulary could be naturally acquired. However,



many researchers have observed that learners cannot be expected to 'pick up' substantial vocabulary knowledge through extensive reading without teacher's explicit teaching. Some empirical evidence also points out that there is actually a low extent of vocabulary gains from L2 extensive reading. Despite the disappointing gains of vocabulary in extensive reading, Meara (2002) argues that more vocabulary could be learnt if the same text is read several times. It is claimed that the number of encounters required to learn a new word vary between 6 and 20 (Zahar, Cobb & Spada, 2001).

## What happens in BCWKMS?

The less able pupils always failed in dictations and tests. Some of these pupils have great difficulty in remembering what the new words mean and how to pronounce them. Some of the teachers believe that a more direct and quicker way to learn unfamiliar words is to offer L1 translation. Although teachers encourage pupils to learn more vocabulary by checking meaning of unknown words from dictionary, it does not seem to help pupils learn the unfamiliar words, especially when these words are presented in a new context. It is found that pupils check every unknown word with a bilingual dictionary and they tend to take the first one as the meaning of the new word. This means that most of the pupils do not know how to select the appropriate meaning that is relevant to the text.

In the analysis of pupils' performance, teachers found that they have difficulty in identifying the key words and reference words. Pupils do not know how to use vocabulary building skills such as word formations or word associations to tackle unfamiliar words or make linkage with the text. This might be related to how the pupils learn the new words. Very often, pupils learn the key vocabulary items or unfamiliar words in isolated contexts, resulting in a merely rote-memory and Chinese-English translation. That may explain why pupils have difficulty in recognizing the new words they have learnt when the new words appear in a different context with a different meaning. As reflected in some of the reading and writing tasks, the majority of the pupils had difficulties in decoding meaning of the reading texts or they lacked sufficient vocabulary to express their ideas.

## How is vocabulary acquired and learned?

The common approach in vocabulary teaching is to convey meaning to pupils with visual aids or explanation in English. In the teaching of concrete vocabulary items, visual aids such as pictures and realia are useful to convey the meaning. Hunt and Beglar (1998) believe that associating a visual image with a word helps learners remember the word. It is especially more effective to young pupils at KS1. They can easily get the meaning of the new words. When the vocabulary items are more abstract, Gairns and Redman (1986) believe that explaining the meaning of the new words could be more helpful for pupils to grasp the meaning. The translation to L1 is frequently used as well. It appears that it is convenient and immediate to translate to L1 as pupils understand the meaning of the words in one instant. However, the disadvantage of over-reliance on translation has been pointed out by Prince (1996). If pupils keep using the mother tongue to learn L2, they may not develop the necessary knowledge to transfer the knowledge in a new context. This means that the translation approach in

vocabulary learning does not contribute to helping pupils apply the new words in a different context.

Fountas and Pinnell (2001) have put forward some strategies for learning new words. Phonemic strategies, morphemic strategies and linking strategies are used to design the learning materials.

In using phonemic strategies, similar to phonic skills, it is important to develop in pupils an awareness of the basic patterns of English. For example, pupils can read or understand some words by sounding out them in words such as splash, crash, bump, ting etc. Most of the pupils in Hong Kong have learnt to relate letter to sound, and sound to letter at KS1. They have also learnt the basic English conventions to decode words using a left-to-right analysis of letter-sound relationships.

The morphemic strategies are referring to using stand-alone morphemes to be combined together to add meaning to the word, for example, in affixes (prefixes, suffixes) and inflectional endings, such as interested and interesting (\_ed, \_ing). This is similar to the syntactic strategies laid out in the English Language Curriculum Guide (ELCG) (CDC, 2004). Pupils study the language structures and identify unfamiliar words by attending to the spelling patterns and identifying the root words to help them interpret meaning. They need to think what they mean with morphemic strategies.

As regard to the linking strategies, it is closely related to using word formation and word association as recommended in the ELCG on vocabulary building strategies. Pupils learn to use what they know about a word to figure out a new word. Searching for connections between words is not a simple matter of looking for 'words within words'. The connections include any part of the word and look at it in different ways, or connect different aspects of words. For example, affixation, compounding, conversion and derivation are different kinds of word formation. Synonyms, antonyms, homonyms, collocation and lexical sets are referred to as word association.

When pupils read a variety of texts within their range of control with teacher support, they have the opportunity to integrate new words with their prior knowledge. They may meet the word several times in different written contexts, and this repetition is helpful. More importantly, pupils need to encounter words in meaningful contexts rather than simply working to memorize them. Grabe (2008) put forward some principles for L2 vocabulary acquisition and some are implicit in Nation and Newton's features of good communication activity. Vocabulary is learnt incrementally through multiple exposures in multiple contexts. The more intensely vocabulary is processed, the better it will be learnt. Vocabulary is learnt better through spaced exposures rather than fewer massive exposures. Learning requires cycling and this is essential in vocabulary learning. Pupils need to become active collectors of words because meta-cognitive awareness enhances learning.

On the one hand, teachers need to find ways to present words or word combinations in clear and varied contexts, to practise them in a number of ways, to create tasks in which pupils need to have a good grasp on the word combinations and do interesting things with them. On the other hand, pupils have to take responsibility for their own learning and thus become fully aware of the importance of recording, sorting and using words.

## How does a vocabulary building programme work in BCWKMS?

Pupils in primary five and six participate in the tryout. The tryout aims to investigate the problems of vocabulary learning and teaching as well as to design learning materials to help pupils infer meaning from word part clues or context. Needs analysis is done through semi-structured interview with pupils and teachers' observation to find out how they perceive vocabulary learning. The progress of pupils' learning will be analyzed through student work, lesson observation and interviews to inform teachers. Some of the lessons will be video-taped for analysis with teachers. Learning tasks and quizzes are developed. Pupils' performance in the learning process will be discussed in the Collaborative Lesson Planning (CLP). More importantly, by developing the learning materials and analyzing pupils' performance with teachers, it is hoped that some innovative vocabulary development strategies would be explored to help pupils learn better. In the process, the knowledge and skills acquired in vocabulary learning will help pupils apply vocabulary knowledge for communication.

Guiding questions for evaluation are as follows:

- 1. How well do the vocabulary learning materials devised help teachers to incorporate vocabulary building strategies in their lessons?
- 2. How effective is the tryout in helping pupils to comprehend what they read?

  Although pupils need to learn vocabulary from reading in context, it is understood that those who most need to expand their vocabulary are likely to be those who are most reluctant to read. They do not know how to derive and connect meaning while reading. Reading by itself will not provide the degree of vocabulary growth necessary and so is teaching vocabulary in isolation. Therefore, explicit and direct instruction is necessary to help pupils learn how to learn words which can enhance the quality and quantity of vocabulary development.

From the review of teachers in BCWKMS, the most common problems displayed by their pupils are:

- 1. difficulty to infer meaning of a word from context or from word part clues
- 2. unable to select the appropriate meaning that is relevant to the text
- 3. unable to apply new words in a different context

Most pupils are not aware of the fact that it is possible to understand new words without being told what they mean. In the tryout, the results indicate that the importance of vocabulary building strategies should not be overlooked; there should be conscious instructions in the rules of word formation, word associations and word derivation etc. Most of all, these strategies should be taught as an integral part of the General English programme to help pupils attain independent reading. The sharing session will present the efforts of teachers at BCWKMS in helping pupils develop their vocabulary building strategies. The devised materials will be displayed to give teachers references on the design of the programme.

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# From understanding to renovating: optimizing the KS1 English reading and writing programme

Ms WONG Kit Mei, Gladys (Senior School Development Officer) Ms YANG Shi Chip, Ms WONG Yuet Yi, Ms CHIA Yuk Pun (Ho Ming Primary School, Sponsored by Sik Sik Yuen)

Teachers, have you ever made the following comments?

"We are very hard-working teachers and have designed so many worksheets for our students. The worksheets cover reading, speaking, listening and writing and the questions resemble the format of the TSA. Yet, many students still do not do well in the exams. We have done our part! What else can we do to help?"

If the answer is yes or you have been frustrated with your students' performance though you have done a lot to help, it is high time we looked into what had gone wrong in the learning and teaching process. Have we done the right things to make learning effective? Have we done the things right? The teachers of Ho Ming Primary School have been undergoing vigorous reflections in the past four years on their school-based English curriculum development. They started off with similar grievances and confusions. The grievance, the confusion and the frustration caused by the unsatisfactory student performance in both internal and external assessments embarked Ho Ming's journey to search for solutions. At the outset, they wanted to understand the problems and set off by looking into the process of learning.

Tracing back their learning experience as students, it was not unusual for teachers to glorify the respect paid to their teachers. Listening quietly and following the instructions to complete the assignments was the usual learning atmosphere. The English classrooms were always filled with inchthick grammar exercise books, which were full of mechanical drills of the target structures. There was a strong belief that these drills would help students form 'good habits' and they would be able to apply them in real life. This audio-lingual method, which is characterized by the use of extensive drillings of the target grammar structures to facilitate memorization of the forms, did produce a certain number of 'successful' learners in the past. However, not all learners benefited this way. The huge number of failure and unsatisfactory student performance forced the teachers of Ho Ming Primary School to reconsider their belief and assumptions that constant drilling on the forms alone would enhance students' English proficiency. They began to seek reference from research findings on how students learn.

Piaget's (1972) views on knowledge acquisition and Bruner's (1966) cognitive theory inspired the teachers to re-consider the process of learning and shed light on what they can do to help students learn effectively. Based on his research on child development, Piaget pointed out that children had continuous interaction with the environment and encountered different problems in the process. Learning then would occur when children searched for solutions to the problems. They

were constructing knowledge in this problem-solving process. Bruner (1966) shared similar views on how knowledge was learnt. He regarded learning as an active, social process, in which students formed new ideas and concepts based on their current or previous knowledge and experiences. The knowledge or schemas then formed a cognitive structure in the learners' mind that helped them organize and make sense of these experiences to form new concepts. In other words, learning instead of teaching is the key word in the whole process of knowledge generation. Teachers, who had once been seen as transmitters and controllers of knowledge, need to change to play the role of facilitators. According to Bruner, teachers should 'try and encourage students to discover principles (i.e. to construct knowledge and use the knowledge to solve problems) by themselves' (Bruner, 1960). To do this, teachers need to select or design learning tasks that are related to students' life. Scaffolding the learning is very essential to help students construct knowledge. The curriculum should be organized in a spiral manner so that students' prior knowledge could be activated. What Piaget and Bruner advocated in the last century is primarily a learner-centred approach!

When it comes to language learning, we find the learner-centred approach did have great impact on learning English as a second language in Hong Kong. In his book, Task-based Teaching, Nunan (2004) pointed out that it is very important to design a learning task based on the learners' previous experience because 'intellectual growth occurs when learners engage in and reflect on sequences of tasks.' Language teachers should 'encourage the transformation of knowledge within the learner', 'encourage learners to participate actively in small, collaborative groups' and 'encourage self-directed rather than teacher-directed learning'. His ideas echo Bruner's and Piaget's views on the roles of learners in the learning process, i.e. it is the learners who construct or transform knowledge based on past experiences. The learning tasks here provide authentic contexts and meaningful purposes for the learners to use the grammar knowledge to get things done. When they get things done or solve the problems, students are generating new knowledge. Nevertheless, Nunan was not confident that such ideal mode of task-based learning could be realized in the ESL classrooms though many Asian countries have injected a strong learner-centred tone in their curriculum documents.

Keeping these theories and advice in mind, Ho Ming teachers began their work on renovating their KS1 English programme. A departure from the past practice was to enhance the learner-centredness in developing their English curriculum. The entry point was to find out students' previous knowledge. This was done at the beginning stage when learning tasks were designed. As previous knowledge is so essential in the knowledge-construction process, a careful scaffolding of tasks is becoming more important in helping students to apply what they have learnt, i.e. the vocabulary and structures, to complete a task. The task scaffolding in Ho Ming Primary School appeared not only in learning modules but also in a balanced and spiral curriculum. Teachers would like to share with the audience on the three levels of work done in the past four years with special focuses on the development of a school-based reading and writing programme.

# Activating learners' prior knowledge is important. Getting to be informed about their past knowledge is equally important!

Ho Ming teachers began to work for quality tasks. But before that, they met problems at the outset to get to know what their students' previous knowledge was. They found that students' capacity was always under-estimated. This often resulted in students getting bored in the lessons and gradually losing interest in learning. In order to get themselves better informed, Ho Ming teachers designed diagnostic tasks to identify students' previous knowledge. For instance, a diagnostic writing task about self was used to find out what vocabulary students had learnt, their abilities to form grammatical sentences and how well they could organize ideas into coherent paragraphs. To teachers' surprise, students had retained much more knowledge than they had expected. Most of them were able to form simple sentences about themselves. They knew very well what to put in the description and organize these details in logical order. They could spell correctly most of the words they used, like 'big', 'eyes' and 'play'. This valuable information triggered teachers to adjust their teaching plans to focus on revisiting the vocabulary students should know in writing about a person, especially the verbs and how these should agree with the subjects. Another focus was on the development of ideas. Finding that many students failed to elaborate their ideas, teachers suggested various ways to develop an idea and devote much teaching to helping the students to learn from each other in the post-writing activities. Besides diagnostic tasks, teachers will share with you how they discern their students' strengths and problems through studying student work and analyzing their performance in tests and exams, and how their findings from the analysis impacted on their teaching.

# Realizing Task-based learning in the English classrooms — Scaffolding the learning tasks to help students construct new knowledge

As previous knowledge is essential in facilitating knowledge construction, teachers decided to strengthen task-based learning in the curriculum design and implementation. Careful scaffolding would enhance the interconnectedness of the learning tasks. Hence, students were helped to build knowledge step by step. This was especially important for Ho Ming students as many of them came from families that offered very little support in English learning. In this regard, teachers will share with you their module plans, the way they organized the tasks and integrated the development of reading, writing, listening and speaking skills into the modules.

The careful scaffolding also enabled the students to consolidate their learning after school and do revisions for their exams. Teachers found that even the KS1 kids could complete the consolidation worksheets on their own at home while being able to attain good performance in internal assessments. Teachers will share with you the use of 'Magic Notes' (a learning log book), class work exercises and free writing to help the Primary One and Two students to consolidate their learning.

## Building a balanced and spiral English curriculum

A number of learning modules have been developed over the years to accommodate the learning

of the language skills and knowledge. Authentic contexts were integrated for students to apply these skills and knowledge. Nearly all the writing tasks were revised to allow students to apply their 'current knowledge', i.e. the vocabulary and key structures they learnt in the module to form sentences and texts. Past knowledge was also revisited to enrich the content of their writing. Students were found performing very well in their writing exam.

Students could write three paragraphs about a picture. They demonstrated the correct use of pronouns like 'he' and 'his' to refer to the boy; and 'it' and 'its' to talk about the dog and good subject-verb agreement, e.g. 'Its eyes are big' and 'He has a small nose.' Besides, students could use many of the target vocabulary and structures learnt in Primary One modules. How could this be done? Teachers of Ho Ming Primary School will share with you how they realized Nunan's principles of task-based teaching (2004) in their design and scaffolded the writing tasks in all the modules to help students recycle and use the target vocabulary and structures to create their own writing.

Besides writing, teachers made use of the English Enhancement Grant to develop a school-based KS1 Reading Curriculum. The principles of a spiral curriculum experimented in the writing programme were adopted. They devised a framework on the development of various reading strategies across the 3 levels. There were clear stages of development to incorporate most of the reading strategies (Table 1). For instance, in helping students to construct meaning from texts, the P1 students learnt to work out the meaning of unknown words by recognizing the root word like 'teach' in 'teacher'. P2 students would work out the 'suffixes and prefixes' like 'helpful' and 'helpless' that would change the meaning of the root words. When P3 students came across a compound word, like 'classroom', they learnt to 'form new words' using the same base word, e.g. adding 'bed' to the same base word, 'room', to form 'bedroom'. In the presentation, teachers will share with you the implementation of the reading curriculum. It was found that not only the students but also the teachers learnt more effectively if their previous knowledge was activated. For instance, it was expected that teachers would find it difficult to understand some of the reading strategies. Therefore, the core team organized workshops, in which teachers were prompted to make use of their past experience to interpret the reading strategies. As illustrations, video clips will be used to show how teachers facilitated a shared understanding and application of the skills in the English classrooms.



	Table 1						
Category	No.	BC Descriptor for KS1	P1	P2	Р3		
Construct meaning from texts	3.1	recognize common abbreviations and contracted forms, e.g. Mr., Mrs., 10:00 a.m., 3:00p.m., She's clever	recognize common abbreviations and contracted forms: it's, he's, she's, I'm, you're, isn't, aren't, can't, Mr., Mrs., days of a week (e.g. SUN → Sunday)	recognize common abbreviations and contracted forms: they're, we're, don't, doesn't, mustn't, 9:00 a.m., 5:00 p.m., floors (e.g. 1/F), Let's, Dr.,	recognize common abbreviations and contracted forms: I'd, TV, CD, there's, that's, ordinal numbers up to 31 <sup>st</sup> (dates), months (e.g. Jan → January), When's, My birthday's, wasn't, weren't, didn't		
	3.2	work out the meaning of unknown words by recognizing the base word within other words, e.g. mother/grandmother, rain/rainy	work out the meaning of unknown words by recognizing the base word within other words: e.g. teach → teacher post → postman	understand suffixes and prefixes can change the meaning of a word: e.g. help → helpful, unhelpful, helpless	create new words from the base word of a known word: e.g. class-room → bed-room → toy- room		

As reflected by Ho Ming English teachers, the previous four years of work marked a very important phase of learning for both the teachers and students. They have tried their very best to put the students' needs and abilities at top priority when designing their teaching plans and strategies. They would like to share with you the process in which they generate new knowledge about how students learn the language.

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## An attempt to promote reading culture through newspapers

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## Issues to be explored

Teachers all know that reading is vital for every student. With the proficiency, many other skills can be developed but without it, many of life's doors are slammed shut. As mentioned by Jack Humphrey (2004) "For without the printed word, imaginations are stifled, vision clouded and the opportunities for achievement dimmed."

Like many other teachers in Hong Kong, teachers in Yu Leung Fat Primary schools have found many hurdles on promoting students' English reading proficiency. At school, pupils lack interests in reading English books. Students lack the initiatives and habits of borrowing or reading English books in their spare time. They read only compulsory readers in the book list. At home, many parents are too busy to read to their children. As a matter of fact, primary school students in Hong Kong have difficulty in accessing a wide variety of interesting reading materials which are authentic and fit their reading levels. Most English teachers are not satisfied with the fact that Key Stage 2 students are not willing to borrow English books even though their school library has a rich collection.

We have tried various ways to overcome these hurdles for years. We have taught readers intensively, used online reading materials and implemented reading weeks. We hoped to engage students in reading with active reading strategies. However, the result is not as good as we expected.

Facing all these, we have renovated our school-based extensive reading program with a **more reflective mind, leadership and judgment**. We use English newspapers especially written for young readers as the main source of reading materials. We attempted to answer the following questions:

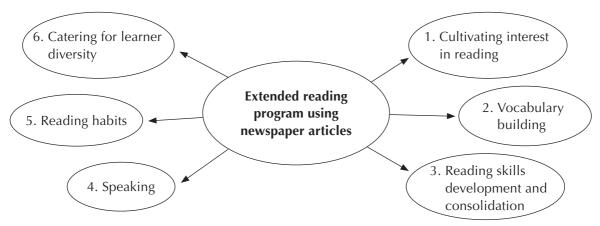
- 1. How can we design an extended reading program that can enhance our students' reading proficiency?
- 2. What kind of learning resources or support can prompt our KS2 students to read with fun? And, where are these resources from?
- 3. When can we see students applying the reading skills taught?
- 4. How can teachers nurture students' self reading habits in their daily life?
- 5. How can we minimize the workload of English teachers in the implementation and enhance students' reading at the same time?

## Integrating newspaper articles into our extended reading program

After years of substantial discussions in the English panel teams, the school has subscribed newspapers for KS2 students from 2010 onwards. We have considered many aspects of reading to ensure that language acquisition takes place amongst our students when they read newspapers. They include reading interest, vocabulary learning, reading and speaking fluency training, catering for



learners' diversities, reading habits and reading skills acquisition as stated in the following mind map:



#### **Interest**

There are always interesting, authentic and special features of the newspaper that attract our students. They include stories with main theme, local and world news, online reading and listening materials, great wall posters with thematic vocabulary, comics and readers' letters. The local newspapers are all tailor-made for Hong Kong young learners with limited knowledge of English vocabulary, language structures or culture. The authentic and real-time inputs of the latest news in town make newspaper more appealing than textbooks. In the process of teaching, we intentionally choose short newspaper articles every week. They are relevant to students' experiences and the module taught as we hope that they can nurture students' genuine interests and identify purposes for reading. Teachers take the role of giving explanations and clarifications to a piece of news article not just to ensure students' understanding but to boost students' confidence and competence in reading.

## **Vocabulary building**

Newspaper can be a useful resource for a thematic approach to build up pupils' vocabulary bank. For instance, pupils learn a lot of vocabulary under the theme "laundry" including "detergent", "dryer", "laundry basket", "stain remover", "bleach", "hanger" and "washing machine" etc. Pupils can also learn a lot of actions related to the theme such as putting clothes in the laundry baskets, hanging the clothes on the clothesline, folding the laundry and loading the washer. All these phrases are illustrated and explained with cartoons and colorful pictures. Pupils can learn plenty of vocabulary easily with the help of visual stimulation and explanation.

## **Reading skills**

Newspaper articles are good and handy resources for consolidating and applying reading skills taught in regular reading classes. With reference to our school-based vertical reading curriculum, our school teachers introduce different skills for reading different text types in GE lessons and reading workshops. In a conventional classroom, the limited contact hours between teachers and students in classrooms do not facilitate further consolidation or application of the reading skills. Newspaper articles can fit in with this purpose conveniently. After our KS2 teachers have taught a particular

reading skill, students could attempt the skill using authentic newspaper articles. We have tried to incorporate a number of reading skills into newspaper reading. They include: chunking skill, guessing meaning of unknown words, understanding connection between ideas, predicting the likely development of a topic, locating specific information and obtaining the gist of a passage. Through persistent and consistent use of newspaper articles to consolidate the reading skills taught, teachers have noticed that students do not only experience the joy of reading English newspapers but also become proficient users of different reading skills.

## **Speaking**

Newspaper articles should not be used solely for reading purposes. To maximize the use of the newspaper, our school also requires students to talk about their views on daily news regularly on Friday mornings. With the help of some speaking frameworks, students have to present their ideas. Through this practice, more able students improve their speaking skills and reading proficiency naturally because of the high level of motivation when they relate themselves to different local and world and local news. Newspapers greatly help average and less able students to see vocabulary used in authentic context and increase their knowledge of the world, which will help them predict the likely development of a topic when they do their further reading.

## **Reading habits**

It is obvious that newspapers can become excellent sources of learning materials to extend our students' literacy beyond classrooms. The classroom newspaper reading time on Friday serves as an appetizer for further home reading. Teachers in the classrooms could brief students such interesting texts as such as recipes, stories and riddles they can read at home. The teachers' persistent guidance and the handiness of newspapers are two important factors helping students to develop the habit of reading.

## **Catering for learner diversities**

In the teaching process, we intentionally cater for learners' diversities by arousing students' interest in reading authentic newspaper materials and asking students a range of questions of different difficulty levels and inviting students to answer them through working with classmates. Pair work and round robin are common strategies to involve students to read and speak. Less able students learn from sharing with others and they gradually become more confident to speak in front of the class or group mates with peer support. The challenging questions are for teachers to stretch the full potential of smart students.

## **Findings**

In a questionnaire survey and interview with students administered at the end of the extended reading program, students show their great willingness to use newspapers to learn English. The

findings clearly show that the impact of using newspapers could not be underestimated. We have collected 126 pupils' views on using newspapers through structured and open questions. Pupils reflected that they like the opportunities to learn more vocabulary and sentence patterns in newspaper articles, not just the ones in the textbook. They are more willing to express their thoughts in English after reading extensively. Teachers also find that pupils are more engaged in reading lessons as we are not just teaching them reading comprehension but also the skills they need for reading and enjoyment. They are in the real context of learning the current issues. Also self-reading habits have

We believe that incorporating newspaper articles into classroom is a natural way to introduce students to the cultural and linguistic concepts of the English speaking world. In this sharing session, we would like to share with the audience our experiences and ideas related to the instructional strategies in using newspapers in a manageable and sustainable way. Videos, worksheets and student work will be presented in the sharing section to let audience see for themselves how the program actually runs in classrooms. All in all, we hope that teachers can instill the love of reading in students through reading newspapers and other reading materials.

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# 數學學習領域

「除」機應變 — 調適除法教學策略,提升學生探究 能力

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根據課程發展議會所制定《數學教育學習領域課程指引》(2002),數學是一種思考方式,是協助掌握其他學科的工具。數學科課程的宗旨是培養學生的構思、探究、推理、建立及解決問題的能力。由於思考能力是不能憑空發展的,數學課程需要重視數學的內容和學習過程(頁iii)。要發展學生的探究能力,是一個漫長的過程,教師不能只滿足教授個別課題的概念和公式,更應提供機會讓學生運用已有知識,學習其他相關課題,延展數學能力。教師為學生創造學習機會,讓他們觀察、分析、發掘或建構知識,鼓勵他們在學習過程中扮演更積極的角色;學生透過探究數學問題,運用數學思考尋求解決問題的方法,並能在不熟悉的情況下嘗試解決數學問題,加強學習自信,並提升學生的探究能力。

在小學數學課程裡,「除法」是學生其中一個較難掌握的課題。學生從二年級開始接觸除法的基本概念和簡單運算,三和四年級進一步學習除法的運算步驟和技巧,在五和六年級運用除法計算分數和小數的問題。根據課程發展議會的《數學課程指引》(2000),小二至小四除法課題的單位和學習重點包括:

	T	
	單位	學習重點
二年級	2N6	1. 認識除法概念 — 等分和包含
	基本除法	2. 進行基本除法計算,包括有餘數的算題
		3. 認識乘和除的關係
		4. 解答簡易應用題
三年級	3N4	1. 運用短除法進行基本除法計算
	除法(一)	2. 進行除數一個位,被除數二個位的除法
		3. 進行除數一個位,被除數三個位的除法
		4. 解答應用題
		5. 估計計算結果
四年級	4N2	1. 進行除數兩個位,被除數兩個位的除法計算
	除法 (二)	2. 進行除數兩個位,被除數三個位的除法計算
		3. 認識整除性,除數為2、5和10
		4. 解答應用題
		5. 估計計算結果

小學除法強調學生透過符號記錄實物操作的過程,逐漸由具體的操作過渡到抽象符號的運算,以掌握數學系統的規律和結構,從而提升他們的探究能力,以及培養嚴謹的學習態度。

## 為甚麼要關注除法?

Ma (2010) 指出數學概念不是孤立的,而是互為關連;這些數學概念形成不同的網絡,四 則運算是這網絡內的道路系統 (road system),是通往各概念間的途徑。所以,教師在教授個 別數學課題時,需要關注所教授的課題與其他課題的聯繫。在四則運算中,學生一般較能掌握

加、減和乘的概念和運算,但對除法的掌握則未見穩固,這基礎會影響學生學習與除法相關的 數學範疇,如代數方程和速率。

近年,全港性系統評估報告顯示學生在除法的學習表現尚待改善的地方,包括:

- 一、學生懂得除法的計算技巧解答問題,但在列寫數式時,卻混淆「除數 | 和「被除數 | 。
- 二、學生不懂得在商的十位寫上「零」, 而錯誤地將「零」放在個位。
- 三、當涉及除法應用題時,學生未能準確理解除法所得的商及餘數的意義,學生把商當作 答案,而忽略處理餘數。

## 探討學習除法的困難

農圃道官立小學的數學科教師除了參考全港性系統評估報告,亦分析學生對學習除法的表現,發現有以下困難:

- 一、學生尚未透徹掌握除法的「均分」和「包含」概念,以及兩者的關係。Greer (1992) 指 出教授數學課題時,須揭開隱含在該課題的數學概念,如學習除法要掌握當中所隱含 的「等組」(equal groups) 和「等量」(equal measures) 概念。在學習初小除法時,學 生需要清晰理解以下四類與除法相關的情況,才能對除法有充分的理解:
  - 12 個橙平均分給 3 個人,每人可以分得多少個?

[等組均分除法]

• 每人給4個橙,12個橙可以分給多少人?

[等組包含除法]

• 4.2公升的橙汁平均分給3個人,每個人可以分得多少?

[等量均分除法]

- 每個人分給 4.2 公升的橙汁,12.6 公升的橙汁可以分給多少人? [等量包含除法] 農圃道官立小學的教師在教授小二學生除法時,依循教科書的編排,透過分物遊戲等 實作活動,了解均分和包含兩種操作的過程,惟學生對這操作背後所隱含和需要掌握 的概念,未有足夠理解。另外,學生對除法的掌握,較能表達均分概念,惟對包含概 念略為模糊。教師發現學生在初小階段若未能充分理解包含概念,會影響他們在高小 階段學習除法的課題,例如在小五學習分數除法時,學生未能以包含概念掌握分數除 法的意義,以致對分數除法的計算方法和步驟感到困難,因為部分的分數除法的內容 不能以均分概念作闡釋。
- 二、學生尚欠有系統的學習工具,持續發展探究能力,以加深對除法的理解和掌握。為學生提供有系統的思考訓練,並以數學問題作為探究場所,能促進學生的學習參與,使學習不是被動接受,而是主動探求,除了使學生掌握數學的知識,亦能培養學生的探究和解決問題的能力。Huinker (2004) 指出數學的意念 (Ideas)、概念 (Concepts) 和步驟 (Procedures) 不是孤立的,而是互為關連;數學概念就是處理問題的依據和基礎,數學步驟表達解決問題的過程,而數學步驟是由數學概念所指導的。過去多年,農圃道官立小學依循教科書的編排,在小二運用分物遊戲,引導學生認識除法的基本概念和運算,惟分物活動較少在小三進一步使用,以掌握除法課題,如一位數除三位數的計算;相反,教科書側重指導學生除法運算的步驟,如橫式和長除法,再通過練習加以鞏固。這樣,學生缺乏持續運用分物活動,作為探究除法計算的思考工具,以掌握除法的課題,如小四整除性、小五分數除法等課題。
- 三、農圃道官立小學發現學生進行基本除法計算,如一位數被三個位的除法計算,計算步 驟多以模仿教師課堂上的示例,惟對於解題過程所蘊含的意義卻不了解。探其原因,

學生除了未能充分明白每一步計算的意義外,亦未能聯繫除法的運算步驟和分物活動的操作過程,影響學生掌握位值、退位減法等概念,以致學生在長除算式中忽略「補零」和退位減法等步驟。另外,學生對處理除法的餘數尚欠有效的策略,特別應用題的「最多」和「最少」等問題。

## 共同備課如何提升對除法的掌握

為提升學生對除法的理解,農圃道官立小學的教師檢視學生在校內外的評估數據,發現學生對除法的基本概念較弱,運算步驟亦常出錯,更未能以準確的數學語言表達除法的內容。因此,學校透過共同備課,檢視校本課程的除法課題,分析學習難點和釐清課題的學習目標,並修訂教學策略,從而提升教學效能。農圃道官立小學制定教學策略,當中發展重點包括:

- 一、強化除法的「均分」和「包含」概念和兩者的異同
- 二、加強「分物活動 運算步驟 數學語言」的聯繫,作為學習除法的思考架構
- 三、運用思考架構,掌握除法課題

## 加強掌握除法「均分 | 和「包含 | 概念

教師為加強學生掌握除法的「均分」和「包含」概念和兩者的異同,以及這操作過程所隱含的概念。在二年級學習除法的概念,教師利用分物活動,幫助學生掌握「均分」和「包含」兩種分物方法,設計探究活動,加強同儕協作,並比較這兩個概念的異同。另外,教師加強數學語言的訓練,使學生能準確表達除法內容,如分物活動內的被除數、除數和商的關係。此外,教師利用圖示法,除教導學生掌握「均分」和「包含」操作,透過實物處境理解乘除式的互換,加強學生對乘除關係的連繫。

## 加強「分物活動一運算步驟一數學語言」的聯繫

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教師在教授二至四年級的除法課題時,除以分物活動作為學生掌握除法的思考工具,並著意加強「分物活動—運算步驟—數學語言」的聯繫,讓學生透過探究,尋求解決問題的方法,深化理解。在三年級教授一位數除二位數時,教師運用分物活動,聯繫除法的運算步驟和分物活動的操作,使學生理解計算中每一步驟,與分物活動的對應,並強化數學語言的運用,從而加深學生對除法運算、分物活動和數學語言的聯繫。

## 運用思考架構,掌握除法課題

基於學生所掌握的思考工具和數學語言,在四年級處理除法應用題的餘數,教師以分物活動幫助學生理解餘數的出現,能幫助學生解決應用題所見的「最多」和「最少」等問題。另外,數學科教授應用題的解難策略,透過審題,如圈出關鍵字、剔除多餘資料,理解題意,綜合運用知識和發展探究能力,加深學生對除法的理解。另外,教師會運用學生所掌握的思考架構,促進學生掌握其他的除法課題,如小五的分數除法、小數除法等。

農圃道官立小學期望透過分享會,分享共同備課如何帶動校本課程和教學策略的轉變,提升學生對除法的理解和掌握。當中,分享重點包括:如何運用校內外的評估數據,檢視學生學習除法的困難,制定跟進策略;如何調適除法課程,加強學習重點和教學策略的連貫性;如何為學生提供有系統的思考工具,持續地發展學生的數學思維;如何透過同儕觀課和課後研討來檢視學生的學習過程和表現。



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費煞思「量」— 小一至小三長度教學縱向課程設計 分享

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在香港的小學數學課程中,根據《數學課程指引》(2000),長度和距離是度量範疇中的一大課題,在一年級至三年級的學習重點中,長度和距離共佔了度量範疇約30%的建議教節,可見長度和距離概念的學習是數學學習領域中極為重要的一環。然而長度和距離以及其單位對學生而言都是抽象的名詞,學生還需要在完成各級相關課程後掌握以下能力:

- 一、選擇和應用非標準單位來記錄基本量度活動的結果
- 二、理解應用標準單位的需要
- 三、選擇適當的量度工具及標準單位
- 四、綜合數、度量、圖形與空間的知識,解決簡易量度問題

#### 量感的認知發展

鳳溪第一小學的老師均認為若要學生掌握以上能力,必須培養學生有足夠的量感,量感的培養必須在縱向課程中螺旋式地滲入及鞏固,並需要理解各階段學生度量概念的認知發展(王麗娟,2000),例如:學生首先透過感官感覺長度,初步掌握長度概念,然後能夠直接比較兩個物件的長度;老師在引入間接比較物件長度時,必需讓學生真實地運用物件進行間接比較,認識間接比較時,需要排列相等長度的中間人,進而體會「單位」的基礎,初步理解單位的操作及其標準化的需要,到真正介紹厘米、米、公里及毫米,同學會更明白單位大小的意義及用途。最後當同學掌握好各單位的概念後,便可對兩個量進行化聚。

## 縱向課程設計

鳳溪第一小學老師參考了各階段學生對長度概念的認知發展程序後,嘗試在課程設計上縱向地強化學生對各長度單位的量感,亦加強學生運用身體永備尺的認知,作為有效地估測的依據,再動手實際量度。老師就一至三年級提及有關各長度課題的不同難點作了深入的探討,兩年的共同備課中,在長度教學嘗試加強了量感的培養和實物操作,來貫通各級學習活動的設計,經過多次研課、觀課及不斷反思改良,累積了一些設計活動的經驗,希望透過分享會與其他老師交流。

## 長度概念的初步建立

對於一年級上學期的學生,他們對長度的初步概念只能透過感官感覺,幸好長度是學生最容易保留在腦中作為參考的度量,也是最容易操作的量,但他們較難理解單位的概念,學生對單位的量感非常薄弱,因此老師透過活動讓學生直接操作兩個物件的長度,學生從直接的操作經驗,體認長度和距離比較的意義。然後老師再引入間接比較,即對無法比較的物件的長度,透過排列中間人(例如:萬字夾、數學書等),利用中間人與另一物件的長度進行直接比較,從

مرد کرده و در کرده و



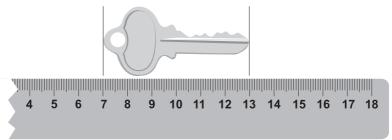
而推論哪個物件長度較長,整個過程學生需要保留中間人長度的概念,並運用排列相等的中間人,數出各物件包含中間人的數量,作為直接比較。當中老師還特別加入多一件物件作比較,令學生經歷三個長度的比較,即是將三件物件分成兩組比較,再將結果推論,排列出三個長度。部分學生對抽象的邏輯推理關係明顯地感到困難,於是老師讓學生從觀察中知道小明比小華矮,小華比小英矮,從而得出小明會比小英矮。另外老師從不同的活動中發現學生在運用中間人或自訂單位進行先估計後量度、處理以個別單位為基礎的長度合成活動及選擇合適的自訂單位進行量度都會感到不同程度的困難,需要在下學期再次加強。

## 從自訂單位到標準單位

到下學期,老師首先要重溫上學期所學,利用課室學習的情境,重溫先估計後量度,讓學生自行選擇運用中間人或合適的自訂單位進行估計及量度老師桌子的高度。老師刻意選取兩位同學的結果作比較,他們各自運用不同長度的鉛筆作自訂單位,量出書桌的高度分別為「小強的8枝鉛筆」及「小娟的6枝鉛筆」。老師刻意地製造矛盾,讓同學理解老師的桌子高度是一樣的,而同學量度出「8」和「6」不同的數量,是因為小強鉛筆的長度和小娟鉛筆的長度不同,並且知道「6」之所以小於「8」的原因,是因為小娟的鉛筆長度大於小強的鉛筆長度。老師利用此活動引導學生認識使用公認單位的需要,進而引入標準單位「厘米」。學生在間尺上認識刻度的結構,亦是他們建立1厘米量感的起點,老師需要引導學生測量身體的永備尺,如運用手指的寬度(約為1厘米)作為以後厘米量感估測的基礎。在以厘米為單位比較及量度物件的長度和物件間的距離時,學生便懂得選擇合適的永備尺手指來進行估量,再以間尺真正量度並驗證。另外老師亦發現學生在使用自備的間尺進行量度,會遇到種種困難,例如各種不同類型間尺「0」的位置不同,同學使用間尺時未能注意對齊「0」,再報讀尺上對應的數字,此外,在量度時不強調毫米的刻度,僅需報讀厘米的刻度。所測量物件如果不是整數厘米單位,則以「大約多少厘米」做報讀。

## 學生在量度的迷思

老師亦會讓學生經由長度之經驗,學習如何在數線上做比較與加減運算,由此為學生建立整數與有理數的整合,作為日後學習負數、實數、幾何的基礎。例如:如果一把斷掉的尺,無法從「0」對齊時,若所測量的物件是從刻度7到13,學生會錯誤地在間尺上由7數到13,並認為該長度是7厘米。



事實上,這個物體應由7到8為1厘米,如此類推數至12到13共6厘米,而並非數間尺上的數字7、8、9···、13。最後老師會強調量的估測活動不是實測的近似值,而是培養量感的活動,有好的量感,對日常生活很有助益,如果要訓練同學能在不使用正式測量工具的條件下,估測量的大小,老師必須將量的估測與量的經驗建立密切的關係,同學做估測活動時,亦應注意單位的合理性。

## 由「厘米」認識「米」

在二年級,老師同樣地讓學生先理解使用公認單位的需要,然後認識「米」(m),再在量度及比較物件的長度和物件間的距離前,強調學生需要先選擇合適的永備尺進行估量,並選擇合適的量度工具,作真正的量度。二年級引入「米」時,老師會設計與生活情境相結合的活動,先從學生最常用的單位開始,重温間尺上「厘米」的刻度結構,讓學生延伸所學至100厘米,從而引入較大單位「米」的需要。整個過程必須從具體到抽象,發揮實物和教具的作用,引導學生動手做。在實際量度物件的長度及高度前,必需讓學生先以身體的永備尺作估測的根據,先估計以訓練對「米」的量感,再引導學生實際測量身體,找出最接近1米的永備尺,如量度兩手展開的寬度約為1米,作為以後「米」量感估測的基礎,再選擇適當的工具,然後量度,正確讀出量度數據及單位,作為驗證。老師在安排實際量度活動前,必需讓學生認識各種量度工具如:間尺、米尺、卷尺、拉尺或滾輪的使用方法,如何準確地報讀量度結果及其優缺點。學生在認識「1米=100厘米」的關係並理解其意義後,在真正量度時便可應用單位換算。在測量時,可讓學生自然地用複名數來描述測量結果,然後再進行換算以記錄測量值。例如:小明的身高為1米23厘米,也可以寫成123厘米。

## 由「米」認識「公里」

在三年級,同學對1公里的量感特別難於建立,老師必須讓學生隨生活經驗的擴充,延伸到更大的單位「公里」(km),老師於是刻意安排同學在校園範圍自行設計1公里的路程活動前,首先讓學生在谷歌地圖網頁經歷1公里路程的長短。同學由學校正門出發,按着網頁提供的路程,一起模擬走到上水火車站,全程約為1公里。之後,學生再在學校校園地圖上設計1公里的路程。老師讓同學分組在班房內按地圖上提供的距離計劃路程,再真正走到校園驗證設計,然而在計劃路程時已發現同學遇到困難重重,同學對處理1公里長的路程只懂得運用地圖上提供的距離作連加的運算,務求將答案計算至1公里便完成任務,根本沒有理會如何走這段路程,另外同學亦不能靈活地將路程重覆以建構1公里的路程,老師必須要引導學生可將1公里分成10段100米、5段200米又或4段250米的路程,適當地重覆計劃路程便可。經此一提,同學便能較快地完成設計。真正走到校園驗證設計時,老師發現同學設計的路線所估計的距離,與真正量度的距離相當接近,經老師查看後,同學便可繼續走指定重覆的路程,真實地感受1公里路程的長度。最後老師還引導學生認識任何的量度結果都是近似值,令學生明白量度的近似性質。由於量度的結果都只是近似性質,無論選取多細小的標準單位作為量度單位,仍無法找到量度結果的絕對值,因所選取的量度單位還可細分,所以量度的結果實有賴於所要求的準確度。

## 由「厘米」認識「毫米」

當老師要求學生提升量度的準確度時,便能順理成章地引入「毫米」(mm)。老師特別設計不同長度線段的比較,由粗疏至精密,讓學生體會最小標準單位的需要。過程中,老師發現同學對閱讀細密的毫米感到困難,亦會用小數表達答案,例如將17mm的長度表達成1.7mm或cm,可見同學對毫米的量感尚未建立,於是引入一角硬幣的厚度約為1mm,讓同學具體地掌握1毫米,亦重提1厘米約為手指的寬度,強調1厘米包含10毫米的關係,到量度實物時,同學的表現明顯進步,不會再混淆兩單位。最後,老師會重申四個單位的特點、用途及相互之間的關係,亦會進一步要求同學以直觀估計物件的長度和物件間的距離,藉此考查同學對各單位量感的掌握。



整個縱向課程約實施了兩年,經過多次研課及觀課的反思及優化,老師均認為應加強同學的量感培養,在教授每個單位時都引入估量的標準,讓同學具體地掌握每個單位的量感,再設計合適的量度活動,在量度前必須先估量,並選取適當的單位及工具才進行真正量度,當同學完成量度,還要求同學準確地讀出讀數及單位,以加深同學對單位的認知。兩年來,老師以同樣方式連貫了三級的長度教學,大家都感到同學對各單位的量感明顯地增強,再不會胡亂量度及讀出不合理的讀數,或配以不適當的單位,效果令老師非常滿意。

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非華語學童的數學學習歷程 — 從數數到加法和減法(小一至小二)

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學者 Aubrey (1993) 認為當孩子上學時,他們已經具備了不少關於數字概念的非正式知識,而 Bryant (1997,頁 67) 亦指出「孩子入學之前,他們早就開始學習,當他們入學時已經知道一部份事情,但絕對不是所有事情,所以在他們進入課室之後,我們必須找出孩子的知識中哪些東西可能對他們造成影響」,例如:老師在教授「位值」時,必須了解學生是否掌握了讀數和數數的方法,而對數字組合的認識又有多少。由於這些數學知識,對於不同文化背景或者不同能力的學生都會有不同的表現,老師在教學上若果不能配合學生的已有知識,便難以輔助這些學生學習「位值」的概念,以至運算能力的發展。

由於非華語學童是來自不同的國家,有著不同的文化背景,加上學生來自不同類型的幼稚園,對數學的認識及理解,早已存著不同程度的差異,要老師找出哪些東西對他們的數學學習造成影響實在不容易,所以當這些學生從幼稚園升上小一後,任教這些學生的老師經常會發現他們對於1-20的認識,有著不同程度的差異,尤其對於數數、數字和數量的關係和18以內的基本組合上,學生的學習表現比較參差,所以老師在教授加法和減法時,便感到困難重重。有見及此,伊斯蘭學校的老師,早在學生入讀小一時,便從1-10開始,重新幫助學生學習數數、讀數、識別和書寫數字,藉此建立正確的數數技巧、書寫數字的讀法和寫法,以至1-10的基本組合,除了認識他們的文化背景如何影響他們學習數學外,最重要的還是要幫助學生建立好這些基礎的數學知識,再按著學生的學習表現,設計日後加減法的教學策略,幫助學生掌握基本的運算能力。

## 數數、讀數和寫數的學習與文化背景的關係

當幼稚園學生升上小一後,按著課程的要求,他們都會學習「10以內的數」和「20以內的數」,當中包括數數、讀數和寫數的過程來建立1-20的讀寫能力,然後再學習順數、倒數、單數、雙數、序數、基數及以一一對應的方法比較兩組物件的多少,最後才學習18以內的基本組合(香港課程發展議會,2000)。當學生熟習1-18的基本組合之後,便會開始學習基本的加法和減法。對於本地學生,學習「1-10的認識」到「1-18的基本組合」一系列的內容,並不困難。但對於非華語學童,由於語言上的問題,加上部份學生沒有入讀或完成本地幼稚園的課程,學生打從1-20的數數開始便出現了學習問題,而當中甚至有學生不能依次序地唸出1-20來,表現出學生未能掌握數數的技巧,所以伊斯蘭學校的老師在教授學生以英語數數時,便從最基本的步驟著手,重新以唱遊的方法先教導學生唱數,然後一邊唱一邊拿著玩具,拿一個玩具就唱一個數,然後逐步建立學生數數的能力,這樣一來,老師便要花上一段時候來教學,相比起本地學生來說,非華語學童的學習數數的時間亦因此比較多,而為了照顧學生的學習需要,伊斯蘭學校的老師更在有關教學時間、學習內容和教學策略上重新作出調整和分配,以配合學生實際上的需要。



非華語學童對於數學學習感到困難,其中一個原因是由於文化差異所造成。由於非華語學童有自己的語言和生活文化,他們雖然生活在香港,但同時受著家人、親戚和朋輩的影響,對數學學習上,有時仍然會採用一些自己本土的學習方法,這些方法有別於本地老師的教導,令學生的學習出現混淆。除此之外,在數學符號方面,巴基斯坦的數字「6」,寫法與阿拉伯數字的「4」相若,但學生寫起來卻像「9」,而尼泊爾數字「9」卻與阿拉伯數字的「5」相若,故此,老師若不了解不同學生的文化背景,便會很容易誤把學生正確的答案為錯誤。



巴基斯坦的數字「6」



尼泊爾的數字「9」

在數數和寫數的配合方面,由於大多數學生是以英語學習數學,因此造成數字語言方面的障礙,例如在學生的習作中,老師不難發現當學生寫到13到19時,先寫右邊的數字(但20以後就會從左邊開始寫數字),而在讀數時,學生有時會從右邊到左邊讀出兩位數,例如看到27便讀成72,這主要是南亞裔學生的本土語言,在讀兩位數時,有時是先讀個位,然後讀十位所致,因此語言的閱讀障礙,亦可能是令學生在辨認為書寫數字上感到困難的原因,因此老師若不了解,重新引導學生分辨英語讀兩位數字的次序與他們的讀法有所不同時,學生便會容易在「位值」的問題上容易產生混淆,影響學生學習加法和減法。

在數數方面,中國人習慣利用數手指(counting with fingers)學習數數,數數對於將來學習個位和十位的概念比較容易,亦有利於學習五個一數和十個一數的估算,但對於南亞裔學生來說,他們自小便受老師和家長教導,以數手節(counting with finger joints)來學習數數,雖然雙手能數出三十來,但不利於學生學習位值的概念和五個一數及十個一數的估算。根據Zaslavsky的研究,這種數數的方法流行於印度,稱為agnee ka perva,即是用手節來數數,對於當地一些文化水平偏低的人會用來進行運算,例如:以向上數(count-on)的方法來找出兩個數的和,利用重複加倍(repeated doubling)的方法來進行乘法及重複減半(repeated halving)的方法來進行除法(Zaslavsky, 1996)。老師若不了解學生背後的數數及運算模式,在教學上自然不能配合他們的學習習慣,從而產生不少衝突,學生亦因此跟不上本地學習內容和進度。

## 加法的學習

Foster (1994) 所提出的四個加法學習階段,以頭兩個最為重要,即是:

- 一、從頭數(count-all):兩組物件放在一起,由頭數一遍。
- 二、向上數(count-on):先數出一組物件的數目,然後心中記著這個數目,再接著向上數 第二組物件的數目,最後數出的數目便是這兩組物件的總數。
- 一般而言,本地學生不難掌握這兩個學習階段,但對於非華語學童來說,學習差異問題則較大,他們對於數序和數字與數量的關係上,認識比教薄弱,所以在第二個階段時已經出現嚴重的障礙,不少學生仍然停留在第一個階段,仍需要用畫圖數數來進行計算,有時甚至連順數和基數的認識還未掌握得好。為此,老師便設計不同的教學活動,例如數錢幣、數朱古力和唱數遊戲,以協作和比賽的模式進行,儘快幫助學生過渡第二階段。在加法的運算策略上,老師更嘗試先引入「合十法」,幫助學生掌握10的組合,然後再幫助學生以合十的技巧來學習11-18

的組合,伊斯蘭學校的老師在教學過程中,亦發覺學生有不同的學習表現,部份學生對於個位加法的表現也不理想,但對於能力較好的學生,卻根本不需要這種方法,便能找出答案,老師認為主要原因,取決於學生的數數技巧是否熟練,1-18基本組合的教學方法是否適當,練習是否足夠,而倘若學生不能掌握1-18的基本組合和基本加法的知識,將會直接影響學生學習進位加法的果效。對於基本加法的學習方法,老師亦表達出不同的意見並且進行討論,有關的教學方法可參閱附件。

## 減法的學習

相對於加法來說,減法的學習策略主要有一種是往下數或往後數 (count down or count back)。對於減法,伊斯蘭學校的數學老師提出了不同的教學方法 (詳情請參閱附件) 和意見,尤其是對半心算 (減十法) 和扣數法,有較多的討論,不同的學生有不同的學習表現,很難説那一種較為優勝,至於倒數法,大部份老師都認為學生倒數的能力較弱,不宜採用;至於能力較弱的學生,則仍然採用畫圖刪去法,顯示學生仍停留在具體的數數階段,令老師感到很懊惱,必須重新教導學生 1-10 的基本組合和「合十法」,幫助他們掌握 10 以內的減法,至於 11-18 以內的減法,先通過數數、讀數和寫數,認識 11-18,再認識 11-18 的基本組合後,才學習 18 以內的減法,而如果學生不能熟習有關的基本減法,當學生在小二學習退位減法,便會產生很大的問題。當然,能力較高的學生,能夠憑著對 11-18 的組合的熟練程度,就可以不假思索地找到答案,而這些學生在小二學習退位減法時,所面對問題亦相應地少。然而,各校的學生都有不同的表現,主要是視乎學生對基本加減法的掌握情況,同時亦與學生的學習習慣有關。

由於小一至小二的加減法,是整個小學數範疇的根基,學生對於這些知識若果掌握得不好,將會嚴重地影響他們日後的數學學習,而南亞裔學生在學習有關的課題時,卻表現得較為參差。為了解決這個問題,伊斯蘭學校任教小一和小二的數學老師,在過去幾年,亦已就著這些課題,依據著學生的能力和已有知識,設計及嘗試了不同的教學方法和教材,希望他們能夠儘快學好加法和減法之後,可以應付日後學習上的需要。在這次的數學分享會中,老師使嘗試把這幾年的教學經驗和感受,與業界同工一同分享。

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附件:18以內加減的方法

## 畫圖數數法

例:8+7

= 15



加法

000000

### 畫圖刪去法

例:17 - 9

= 8

$\circ$	$\circ$	$\circ$	$\circ$ $\circ$	$\boxtimes \boxtimes$

減 法

 $\boxtimes\boxtimes\boxtimes\boxtimes\boxtimes\boxtimes\boxtimes$ 

 $\boxtimes\boxtimes\boxtimes\boxtimes\boxtimes\boxtimes\boxtimes\boxtimes\boxtimes$ 

000000(1+7)

方法一

方法二

## 半心算(順數)

例:8+7 = 15

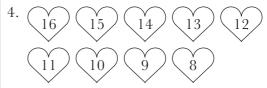
- 1. 心裡放8
- 2. 伸出7隻手指
- 3. 由 8 開始順數,每順數 1 就收起 1 隻手指, 直到所有伸出來的手指都收起



#### 半心算(倒數)

例:17 - 9 = 8

- 1. 心裡放17
- 2. 伸出9隻手指
- 3. 由17開始倒數,每倒數1就收起1隻手 指,直到所有伸出來的手指都收起



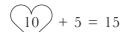
#### 半心算(合十法)

例:8+7 =15

- 1. 心裡放8
- 8
- 2. 伸出7隻手指
- 3. 因為8和2成為10,所以將 7隻手指收起(減去)2隻手指 (心裡的8組成10)



- 4. 剩下5隻手指
- 5. 心裡的10和剩下5隻手指得15



#### 半心算(減十法)

例: 17 - 9 = 8

1. 心裡放7



- 2. 伸出10隻手指
- 3. 減去9隻手指
- 4. 剩下1隻手指
- 5. 1 隻手指再加心裡的 7



#### 扣數法

例: 17 - 9 = 8

1. 心裡放7



- 2. 伸出10隻手指
- .
- 3. 先減去心中的7
- 4. 再在10隻手指減第8及第9
- 5. 剩下8隻手指

 $-\begin{pmatrix} 7 \\ 7 \end{pmatrix} - 2 = 8$ 

## 「分」外有理 — 探討小三分數基本概念的教學點子

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如何建構學生對分數的概念理解一直是數學教育工作者的關注問題,分數的基本概念在本港的小學數學課程指引中屬小三的課題(香港課程發展議會,2000),學習重點包括:

- 一、認識分數作為整體的部分及一組物件的部分
- 二、認識分數與1的關係
- 三、比較同分母或同分子分數的大小

拔萃小學的老師在討論分數這課題時討論到學生在解答有關分數概念的問題時似是一知半解,例如他們會誤判一些圖形是否分成若干等分,又例如他們對找出一組物件的部分數量會有困難,在討論過程中,我們先互相釐清大家對分數基礎概念的認識,其實在發展不同數學課題的校本課程時,老師對不同概念的理解很多時會影響他們如何理解學生的表現及構思適切的教學策略,以下是我們曾討論過的一些問題。

## 分數學習在取向上有所轉變嗎?

在十八及十九世紀時,由於商貿活動發展迅速,計算工具也沒有現今的先進,故分數的運算在數學基礎教育中佔了很重要的位置,但隨著數學教育的發展,分數學習的取向已轉變為強調概念的理解。其實教育學家在二十世紀早期引入了對分數概念理解的革新看法,就是以整體和部分的關係作為學習分數的基本概念,而皮亞傑(Piaget)乃是首位探討孩童如何從分割圖形中建構分數概念的學者。雖然如此,現今教師仍重視教授技巧多於概念,這也令學生忽略理解分數的意義,導致他們在分數的表現未如理想,這情況或許也可反映本港一些數學課堂的情況。

## 分數有多少種不同的概念呢?

Kieren (1980) 提到分數可分為五種不同但互有關連的概念,就是部分與整體的關係、量度、運算、除數及比和比例,而在分數的基礎概念中,部分與整體的關係及量度均為其他概念的發展基礎,在本港的教科書及課堂中,均較強調部分與整體的關係,而較少從量度方面引入概念,在理解部分與整體的關係時也偏向要求學生從整體中找出部分,而忽略了從部分中找出整體,這令學生未能較全面地理解分數的基礎概念。

## 分數能以哪種形式理解?

正如課程指引提及,分數可作為整體的部分及一組物件的部分,當我們以摺紙形式表示一圖形的部分時,我們是以面積來理解一個分數,當我們以數數方式表達一組物件中的部分時,我們是以數量來理解一個分數。兩種形式的表示均在課本中出現,但均偏向以正例子作出介紹,而忽略以非例子讓學生多從分辨中鞏固對概念的理解;而在一組物件的表達中,同組物件也排列得很整齊,學生也會忽略了數數的重要性。此外,我們認為有另一種表達方式是較被忽略的,在課程指引的第三點中,學生需比較分數的大小,在這情況下學生要以分數的值來作比較,上述提及以一件或一組物件的部分作為表達方式均未能有效地讓學生過度至數值的概念;反觀如以度量中長度的概念引入,則較為配合學生習慣在數線上表示數值的方式,以長度來顯示分數,學生可較容易作出估計及檢視解題過程。



## 應以何種實物或圖形作操作活動?

老師普遍透過圖形與實物操作協助學生建構分數的基本概念,數學教育家最初較常以分割 圓形作學習活動,認為圓形較有整全的概念,後來發現應讓學生多從不同圖形中加強理解,這 些圖形的等分活動已常作學習分數的課堂活動。圖形分割只能讓學生建立分數作為整體一部分 的概念,而要建立分數作為一組物件一部分的概念則要從數實物 (例如:數粒) 中學習,但很 多時老師只要求學生數圖畫中的物件,而忽略了數實物的重要。此外,也有以分數條作操作工 具的,這工具主要讓學生從長度方面理解分數,現今已愈來愈多數學教育家建議以長度來理解分數 (Graeber & Tanenhaus, 1993),學生可先以棒狀圖後以數線作配合,這樣學生會較容易理解,當然棒狀圖可以紙條或圖像形式出現,如以數線表示分數,學生可以此為比較分數的解題 工具。

綜合以上討論,老師認為讓學生建構對分數清晰的概念至為重要,當中的概念包括部分與整體的關係,除了從整體中求部分外,也要從部分中求整體,我們也期望讓學生從長度中理解分數。我們期望學生能以分數表達一個整體及一組物件的部分,並能以其數值比較大小。在操作活動方面,我們會以不同圖形讓學生對比正反例子,也讓學生多作數數練習,並從長度中建立分數的數值概念。

和拔萃小學的老師探討分數教學的過程中,我們參考了國際上兩個分數教學的研究計劃,第一個是在美國進行的「Rational Number Project (RNP)」(Cramer et al., 1997),而另一個則是荷蘭的「The Fractiongazette」(Bokhrve et al., 1996),兩個計劃均針對發展學生分數的概念而進行。前者強調讓學生建立分數作為一個整體及一組物件的部分的意義,後者則以量度的概念處理分數的教學。我們分析過課程的學習重點及學生的學習需要,認為兩者對分數概念的詮釋均需兼顧,我們也分析過兩個計劃所發展的教學策略,發現當中有三項共同的教學元素值得我們參考,我們以這三項元素作為設計教學的基礎,讓學生從不同層面建構分數的基本概念,這三項元素分別為:多元化的表達概念方式、從解難中建構概念及運用數學語言解釋概念。

## 多元化的表達概念方法

我們鼓勵學生以多元化表達方式建構分數的概念,學生需從不同方式中探究及表達同一概念,這些不同的表達方式包括實物、圖像、符號、口述及生活化情景等,學生能從連繫同一概念但不同的表達方式中建構概念,要達到此學習目標,學生需有足夠的學習經歷,老師需讓學生從不同實例及操作實物中累積學習經驗。在探究分數的概念時,我們以日常生活的例子、不同形狀的圖形、數數工具、棒狀圖及數線等,讓學生從觀察、摺紙、畫圖、操作、分辨及判斷中,配以不同的正反例子,以不同的方式表達及連繫同一概念。

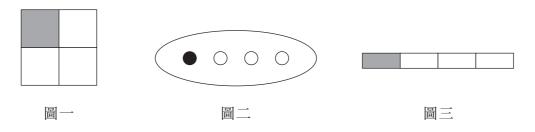
## 從解難中建構概念

解決難題與概念理解有著重要的關係,解難題目能協助學生學習新的概念,以及應用概念於新的情景中,學生在學習分數前已有一些分割圖形或剪紙的經驗,學生可運用這些經驗於不同的等分活動中解決問題,從中建立概念。我們在教學過程中滲透了不少解難元素,例如:學生需以不同方式等分同一圖形,學生也需從圖形的部分中推論出原來的圖形,或從一組數的部分中推論出原來的數,學生也需在數線上顯示分數的大小。老師考慮到解難活動的設計應以提高學生的參與程度及討論的興趣為主,故鼓勵學生以不同的答案、解題策略及表達方式解答。

#### 運用數學語言解釋概念

我們期望在教學過程中,學生能有充份的機會討論、表達及分享他們的想法,老師相信如學生真的明白概念,他們應能以語言作出解釋。學生在建構概念的過程中,以口述表達、問題討論及概念解釋來促進全班的互動至為重要,老師認為語言解釋能連繫分數中不同的概念、不同的表達方式及不同的解難策略。在教學過程中,我們讓學生有很多運用語言的機會,並期望學生能解釋等分及分數在一件物件、一組物件及一條長紙條中的意義及其分別。

正如起初所說,分數的基本概念一直是老師們的關注問題,在教學策略上也有不同的嘗試 與經驗,在本次分數的教學探討中,老師並沒有運用一些獨特的教學方法,我們只是嘗試在舊 有對分數的概念理解上作多了一點詮釋,也嘗試以這些詮釋理解老師常作的操作活動在建立分 數概念中的不同定位,例如:等分圖形表示分數代表一個整體的部分(圖一)、等分一組物件表 示分數代表一組物件的部分(圖二)及等分棒狀圖表示分數的數值(圖三)。



我們並嘗試把這些活動作出一點新增或潤飾,看看學生在當中有甚麼有趣或特別的表現。此外,我們也嘗試從連繫多元化的表達方式、數學解難及運用數學語言解釋概念方面為這些教學活動作出一點註解,讓老師進行教學時多思考活動背後的理念。老師期望透過這次研討會和大家分享他們探討這課題時的經歷及所思所想,包括他們如何從分析學生難點、教學重點到設計教學的經歷,老師會以課堂片段及學生習作闡釋學生在學習過程中的表現,從而回應對此主題的看法,並希望與會老師有所交流。

註:本環節以粵語進行,但由於拔萃小學以英語作為數學的教學語言,故示例則以英語為主。

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## 成「千」上「萬」一從「五位數」教學設計說起

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## 位值的學習問題

在海壩街官立小學的三年級數學科共同備課會議上,教師提及學生在「五位數」這單元的學 習時,有以下的意見:

「學生在一年級已學過單數和雙數,為何個別學生仍未能分辨單、雙數?」

「在比較不同五位數大小時,何以有部分學生總不能正確地把它們排序?」

「如果要求學生把若干粒算珠放在算柱上,以表達最小五位數時,他們大部分總愛在每 每條算柱放上算珠。任憑我們怎樣苦口婆心地教導他們,他們總是左耳入,右耳出, 經常都做錯,真叫人費解!」

相信以上的説話都會令不少數學科教師產生共鳴。何以我們看來簡單易明的內容,學生學 起來卻出現諸多問題?歸根究底,學生對「位值」概念,尚未充分掌握。

所謂「位值」,是指數的表徵中,每個數字所在的位置所代表的值。例如「987」中,「9」的位值是100,「8」的位值是10,「7」的位值是1 (Ross, 2002)。根據現行的《數學課程指引 (小一至小六)》(以下簡稱「課程指引」),「數」範疇佔了第一學習階段46%,當中涉及不少是加減乘除的基本概念和運算技巧。不過,要明瞭計算原理,非要掌握位值的概念不可,否則便會直接影響學生學習四則運算的成效,甚至影響日後在較高年級所學的分數、小數及百分數等基本概念的認識。因此,位值是一個基礎的概念,是兒童在學習多位數的加減乘除之前所必須具備的概念(羅素貞,2007)。相信不少數學科教師不時發現,部分學生在計算6+24時,會錯算為84,又或在計算乘法或除法時,常常在進位或退位時出現錯誤,例如把27 × 3誤算為621,又或把420 ÷ 4 錯算為15,皆因這些學生的位值概念薄弱。此外,National Council of Teachers of Mathematics(簡稱"NCTM")(1989) 指出假如我們認為數字感和數概念在數學中佔有極為重要的角色,那麼,位值概念的掌握必然是兒童數概念發展過程中,最為關鍵性的步驟之一。

在課程指引中,「認識單數和雙數」只包含在「1N1 10以內的數」單位內,學生往後所學的「1N2 20以內的數」至「3N1 五位數」,再沒有包括這學習重點。至於教科書的編排,雖然不少在「1N2 20以內的數」也會重點教授單數和雙數,但學生所認識相關的概念,亦只限於20以內的數;因此,學生對單數和雙數概念的認識是否整全,這是值得我們關注的。

此外,Fuson (1997) 指出研究發現,兒童在比較不同數的大小時,甚少利用位值概念來思考,例如他們知道24比17大,一般都是由17開始往上數,數到7個數便得到24;他們把24看成一個數字,但並不清楚2是代表2個10,4是代表4個1。因此,當學生要比較數的大小時,面對繁複的數字,學生的表現又怎能如教師所願呢!

## 學生在「全港性系統評估」中的表現

近年的《全港性系統評估學生基本能力報告》(以下簡稱「報告」)對學生在理解整數的基本概念方面,作了以下評論:

年份	評論
2010	大部分學生能寫出算柱上所表示的數值
2010	大部分學生能以文字表示阿拉伯數字,一些學生未能以文字正確地寫出整數
2008	當題目要求學生利用算柱進行加法計算時,他們表現較弱
2008	部分學生未能按特定的準則在算柱上表達整數

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從上表看來,學生在面對常規性問題時,表現尚算理想;但當處理到較不常規的問題時, 表現卻未如理想,反映他們對相關概念的掌握,仍未牢固。

## 「五位數 | 的教學實踐

除上文所述學生的學習難點外,海壩街官立小學的教師檢討在學生「全港性系統評估」中的表現時,發現他們在「五位數」這單元中,不少均未能按特定的準則在算柱上表達整數。教師普遍認為學生對位值概念了解不深,加上題目具有相當的挑戰性,已非評估學生的「基本」能力,再者學生對該類題目甚感陌生,不但教科書欠奉,甚或在課堂中,教師也較少教授這些題目。此外,教師也構思了另一學習活動,讓學生利用不同的數字卡組成五位數,鞏固他們對五位數學習的同時,也能加強其數字感。

針對以上種種,我們在課程上作出了相應的調適,如在一年級下學期的「1N4 100以內的數」,我們加強了順數和倒數,以及單數和雙數的教學,讓學生對相關的概念能掌握得較為整全。此外,透過實際操作活動,讓學生掌握如12個1即1個10和2個1等,提升他們的位值概念。蘇順德(2006)的研究指出讓學生實際動手透過實物的操作,對於位值單位轉換的過程能更掌握,有助鞏固他們的位值概念。在「2N1 三位數」、「2N4 四位數」以及「3N1 五位數」中,除繼續推展讓學生明瞭不同位值單位的關係外,教師還針對學生不能類推的數字,例如:248、249、250、251(過十),1398、1399、1400、1401(過百),34998、34999、35000、35001(過千)等,編排讀數活動,以彌補課本的不足。我們期望透過上述課程的縱向規劃,讓學生能從小一開始,對位值概念有較為整全的掌握。

要求學生按特定的準則在算柱上表達整數,其實甚具挑戰性。因此,教師決定讓學生透過實作活動,加強學生對位值的理解。教師循序漸進地,先著學生利用兩粒算珠,在算柱上表示出所有五位數組合。學生透過實際操作,把算珠放在算柱不同的位置,所得的結果共有五個組合,分別為20000、11000、10100、10010、10001。教師再利用學生所得的結果,要求他們先探討各數的位值,然後討論哪個是最大/最小的五位數,進而再處理單/雙數的問題。學生在取得此等學習經歷後,再利用較多數量的算珠進行相類似的活動,學習表現已有所提升了。教師認為學生在進行活動時,表現投入,而通過操作活動,學生普遍已能掌握相關的概念和技巧。雖然個別學生的表現尚未理想,但起碼他們已沒有再在每條算柱放上算珠了,反映他們已有所改善。

為了培養學生的數字感,教師也特意在這單元中設計學習活動。教師由淺入深地引導學生利用兩張、三張以至五張數字卡,分別組成不同組合的兩位數、三位數以至五位數,從中不但能鞏固學生對課題的認識,且能加強其數字感,更能讓學生從活動中得知不同數量的數字卡所組成的整數也各有不同。教師反映學生普遍能利用四張和五張數字卡組成不同整數,個別學生更能有條理地,羅列出五張數字卡所組成的所有不同組合,令教師大為鼓舞。



在籌劃相關課題教學的過程中,三年級教師共同商議教學策略和分享教學經驗,又進行同 儕觀課,實際了解學生的學習情況。在整個教學實踐的過程中,教師作了以下的歸納:

- 一、透過這次的教學實踐,教師深深體會到「位值」概念對學生來說頗為抽象,要他們瞭解 這抽象難明的概念,並非只憑教師的講述便能達致,實際操作、小組討論等活動是不 可或缺的。
- 二、總結是次教學實踐,教師一致認為學生的學習問題雖然在三年級浮現,但要解決問題的癥結,單靠該級教師的努力並不能成事,一、二年級教師也須及早提供協助,梳理學生在學習上所遇到的問題,這樣才可事半功倍。

教師期望透過是次分享會,分享他們的構思和經歷,包括分析學生的學習難點、教學設計 和學生的學習表現,並希望跟與會教師有所交流。

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## 初小教室內的實作評量

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## 多元化評估的需要

在教、學和評估的循環中,評估的作用已從「對學習的評估」轉為「促進學習的評估」。透 過評估,教師能診斷學習、給予回饋,以及提供更合適的教學活動。

《數學教育學習領域課程指引(小一至中三)》(課程發展議會,2002)指出,數學科的評估不應只注重學生解決數學問題時所提供的答案,亦宜反映學生的學習過程、解決數學問題時所用的技巧及在思維和態度方面的發展,以達致全面了解學生的學習表現。因此,多元化的評估活動是必須的。而實作評量能兼顧學習的過程和結果,所以逐漸受到教師的重視。

## 何謂實作評量?

實作評量是指讓學生在不同的情境下完成某一項指定的任務,以表現他們對數學知識的理解和應用(教育局數學教育組,2006)。

Herman, Aschbacher 及 Winters (1992) 對實作評量的特質做了更清楚的説明,他們認為實作評量應具備以下特徵:

- 一、要求學生實作、創造、製造或是作出某些成果
- 二、涉及到高層次思考以及問題解決能力的技巧
- 三、課業內容呈現出有意義的教學活動
- 四、牽涉真實生活的應用
- 五、以人為判斷進行評分工作

由此看來,評量方式著重高層次能力,如思考、分析、組合、判斷,以及表達能力的啟發,思考過程和邏輯推理的程序考量。評量不單看成果,而且也考量過程,所以能了解學生造成錯誤的原因以及學生對某一問題考量的層面、思路過程,以及邏輯方式。

## 學校推行實作評量的經驗

針對實作評量可能帶來的學習成效,保良局黃永樹小學於去年下學期,嘗試在二年級進行有關活動,並在「度量」範疇中揀選了「重量」這一單元,以課堂研究(lesson study)的方式進行實作評量。

實作評量和其他的評量一樣,要設計出適合的問題,都必須經過一些嚴謹的計劃過程。雖 然實作評量的設計沒有標準可循,但是在設計過程中仍須考量一些必要的因素:

- 一、決定評量的目的和目標
- 二、設計題目
- 三、設計評分表格和記錄的方式

- 四、分析評量結果
- 五、反思與修訂

經過數次磋商後,我們決定透過估計及量度物件的重量,來評估學生對重量概念以及量度 技巧的掌握,評估重點則分別涵蓋知識、技能和態度三方面:



- 一、學生能寫出座枱磅上能量度的最大重量
- 二、學生能寫出座枱磅上每一小格代表多少重量
- 三、學生能以100克的砝碼和1公斤的重物作為參考指標,合理估計物件的重量
- 四、學生能夠量度物件的重量
- 五、學生能在進行活動時態度認真並能與人合作

針對學生應該達到的學習成果,我們安排在教室內擺放六個攤位,其中三個用於估量活動,餘下的則用於量重活動,每個攤位內用作估計或量度的物件都不相同,從而避免組別之間抄襲答案。學生按指示進行分組活動,並透過操作、觀察及討論,完成相關工作紙。教師則需要在活動進行時,按評估重點進行觀察,並依據學生的表現即時給予評分。

評分部分需解決兩大難題,一是評分的方式,二是以教師的專業判斷即時給予學生評分。

我們先討論第一個難題,在知識方面,學生的表現只有兩個層面:對或錯,所以評分比較簡單,教師可直接從工作紙的答案決定學生是否取得該部分的分數。然而技能和態度的表現是有程度上的分別,為了能確實反映學生的程度,我們決定將這些部分以量表的方式訂出評分標準,例如在估量部分,誤差在50%以內可得2分,誤差在51%至100%之間可得1分,而誤差超過100%的便給予0分,態度方面更細分為四個程度,並詳列評分細則,以便教師在評分時有具體的依據。

至於第二個難題,一般情況下,教室內只有一名教師,在監控整個課堂活動的同時,教師 又如何兼顧「即時依據各個學生的表現而給予評分」呢?為了解決這個問題,我們採取以下策略:

- 一、只評態度,其餘部分則在批改學生的工作紙時給予評分
- 二、量表按學生的座位編排,以方便教師記錄

在總結經驗時,教師認為實作評量可以讓他們了解學生對問題的了解程度、投入程度、解決的技能和表達自我的能力,能夠較完整的反映出學生的學習表現。另一方面,學生的學習動機普遍較一般的課堂活動高,同學之間也較願意互相合作以取得較佳的評分,令互補不足和互相啟發的效果更為彰顯。然而實作評量除了需要時間和人力去評分外,評分的一致性也是一個難題,因為評分的過程依賴人為的判斷以及多元的指標,評分者之間評分的一致性通常不高,要提升其信度,還需反覆的試驗、反思和修訂,因此需要累積更多成功經驗,才能將實作評量推廣至全校,成為長遠發展策略。

在本環節中,講者將與大家分享校本推行實作評量,由計劃到實踐的歷程和體驗,當中遇到的困難以及解決方法,又會透過課堂錄影片段及學生習作,分析其結果與成效。

本學年,教師更將有關經驗延伸至小三,並分別在二年級和三年級上學期,從「圖形與空間」範疇中選取了「柱體和錐體」,以及「垂直線和平行線」兩個單元來進行實作評量。在過程中,教師對評量活動的設計,學生的學習模式,以致評分的程序,又有另一番體會。

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## 「相差」與「比較」的成長路 — 小一及小二基本加、 減與比較應用題的縱向課程發展

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小一學生透過數數、讀數和寫數,認識1至20,並透過認識1至18的基本組合,延伸學習18以內的基本加法和減法,這些進程是建立基礎加法及減法概念的必經階段。

在學習基礎加法的概念時,學生從認識「合共」的意思理解加法的概念;而在學習基礎減法概念時,學生則需認識「取去」與「相差」兩者的分別,從而理解兩個不同的減法概念。在「相差」的概念中,亦包含「比較」的意思,例如「3和4相差1」、「4比3多1」、「3比4少1」等(Van de Walle, 1998)。

一般教師在教授這課題時較為著重加強學生的運算能力。當學生被問及有關加法或減法的 意思,又或是要求他們舉出日常生活應用的例子時,大部分學生都能説出加法的意思及例子, 但利用日常生活的例子表達減法的意思就較為困難,特別是「相差」的概念。

教師曾表示,學生在認識「兩數比較」時,他們都能先透過「一一對應」的方法,理解如何 比較兩數的相差,但當提及利用「減法」可計算它們的相差時,能力稍遜的學生都感到難以理 解,學生好像只是聽從教師的説法,謹記利用減法去計算。然後過了一段時間後,他們又較容 易忘記計算的方法。

另一方面,很多教師只著重訓練學生計算「比較兩數的多少?」,忽略要求學生掌握「比較句子」的結構,例如我們可以這樣說:「4比3多1」或「3比4少1」。若我們在測考中,只透過這類題目評估學生,例如「4比3多\_\_\_。」,學生只需謹記大數減去細數便可計出答案。然而若學生不掌握「比較句子」的結構,日後在認識「比較類應用題」時,他們就難以分析「哪個較多?」或「哪個較少?」。

現時有一個常見的現象,很多學生在題目中看見「… 比 … 多」,就運用加法,看見「… 比 … 少」,就運用減法。教師認同這類的題目使學生感到困惑,然而我們仔細分析學生的難點,就會發現他們根本不理解當中「比較句子」的意思。這些學生可能從小一就在不理解的情況下計算,對「比較句子」的意思只是一知半解,造成日後對解答「比較類應用題」的困惑。

亞斯理衛理小學的老師與本組協作籌劃相關的課程時,參考了Haylock & Cockburn (2008)的意見,認同兒童在學習新的數學概念時,需要聯繫他們過往的經驗與知識,這才能幫助他們理解新的數學概念。在理解基礎運算的概念時,教師常利用兒童一些簡單的生活情景作引入,然後透過不同的策略,例如實物操作 (concrete experience)、符號 (symbols)、語言 (language)及圖像 (pictures)等,協助兒童理解抽象的數學概念。若教師能把以上四項策略互相緊扣,以及聯繫兒童的過往經驗與知識,就更能加強他們對這些數學概念的理解。兒童透過操作具體的實物 (concrete experience) 進行運算,利用符號 (symbols) 表達運算的過程,然後利用語言 (language) 讀出運算的方法與描述實物操作的意義,並討論這些符號表達的意思與實物操作的關係,繼而再利用圖像 (pictures) 表達對情景的理解,以及協助運算 (Haylock & Cockburn, 2008)。

回想我們的教學中,也曾利用以上四項策略,透過學習活動建構學生加法及減法的概念。此外,在聯繫日常生活情景方面,很多課本都慣常利用一些簡單的情景,例如「我有5粒糖,媽媽給我3粒糖,我共有糖多少粒?」及「我有5粒糖,取去3粒糖後,餘下糖多少粒?」表達加法及減法的意思。然而這些都是我們假設的情景,能力較弱的學生在理解方面會感到困難,單靠聽老師的講解這種較為被動的方式學習,而例子的數量及種類亦有限,對理解加法及減法的概念會造成局限。

經反思後,為加強聯繫學生的日常生活經驗與加法及減法的概念,我們一方面透過講解不同的生活情景,要求學生說出加法或減法的算式;另一方面,我們利用一道算式,例如「5-3=2」,著學生聯想自己相關的生活情景,說出包含這道算式的生活例子,例如「我有5粒糖,給了弟弟3粒糖後,餘下2粒糖。」這可讓他們表達對算式與生活例子的理解之餘,還可擴闊他們的思考空間。

當學生掌握減法概念中「取去」的意思後,他們又需認識減法另一意思一「比較兩數相差」。一般學生會感到減法中「取去」的意思較容易理解,而對「比較」的意思會感到困難,例如「4比3多多少?」學生不明白為何「4-3=1」就能計算出答案,學生剛剛理解減法是取去某數的部分,而在比較的過程中又沒有發現取去的意思,所以較難接受「比較」又是減法另一意思。然而課本常把減法的兩個概念放在一起,學生同時認識同一個運算符號,內裏有兩個不同的意思,這會令剛剛入學的小一學生感到困難。

因此,我們先讓學生掌握減法中「取去」的概念,然後才讓學生認識減法中「比較兩數相差」的概念。我們注意到學生在認識這概念時,學生不單認識利用減法找出兩個數的相差,他們還需要認識一組複雜的數學語言,例如「4比3多1」、「3比4少1」、「3和4相差1」、「牛比羊多1隻」、「羊比牛少1隻」、「牛和羊相差1隻」等。若題目給予兩個不同的數時,或兩種不同數量的物件時,學生應能利用數學語言,比較兩個數或兩種物件的「相差」、「多」和「少」。課文編排方面,有些課本同時介紹以上所有的句子,而另一些課本則先介紹「多」和「少」,但在日後的應用題(約半年至一年後)才突然出現計算「相差」的題型。總而言之,學生在認識不同的「比較句子」時,又需要理解減法的另一意思,這對學生不是一件簡單的事情。若我們只輕輕帶過這些概念或數學語言,學生很容易只掌握一些計算技巧,例如「大數減細數」的策略。

我們也曾嘗試引入減法只計算「比較兩數多少」時,例如「4比3多\_\_\_」或「3比4少\_\_\_」,能力稍遜的學生感到困難,因為兩句不同的句子,都是利用減法計算。後來我們嘗試只介紹「兩數相差」的句子,例如「4和3相差\_\_\_」,先利用最簡單的方法 一「一一對應」,讓學生明白「兩數相差」的意思,然後再引入減法計算的方法。我們嘗試在計算「兩數相差」時,把相同數量取去,餘下的就是它們的相差,聯繫學生最先認識減法的概念;學生透過操作數粒、符號、語言及圖像學習,並緊扣他們的已有知識。經嘗試後,我們發現很多學生都感到較易理解,課堂表現顯得更有信心。接着,我們引入「兩數相差」與「比較兩數多少」的概念,透過觀察例子,讓學生找出兩個數的「相差」與比較這兩個數的「多」和「少」的答案是相同的,從而歸納出「比較兩數多少」其實就是「比較兩數的相差」,這樣學生便較易明白計算「比較兩數多少」與「兩數相差」的方法都是減法。

另一方面,在小二的「比較類應用題」中,題目內必定包含其中一類「比較句子」,例如「羊有20隻,羊比牛多5隻,牛有多少隻?」,學生必須透過理解整道題目的意思,然後才判斷計算

的方法,不可以只靠辨認關鍵字「… 比 … 多」便利用加法。而我們的學生在小一的階段已認識「比較兩數相差」的概念,以及理解「比較句子」的意思,因此我們先讓學生重溫這些概念及句子結構後,便開始討論解題的策略。在解題策略上,我們先讓學生分析「比較句子」中的意思,分析「誰較多?」及「誰較少?」,然後再從問句中要求計算的項目是「較多」還是「較少」,才判斷運用加法或減法。

我們察覺大部分小二學生對小一階段的「比較兩數相差」及「比較句子」已有一定的認識, 對理解「比較類應用題」有很大的幫助。這類題目屬初小最為艱深的題型之一,過往一般能力的 班別,只有小部分能力較高的學生能掌握。經嘗試後,現在大部分的學生在小二上學期的階段 都能掌握。

亞斯理衛理小學教師與本組同工透過是次分享會,就以上的學習難點,針對學校裏能力一般及稍遜的學生,分享過往課程發展的經驗。我們將會分享小一基本加法及減法的概念,著重協助學生理解加法中「合共」的意思、減法中「取去」及「相差」的意思,特別是在「相差」的概念裏如何比較「兩數相差」及「比較多少」的方法。此外,更會介紹小二的「比較類應用題」的縱向發展策略。我們希望透過是次分享會與同工交流經驗,從而促進彼此的專業成長。

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# 平面圖形教學的反思 — 四邊形教學 (小四)的另類嘗試

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四年級上學期圖形與空間範疇的教學內容為學習各類四邊形的特性。在這個時期,教師需協助學生重溫有關四邊形的基礎知識,然後再深入學習各類四邊形的特性。學生在經過這個單元的學習,需要了解長方形、平行四邊形等圖形的特性。教師反映在教授這個單元的時候,學生能透過活動掌握圖形的特性。但過了一段時間後,學生便遺忘所學,在評估時也較容易混淆圖形的特性。造成這個困難的原因,可能是此課題的學習內容頗多,學生需要記憶相當多的資料。若果學生未能有效組織各四邊形的特性,便較難在長時間後仍記憶所學。本節分享會嘗試對四邊形教學作出一些分析及建議,望能幫助教師改善相關教學設計。

在此讓我們回顧兒童學習幾何所經歷的階段。荷蘭數學家 Van Hiele 將兒童學習幾何的經歷分為五個階段 (Van de Walle, 1998),包括

- 一、視覺期 (visualization);
- 二、分析期 (analysis);
- 三、非正式演繹期 (informal deduction);
- 四、正式演繹期及(formal deduction);
- 五、公理期 (rigor)。

小學生的幾何學習,主要停留在第一及第二個階段,並準備過渡至第三個階段。有學者利用「觀察」(observation)及「辨認」(recognition)來描述首兩個階段(Monaghan, 2000)的特色。即是說,在第一階段的兒童是觀察整幅圖形為主,較少了解到圖形的局部特性,例如兒童可以靠直觀的方法辨認長方形,但不能了解長方形有兩組對邊長度相等;兒童能認出梯形,但不一定知道梯形有一組對邊平行。到了第二階段,兒童能辨認圖形的局部特徵,開始留意圖形的邊與角,例如學生能知道正方形有四個直角。但此階段的兒童,仍未能明白圖形的定義及了解不同圖形的從屬關係。

讓我們看看學生於初小 (小一至小三) 有關四邊形的學習情況。於一年級下學期,學生已開始學習有關平面圖形的知識,並認識各類多邊形的名稱,包括以直觀的方法認識三角形、四邊形和五邊形等。在四邊形方面,更會進一步學習正方形和長方形 (視覺期)。到了二年級下學期,學生需要較仔細分辨正方形及長方形相似與不同之處 (分析期),並開始接觸梯形和菱形。到了三年級的上學期,學生會認識平行四邊形並學習其簡單特性 (視覺期和分析期)。在視覺期的學童,透過觀察圖形的整體結構來辨認圖形,他們能認得水平擺放的正方形和長方形。

為了協助學生過渡至分析期,教師可引入更多四邊形的例子與非例子,促使學生留意圖形 較細緻的部份。例如將正方形傾斜於水平線,看看學生還能不能認出該圖形是正方形;或者以 三條曲線組成一個圖形,測試學生有沒有留意圖形線的特性,會不會將該圖形看成是三角形。

學生在初小對各類四邊形有了一定的認識,到了小四上學期,可以說是將初小的學習來一次總結並進一步學習各類四邊形的特性,所以學生需要在這時學習(包括重溫)正方形、長方

形、菱形、平行四邊形和梯形等圖形的特性,並比較它們的特性。由於資料豐富,如果學生不懂得有系統地整理所學,便容易遺忘。到了評估的時候,學生也較容易遺漏,未能完整列出圖形的特性。

在以往的教學中,教師多會讓學生比對各類四邊形,從而加深他們對圖形的印象。例如, 透過比較平行四邊形和長方形,幫助學生辨別兩類圖形的異同;透過概念圖,協助學生釐清各 類四邊形的關係。透過用心安排教學活動和流程,教師將四邊形的知識作清晰的整理展示,學 生能較為有組織地理解各類圖形的屬性。

經過備課會的商討,聖文德天主教小學的教師在本年度的教學中嘗試以另一個角度引導學生學習四邊形。教師更加強調圖形**邊的特性和角的特性**,幫助學生更好地掌握四邊形學習的重點,包括要求學生了解圖形的對邊是否平行,有多少組對邊是平行的;圖形的對邊是否長度相等,有多少組對邊長度相等;然後再從圖形的角出發,討論圖形有多少個直角等問題,讓學生清楚了解圖形邊和角的特性。

上述的教學活動,多屬Van Hiele幾何學習的分析期。從課堂所見,學生較為容易適應並能辨別圖形的特性。所學習的內容雖然與以往的相同,但教師利用兩個角度(圖形對邊的特性和圖形角的特性)貫串各類圖形的學習,亦能夠突出各圖形的相似與不同之處。

Monaghan (2000) 認為我們能透過兒童的用語來更清楚地掌握兒童的學習概念,例如當詢問學生有關長方形和正方形的分別時,學生往往以為長方形會比正方形大,這可能是由於學生只看過課本中的幾個例子而形成的錯誤觀念,我們可從學生的回應了解學生經過學習究竟形成了什麼概念。基於上述原因,在教學的過程中,教師會藉著提問,了解學生的想法,從而發現學生還存在的學習問題,並作出跟進。例如在教學活動的過程中,我們發現小部份學生因應生活上的經驗,用錯誤的觀念解釋什麼是四邊形的「對角」。有了此發現,教師便首先深入解說圖形的基礎概念,然後才進一步教授四邊形的其他特性。

在教學過程中,我們再一次看到學生有良好學習習慣的重要。例如在辨認菱形有沒有四個 直角時,有部份學生仍停留在初階的幾何學習階段,只是利用直觀的方法進行判斷,較容易出 錯。較細心的學生,會利用直尺檢查圖形的角度是鋭角、直角或是鈍角。學生透過實證能更清 楚了解圖形的特性。除利用直尺作為學習工具,教師也會利用電子教具、釘板及四邊形圖案等 作為輔助,幫助學生鞏固所學。

到了總結的階段,教師亦透過小遊戲的方式讓學生學習。活動是要求學生做小偵探,教師在袋中藏有一個四邊形,要求學生透過提問有關圖形的問題找出圖形是哪一類的四邊形。學生不能要求教師直接告知答案,而是利用剛學習的四邊形知識,詢問教師有關圖形的特性。例如學生只能提問教師「圖形是不是有四個直角」、「圖形的兩組對邊是不是長度相等」等問題,而教師只是回答「是」或「不是」。透過一系列的提問,學生嘗試找出教師藏有一個怎樣的圖形。此活動與Van de Walle (1998) 提及的 "Shape Hunt"活動相似,都是要求學生利用圖形特徵找出圖形,在幾何教學中加入解難的意味,以提升學生的學習興趣。

我們也會提及進行教學活動時需要注意的細節。例如,在初次執行「小偵探」活動時,我們並未要求學生即時紀錄教師的回答,只是要求學生記著教師的回答便可。當教師回答了學生兩、三個問題後,發現學生已忘記了第一個問題的答案,接下來學生只是瞎猜答案。看到此情況,我們便要求學生作紙筆記錄,或由教師提供四邊形的教具讓學生作記錄,當有了這些輔助



工具,學生能更有系統地記錄活動中的提問與回答,因而能更準確地辨認四邊形,達到了活動的目的。有時我們有了好的教學意念,在執行時或未能有預期的效果,不一定代表教師要摒棄整個活動,或以為該意念不可行。我們可藉着審視活動的執行過程,反思在細節上是否出了什麼差錯並作出改善,使活動得到較為令人滿意的效果。

從課堂所見,學生多能從活動中鞏固此單元的學習。在小班教學的環境中,教師不妨多利用討論的方法,讓學生可以從「生生互動」及「師生互動」中學習,並配合適當的提問,令學生有更多思考數學的機會(Galton, 2009)。

活動除了幫助學生重溫圖形的特性,更促使學生在學習以數學語言作討論,例如學生在活動中需指出哪些圖形四邊相等,並以數學語言作滙報。在進行遊戲時,若學生未能善用精確的數學語言進行提問,則學生未能從教師處獲得有用的資訊。故在小組討論和活動時,學生都有機會從聽、講中學習,達到了我們在教學中訓練學生溝通能力的目的(香港課程發展議會,2000)。

在此分享會,我們會透過分析課程結構與教師一起剖析四邊形的教學重點,亦會利用課堂 片段,反思學生學習上的困難和學習經過,提出我們在教學上的另類嘗試,讓教學活動更突出 圖形的屬性。在活動中,學生透過小組活動掌握圖形的邊和角的特性。除此之外,學生亦在活 動和遊戲中利用數學語言與同學溝通,亦令學生能透過自己的語言整理學習的內容,加深了對 各類四邊形的印象。希望教師能藉此分享會瞭解四邊形的不同教學策略,並進一步掌握學生的 學習模式。

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## 常識學習領域

## 服務學習 — 在常識科發展社會探究的平台

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常識科富跨學科特色,當中「社會與公民」範疇正好是在小學程度引入社會探究學習模式的切入點。教師可因應小學生對社會的理解程度,設計與議題或社會現象有關的探究式服務學習,從而引發學生的學習興趣。講者將分析如何在小學常識科配合社會探究模式,透過經歷學習及全方位學習,讓小學生在服務學習的過程中發展他們的各種能力,在多重身份(設計者、服務者、學習者)中建構學生積極參與社會事務的態度及價值觀,成為勇於承擔責任的社會公民。

## 服務學習的理論基礎和定義概説

服務學習孕育自 Dewey (1938)「從做中學習」的經驗理論。它亦融匯了較近代 Kolb (1984) 的「經歷學習」理論,在施行過程中也應用了 Shumer (1993) 關於「學習乃學習者與學習環境間 之相互作用的成果」的學習理論。所指的學習環境除了是學生進行服務的地點,亦包括當中的人與事。而經歷學習也是常識科全方位學習的核心意念所在。

在香港,「社會服務」的意念及其施行過程與目標普遍停留於單一次的小組義務工作,欠缺與課程之間的連繫,多以服務成果為量點。其實,「社會服務」與「服務學習」的定義在層次上是大有分別的。「社會服務」沒有特別具體目標去完成,而「服務學習」則是透過有系統的設計、規劃、督導、省思與評量來達至設定的學習目標,是「服務」與「課程學習」的相互結合(黃玉,2001)。另外,Jacoby (1996) 亦強調「結構化反思」與「互惠」在服務學習的重要。

## 發展常識科為基石的服務學習

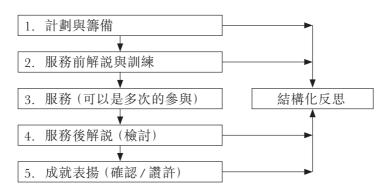
兩所分享學校的服務學習均配合了常識科的課程及校本文化而發展出來的。服務主題從常識科課題出發(課程為本學習),配合相應議題或社會現象的探究(探究為本學習),學生透過籌劃活動、進行服務的過程及定期作結構化反思,切身處地,運用社區資源學習(經歷為本學習)。這種課程設計綜合了上述各年代學説而成。它強調服務與學習須有緊密關聯,學生在真實環境裡和從經歷中學習。是促使學生成為社會上終身的積極參與者(Elwell,2001)的橋樑。

## 服務學習的五個重要階段

服務學習大概可分為五個重要階段(圖一),過程中,結構化反思是十分重要的工具。它不但能協助學生梳理各課程階段的學習重點,亦是重要的評估工具及學習成果顯証(特別是態度及價值觀轉變)。它能幫助老師檢視教學效能,是貫通整個服務學習的縱軸。



圖一:服務學習的五個重要階段



## 實例分享 甲、校外服務篇 課程設計簡介

十八鄉鄉事委員會公益社小學配合了校本主題「弘揚公益精神,共創和諧社群,做個關愛公益人」,從四年級常識科上學期的兩個單元「香港今昔」和「社會服務與我」設計出「玩轉心思 See」的服務學習主題及進行了為期半個多月的專題研習。在2011年12月中旬,全級四班學生(約150人)分別於天水圍區內四所不同的幼稚園服務幼兒。當上了「小老師」,帶領幼兒進行攤位遊戲,共享香港昔日兒童玩意的樂趣。

## 探究式服務學習課程

學生在單元「香港今昔」裡認識了香港今昔的不同和影響香港經濟發展的因素,並掌握了訪問及對項比較技巧。在另一個單元「社會服務與我」,學生接觸到教育服務的資料。結合着這兩單元的教學內容及技能,老師們構思了「玩轉心思 See」這服務學習主題。老師們按照學生的年紀、心智程度及生活經驗,選擇了幼稚園學生為服務對象。

## 探究過程

課程以在物質富裕生活中本港兒童不珍惜玩具的現象作探討。由數算社區為幼兒提供的各項服務及設施出發,再從訪問長輩及搜集二手資料找到昔日玩具的特色,再對項比較香港今昔兒童玩意之別。從中了解香港經濟發展迅速,孩子的玩具趨向電子化,傳統簡單有趣的玩具已逐漸被淘汰,讓學生感受由社會發展帶來各項民生轉變上的得與失。是次服務學習,一方面從常識科知識出發以建構學生珍惜玩具和保育人民文化價值觀;另一方面提升他們對公民責任的認知,從而樂於為社會作出貢獻。

## 服務過程

進行探究後,同學因應服務對象(幼稚園幼兒)興趣上、智能上及體能上的需要,改良了昔日的兒童玩意,製作了合適的玩具。學生細心地策劃場地及安排活動,並作出了多次的綵排及改良。在為幼兒安排攤位遊戲的過程中,掌握了策劃及帶領羣體活動的技巧,自己也領略到玩這些傳統玩具的樂趣。

## 結構化反思顯示學與教成果

我們發現學生的學習動機有所提升及變得積極主動。從他們的結構化反思及口頭滙報中, 可見學生大多樂於從服務經歷及在真實環境中學習。透過與幼兒的交流,學生運用了不同的共 通能力及領導才能,處理各樣突發的事件。這些記錄在結構化反思中的學習成果皆非日常學與 教或紙筆評估能直接顯示的。

## 乙、校內服務篇

## 課程設計簡介

五旬節靳茂生小學配合了聖誕節和基督教傳揚愛的理念,把每年十二月定為「服務學習月」,各級以不同主題進行,是全校的縱向服務學習課程。服務對象先由低年級的家人開始,再拓闊到同學和老師。推而廣之,再在高年級延展至社會上有需要的人。各級完成服務學習後,再全校一起參加「聖誕暖Love Love」食物捐贈活動作終結。

六年級從「了解世界」範疇中的貧窮問題,設計出「聖誕暖Love Love」的服務學習主題。 六年級學生帶領全校,於12月中下旬在校內進行了為期半個多月的服務學習活動。約200名六 年級學生在校內擔當「愛心大使」,他們先了解本港貧富懸殊的社會議題、清貧家庭的困境和需 要、食物銀行的運作及其重要性,再把社會議題及募捐的訊息傳揚。然後,全校上下齊心,為 本港「食物銀行」籌集食物,捐獻給活在貧窮綫下的清貧家庭,以愛送暖。

## 探究式服務學習課程

香港雖是一個繁榮地區,但繁榮的背後,卻有不少家庭活於貧窮綫以下,三餐不得溫飽, 須靠食物銀行援助方能過活。課程配合了常識科「了解世界」範疇中的貧窮問題,讓學生在時事 議題中探討香港貧窮問題,並帶出食物銀行的重要性。

### 探究過程

先從討論香港貧富懸殊的議題,讓學生認識食物銀行。學生透過搜集二手資料如時事報導、各食物銀行的資料、電視專輯、報刊專題個案報導等,分析本港貧富懸殊的民生問題、清貧家庭的困境和需要、食物銀行的運作及其重要性,進而嘗試提出解決方法。

老師加入個案研究及同理心元素,讓學生代入報刊報導的其中一個清貧家庭個案身份,以 寫出一篇日記。同時,加入了感官元素,特選了午膳時段,安排六年級學生到正享用美味午餐 的低年級課室作小老師,餓着肚子為低年級學生解説香港貧富懸殊有市民挨餓的現況。最後, 學生代表更親身探訪聖雅各福羣會的食物銀行,進行一手資料搜集,透過訪問負責社工,深入 了解機構的運作和受眾面對的困難。

## 服務過程

對內,學生擔當了小老師,主動籌辦了一系列的學習活動。他們把研習資料,透過製作海報和宣傳單張、展示及講解專題展板、自編自導自演,拍攝了宣傳短片於午膳期間中央播放等活動,在課餘時段親身教導全校一至五年級的同學。

對外,學生擔當了食物銀行募捐大使,為「食物銀行」收集、點算及整理了所籌得物資。於 聖誕聯歡會早上轉交到食物銀行工人員手中。全校上下齊心籌集食物,捐獻給清貧家庭。

## 結構化反思顯示學與教成果

靈活運用結構化反思,著學生於探討時事議題後、策劃活動後、完成服務學習後作適時反思,避免他們因時間的流逝而遺忘當中經歷過的珍貴回憶。



## 發現與反思

從兩所分享學校的經驗、學生的學習成果、老師的反思中我們總結了以下要項:

#### 一、課程為本、探究為本、經歷為本三者乃環環相扣

開展前,教師須從常識科中的課題清楚挑選箇中的知識、技能、態度及價值觀,配合小學生對社會的認知能力,融入相關議題或社會現象中作探究。老師在設計課程時應考慮孩子的心智程度、社交技巧、安全及體能等因素。多刻意安排學生參與籌劃,身體力行,發揮學生主導的機會。容讓學生從反思中糾正,與真實環境中的人和事交流,從做中學習。服務學習能將學生於課堂所學習的知識性層面,用實際的行動實踐出來。服務之過程對學生的思考、技能及個人成長皆有裨益。

#### 二、服務學習中強調結構化反思

結構化反思過程能讓他們展現所學所領會的東西,亦能引證他們所付出的努力。 老師在設計結構化反思時要避免使用封閉式或帶有引導性的提問,以免把結構化反思 誤變成有特定答案的習作。另外,畢竟小孩子的詞匯及人生閱歷有限,反思往往流於 陳述事情發生經過的層次。教師可在孩子寫反思前作開放性的提問,鼓勵學生深思是 次經歷對其固有看法的影響。

服務學習中學生表面上雖是付出努力服務社羣的「服務者」,實際上,學生是課程的「設計者」及「學習者」。在體驗學習過程中與學習環境作緊密的互動,建構科本知識、各種技能、正面態度及價值觀。最終,學生其實是整個學習旅程最大「獲益者」。當中,校本文化背景的考慮,教師團隊對服務學習的理解及承擔,對常識科學習重點的掌握及課程發展的技巧是同樣重要的。事實上,只是單次的服務學習當然不能令孩子的價值觀有即時的正向轉變,所以,服務學習應是細水長流的公民教育途徑。

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## 如何運用報章新聞作為常識科教學資源

余忠權先生(高級學校發展主任) 仇依庭老師、鄭子俊老師、葉翠鳳老師(聖公會嘉福榮真小學) 黃家玲老師、李雅詩老師(慈雲山天主教小學) 屈嘉曼老師、吳懷燕老師(將軍澳循道小學)

NIE (Newspaper In Education)盛行於一九三〇年代的美國,當時是由美國《紐約時報》協助推動大學的活用新聞運動,提倡拿報紙當作教材,教育孩子學習新知。時至今日,在香港中小學也常運用報紙進行教學,小學常識科著學生進行剪報,甚或在試卷中考核時事題,這其實已不是甚麼新事物。究竟「如何運用報章新聞作為常識科教學資源」這個議題還有什麼值得探討呢?

## 報章新聞與教育的關係

常識科近年的熱門議題相信非小學常識科課程指引新修訂及高中通識課程推行莫屬。2011年版的小學常識科課程指引指出,面對資訊爆炸及急劇轉變的年代,資訊更新的速度愈來愈快,常識科課本資料亦容易變得過時,因此,建議學校應避免讓課本主導教學,鼓勵教師善用社會資源,讓學生了解和觀察身邊的事物和社會上所發生的事。同時中學通識教育期望學生能成為有識見、負責任與具世界視野的社會公民。因此,報章新聞便順理成章地成為常識科有用的社會資源,它不但提供時事資訊,讓學生覺察到周遭社會所發生的事情,也提供了真實的學習素材,把學習與身邊事情連繫,增加學生對社會事情的了解。從而培養學生以開放的態度接納不同的觀點、意見、文化和價值觀。

近年,香港免費報紙愈出愈多,增加了報章在社會不同階層的滲透力,中大新聞與傳播學院院長蘇鑰機〇九年發表的《免費報紙對香港讀者市場的影響》「指出,免費報章面世後,香港人的閱報比例由〇五年的七成增至〇八年的超過八成,人們透過閱讀報章接收時事資訊的情況大大提高了;報紙的讀者除了成人外,還多了一批中小學生,這無疑增加了學生留意時事及關心社會的機會,也方便了教師運用報章新聞作教材。不過,報章提供的新聞資料都是二手資訊,往往經過傳媒機構的過濾,難免有傳媒自己的立場,而現時不少報章、雜誌的報導手法為求嘩眾取寵,甚至時有誇張失實。試想想學童在這些資訊中成長,對他們會有怎樣的影響呢?在去年十一月份,香港教育團體便走上街頭,抗議某份免費報章渲染色情暴力,荼毒少年兒童。甚至一直以來鼓勵學生閱報的學校,亦開始禁止師生在校內閱讀某免費報紙,這可見學校已關注報章對兒童的影響。

隨著社會資訊的繼續膨脹,學校把媒體經驗與知識帶進教室已是必然的發展。如果學校要 運用新聞作為常識科的教學資源時,我們應抱著什麼的態度呢?接受?反抗?學校又應扮演一 個怎樣的角色呢?這些都值得我們思考和討論。

## 運用報章教學的現況與意義

現時部份學校進行剪報教學的目的多是希望學生能留意時事及關心社會,所以多以剪報寫

<sup>1</sup> 轉載自《香港電台:傳媒透視2009年5月號〈免費報紙對香港讀者市場的影響〉》



感想或時事問答題的形式進行,著重學生搜集資料及表達個人感受的能力培養。此外,學校運 用報章進行教學亦多在高年級才推行,相信是與低年級閱讀能力及認知的局限有關。

如前文所述,在資訊爆炸的今天,學生只掌握搜集新聞資料的能力,足以應付這年代的需求嗎?傳媒教育學者 Masterman (1992) 指出,傳媒教育的目的是讓學生有獨立判斷能力,不受傳媒操控。台灣在推動閱讀時事性報章時,強調指導學生運用「解構新聞」、「思辨新聞」的策略,同時培養學生掌握閱讀新聞所提供的「判斷思考」、「多元觀點」等能力。

媒體在今日社會無所不在,已經無法與教育分離,教育與媒體已經成為影響人類生活的社會動力(Garrison, 1991)。因此,應盡早讓學生對新聞資訊有充足的準備及認識,使其可掌握更多知識有助判斷信息的真偽、價值取向,繼而懂得去欣賞及善用傳媒。

## 運用報章新聞作為常識科教學資源分享

是次分享主要從兩個層面分享如何運用報章新聞作為常識科教學資源:

- 一、閱讀報章新聞策略 教授閱讀報章的方法,讓學生讀懂報章訊息。
- 二、運用報章新聞進行教學 讓學生從理解新聞,到分析新聞、進而能作出選擇、評估媒介訊息,最後建立個人價值觀,成為一個具批判能力而又懂得運用資訊的人。

在分享會中,三所學校老師分別從「閱讀報章新聞策略」及「運用報章新聞進行教學」的層面,根據學校實踐經驗,透過教學示例,與大家分享運用報章教學的策略。

聖公會嘉福榮真小學從「閱讀報章新聞策略」層面,以一至六年級的剪報教學課程作示例, 分享如何應用「認識 → 解讀 → 分析 → 評鑑」的架構,有系統地進行報章新聞的學習,使學生 能掌握閱報的能力。另外,透過技巧課的安排,引入思維工具,以協助學生由認識報章結構到 應用報章學習。

發展重點	一年級	二年級	三年級	四年級	五年級	六年級
A. 認識報章						
認識報章名 稱及日期	認識報章名 稱及日期					
認識版面	直接從各版 面找文章 版面與標題 配對	從各版面找 標題				
分辨廣告及新聞	明顯的廣告 及新聞分類			新聞報導形 式的廣告及 新聞分類策 略		
新聞價值			分辨明顯的 事件/情境 會否被報導 及加以解釋	新聞價值: 事件重要性 排列	搜集頭條新 聞,並分析 選取的原因	
公信力						家人閱報習 調查VS分 析報章公信 力的調查

	B. 新聞結構					
認識標題、概述、內文及插圖	標題與內文配對 從報導概述中圈出人事)	內文配對版 面 運用思維概 念圖另類議 法提出建議	從報導動 等工 等工 等工 等工 等工 等工 等工 等工 等工 等工 等工 等工 等工	從報河及好 中重事 中重事 一不容 中期內容	運念考導人因 利找尋問屬分,立及 用出找機面報出、議 何實示 上级 一次	運念點析延合實分提場建用圖作 伸分與析出、議概觀分 綜事),立及概觀分 綜事),立及
C. 其他						
		選擇適合的 報章				網上報章瀏 覽技巧

慈雲山天主教小學和將軍澳循道衞理小學從「運用報章新聞進行教學」層面,分享如何把報章新聞與常識科課題結合,通過低小及高小的課堂示例,分享如何運用多元化模式以提升學生運用報章資料進行學習的方法。此外,老師亦會介紹課堂外運用報章新聞進行學習的示例,從活動構思、策略安排及反思方面,介紹用主題式、時事論壇及專題研習等模式以推動運用報章學習,從而提升學生批判思維的能力;讓學生從認識及理解新聞事件,了解社會現象,從而建立個人的觀點及價值觀。

		初小	高小
知道 → 理解	新聞資料 整理	小二:認識節日活動 透過報章標題分析,讓學生了 解節日活動的形式及影響	小四:小心用電 透過報章內容分析,讓學生了 解漏電意外的成因及預防方法
建立意見/評價/建議	新聞資料 分析	小三:交通安全、旅遊好去處透過不同新聞報導,讓學生運用思維工具,如比較、分類、正反分析,歸納出主題相關事件的成因及作出具體建議	小五:活得健康 綜合新聞報導、報告數據,讓 學生運用思維工具進行分析, 從而辨識其原因,探究不同情 境的影響,構想解決方法,最 後作出個人選擇及立場
知識應用	自學	小二:健康飲食 透過報章個案,讓學生運用課 堂所學知識進行評價及建議	小六:意外事件/平安是福 透過比較不同報章新聞,讓學 生分析意外主要成因,並透過 資料搜集,提出具體的預防及 處理方法,從而學習處理不同 意外事件的知識
	專題		小五:香港政府、關心社會運 用新聞資料及問卷調查,對一 位政府人物進行研習



面對傳媒社教化的影響,我們不能禁制報章的編綵及製作的內容,但我們可教導學生認識報章的技巧,從而運用報章資料進行學習,讓學生接觸傳媒,認識傳媒的影響力,培養他們對傳媒的「批判性醒覺」(critical awareness),令學生使用媒體而非受限於媒體,相信這是常識科老師重大的使命。正因如此,常識科老師需要在運用報章作教學資源的理念與策略上不斷更新變化,使學與教能與時並進。

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科學探究工作坊一讓學生透過數據蒐集及演繹探索世界

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科學容易使人聯想起精準的科學知識及其在日常生活的應用,而教科書的編排也多循這個方向編寫,這種取向使科學教育較為側重科學知識的傳遞,以致忽略學生對科學思考和方法的掌握。本文以探討科學知識的本質為切入點,並提出科學教育應加強發展學生探究世界的能力。此外,本文亦倡議發揮課堂作為群體學習環境的優勢,讓學生透過與同學和老師的互動共同進行探究,從而培養處理數據的能力和建立科學知識,藉著科學認識周遭的世界。

本工作坊會讓參與的老師親身體驗某些常識科課堂的經驗,而兩所滙報的學校會就其選取的課題,分享他們如何組織課程以提升學生的探究能力,並分析學生的學習表現,探討在課堂中如何實踐科學探究。

## 科學的本質

科學容易使人們聯想起系統化的科學知識,甚至能夠精確無誤地預計事物的發生,使人類擁有駕馭世界的能力。譬如北京太空飛行控制中心能夠使發射時間相差31日9小時44分07秒的「天宮一號」與「神舟八號」,在距地面382公里的軌道上準確對接,建立中國第一個空間站,這例子正顯示了科學知識的威力。環顧小學的課本,科學教育亦多著重解說科學知識,以「電」這個課題為例,課本一般著重解說何謂閉合電路、導電體與絕緣體,再配合電子教材進行電腦模擬實驗,然而學生在課堂中卻未必有機會接亮一個真實的小燈泡。諷刺的是數百年前的科學家卻是本於他們不斷進行與電相關的探究,最後才歸納出閉合電路、導電體與絕緣體等概念。以上的例子說明過於側重獲取科學知識的取向,著實有捨本逐末之嫌,使科學失卻了探究物理世界的本質。

Driver等人(1994)提出科學知識是象徵性的,而且是透過群體協商產生的。所謂象徵性是指科學對自然世界所作的是理解和演繹,而非找出世界的本體。經典的「波粒二象性理論」(Wave-particle duality) 正好用以説明Driver等人對科學知識的見解。著名科學家楊格(Thomas Young) 用波譜的角度解釋光在「雙狹縫實驗」中的現象,而愛因斯坦則以粒子的角度解釋光在「光電效應」的表現。由於波譜與粒子的思考角度各自為光在不同情況下作出符合實驗現象的解釋,於是引起科學界內激烈爭辯,兩邊陣營的科學家壁壘分明,互相嘗試說服對方。基於波譜學說始終解釋不了「光電效應」,而粒子學說也無法説明「雙狹縫實驗」,科學家們最後提出「波粒二象性理論」,同時承認光的波粒二象性。這說明科學知識的建立往往需要科學群體協商,才得以建立其認受性。而波譜與粒子不一定是在正確描述光的本體,但卻幫助我們理解光的相關現象。假若一天科學家發現第三種理解光的學說,說不定我們會聽到三象性理論的出現。以上對科學知識本質的討論,目的在於説明科學知識並不是對自然世界本體的描述,而是對世界作出理解,故此科學教育也不應只限於學習前人累積下來的科學知識,也應建立理解和探索這個世界的能力。

回顧多個具國際影響力的科學教育權威組織和報告,諸如AAAS (1993)、TIMSS (Mullise et al, 2005)和PISA (OECD, 2006),它們也提出科學素養的概念,儘管它們的具體詮釋各有不同,但整體方向卻仍指出科學教育需包含科學知識與科學過程能力的培養,以及能將科學運用於合適的情景 (Situation)中。科學素養可以說是結合科學知識、技能於合適情景中的成果。著重解說科學知識的傳統教學方法明顯無法回應科學素養的發展,而科學探究則成為這些組織和報告倡議的教學策略。然而在學校教育裏推行科學探究並不是一件容易的事,綜合美國科學教育基準 (National Research Council, 1996)及其後發展的科學評估架構 (National Assessment Governing Board, 2007)的建議,課堂轉變背後涉及以下各個層面:

- 一、課堂學習目標 不單包括科學知識,也包括科學過程技能(如觀察、記錄、分析和作出結論等)及科學的思考和態度,而且三者需要有密切的連繫,而不是分割的。
- 二、課堂探究活動 藉「動手活動」引導學生「動腦思考」, 動手活動不只是引發興趣的策略, 而是提供探究的具體情景, 讓學生進行真實的探究。
- 三、課堂探究空間 探究是對未知的事情進行研究,而不是對已知事實的重溫。動手活動應提供足夠的探索空間,課堂亦應培養學生蒐集和分析數據的能力。

## 透過群體協作,探究身處的世界

軒尼詩官立上午小學的老師與三年級學生探討香港常見的動物時,發現課本列舉的中華白海豚、盧文氏樹蛙、香港瘰螈和黑臉琵鷺固然是著名的物種,值得讓學生認識,但被動接受資訊對深化學生的學習起不了多大的作用。在共同備課會議的討論中,老師想到即使身處香港這個「石屎森林」,我們在日常生活中仍然會找到不少野生動物,於是老師設計了一張簡單的工作紙,讓學生用文字或繪圖的方式,記下自己在生活中遇到的野生動物。

一位同學在3天內可能只是記下5種動物,但一組4位同學便會有20種動物,透過小組資料整理和全班滙報的刺激,同學赫然發現原來在都市中還能找到為數不少的野生動物,歸納其中一組4份學生習作樣本,學生的觀察所得包括:壁虎、松鼠、飛蛾、「鼻涕蟲」、蜘蛛、野貓、螞蟻、麻雀、蝴蝶、小鳥、猴子、蝸牛和毛蟲。這些發現促使學生建立新的觀點 — 即使是高度現代化都市也不單是供人類居住的,原來我們是與其他生物共享這片土地的,故此人類應學習如何愛護我們的「鄰居」,與牠們和平共處。

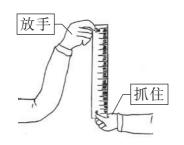
回顧課程的設計,學習目標不單包括認識香港的動物,也結合了主動觀察和記錄等技能,以及基於數據作結論。在學習過程中,學生主動蒐集數據和整理資料,當中結合了科學技能的培養和科學知識的建立。這種深刻的學習經驗,讓學生對身處的環境進行了一次簡單的探究,得到的雖不是甚麼驚人的發現,但卻是三年級學生透過探究而來的真實體會。從教學策略而言,學生的主動觀察和記錄為是次探究提供了真實的資料,讓學生學習的焦點從課本的內容,轉到活生生的四周環境。透過小組互動及資料的滙聚,學生浸淫於豐富的學習環境,他們分享自己對野生動物的認識,也聆聽同學的意見。透過這個豐富的學習經驗,學生跳出個人固有想法的框框,思考得以擴潤,這正是發揮課室群體學習優勢的好例子。

## 記錄和演繹數據,發展探究的思考和能力

共同備課會議中,聖公會柴灣聖米迦勒小學的老師發現課本裏有關人體各系統的學習側重資料的解說。老師希望學生在認識人體各系統之餘,也能透過簡單的探究活動深化學生的學習,於是設計了數個小活動讓學生對不同的系統加以探索。在神經系統課題中,老師參考了課本附頁

的資料,加以改良,成為一個課堂的探究活動。

活動以二人為一組,彼此輪流放開和接住尺子(見下圖)。當同學看到對方把尺子放開,要盡快接住,並記錄手抓住尺子的刻度,然後記下三個回合的結果。活動的目的是測試同學作出反應所需的時間,從而找出誰的神經系統反應較快。工作紙後半部份會藉此活動帶出神經系統所包含的身體器官,尤其是腦部的重要性,以補充相關的科學知識,亦會就隨意活動(voluntary action)與反射活動(reflex action)作出相比。



組員姓名	接到尺子位置的刻度
	cm
	cm
	cm

老師在課前曾親自嘗試進行活動,從而設計所需的材料和教學策略,透過親身的體會,老 師發現以下數個要點:

- 一、即使用上30厘米長的尺子,也不是每次都能成功抓著尺子。遇上尺子掉在地上,學生會怎樣作記錄呢?
- 二、由於反應的速度並不穩定,故此必須作重複測試。而兩人3輪共6次測試的結果正好造就了不同演繹數據方法的機會,讓學生可以討論各自的見解,學習判斷不同方法的優劣。
- 三、老師在引導學生探討以上問題時,需要提供較多的思考時間和較關的思考空間,而在 教學策略上也需要相應的配合。

由於老師對活動有充足的掌握,對尺子掉在地上已早作預期,並藉此讓學生學習如何記錄 實驗結果。在活動的過程中,老師細心觀察各組如何記錄尺子掉在地上的結果,然後在全班討 論時鼓勵學生把不同的記錄方法寫在黑板上,並讓他們作出解釋,下表綜合了學生在課堂所作 的討論:

記錄方法	背後原因
不作任何記錄	<ul><li>未作好準備,所以「唔算數」</li><li>尺子掉在地上不算是實驗結果</li><li>不知道準確的數字,所以不記錄</li></ul>
「0cm」	• 沒有實驗結果,所以用「0」作記錄
[30cm]	• 結果一定超過「30cm」,但由於不知道確實數字,故即使作最寬 鬆的處理,也要以「30cm」作記錄
$\lceil X \rfloor$	• 不知道準確的數字,故以「X」代表接不到尺子

以上的討論反映了學生從動手經驗而引發的豐富思考,也提供了很好的機會讓學生思考甚麼是客觀的記錄,學習科學記錄不應因自己的喜惡而排除。透過聆聽其他同學的意見,學生學習判斷不同的觀點,從中修改自己的謬誤,例如:在這個實驗中,「0cm」不應是接不到尺子的記錄,而是代表不需時間已能抓往尺子。



現代科學的發展與數學有密切的關係,處理及理解數據是重要的科學技能,亦是學生探究世界的重要工具,科學教育需要培養學生這方面的能力。然而,對小學生而言,運用數字描述實驗結果可以是相當抽象的,例如:這次探究記錄的是長度的單位(厘米),但它其實是反映所需時間,可是這個轉折卻沒有對學生造成任何障礙,究其原因是學生親身參與的動手活動促進他們對這些數字的理解,這說明了情景(Situation)能促進學生對所探究現象的掌握,其重要性不可以被忽略。

讓我們用以下一組學生的實驗記錄,來進一步探討學生如何處理及理解數據。

組員姓名	接到尺子位置的刻度
	12 cm
A	6 cm
	24 cm

組員姓名	接到尺子位置的刻度
	14 cm
В	10 cm
	11 cm

在小組討論中,各組學生用各自不同的方法去處理他們自己的數據。當老師展示上面的記錄,有同學認為A的反應較快,也有同學認為B的反應較快,於是老師讓同學説出各自的理據,下表列出學生在課堂中提出的部份理據。

A 反應較快的理據	B 反應較快的理據
<ul><li>綜觀所有記錄,「6cm」是最快的記錄</li><li>A在三輪中勝出兩回(三盤兩勝)</li></ul>	<ul> <li>把三次記錄加出來,A是「42cm」,而B是「35cm」</li> <li>剔除三次中最快和最慢的記錄,A剩下的記錄是「12cm」,B剩下的記錄是「11cm」</li> </ul>

老師鼓勵學生解釋自己的理據,並以日常生活經驗説明,例如:學生會說:「猜皇帝不也是三盤兩勝嗎?」、「學校不是把各科分數加起來計算名次嗎?」。在確保學生了解每個理據後,老師讓學生投票選出他們希望採納的處理方法,最後「三盤兩勝」成為這次全班的共同標準。儘管科學著重客觀和理性,但科學知識也需要有群體共識的支持,在理性和客觀數據未能找出答案時,群體信服的共識更顯重要,這正如天文學家在2006年把冥王星剔出太陽系行星之列,也是基於他們投票接納新行星定義的結果。

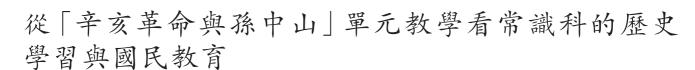
回顧課堂中的教學處理手法,老師會透過列舉及比較不同記錄,以突顯問題的核心。老師亦會刻意製造促進學生思考的機會,例如:在提出較具挑戰性的問題時,會先讓同學在小組中作討論,透過聆聽和判斷不同意見,加深思考的深度。在教學過程中,老師的教學不是要引導學生説出正確的答案,而是讓學生藉著參與學習活動,展現他們的思考,讓學生經歷真實的探究歷程,培養科學素養,讓學生透過科學認識這個世界。

科學教育是常識科重要的一環,也承擔起培養學生探究自然世界能力的使命,要達成這個偉大的使命,科學課堂不可單靠講解前人留下的科學知識,也需建立結合科學知識、能力和情景的科學素養。兩所學校分享的經驗印證了透過動手活動刺激學生動腦思考的可行性。在學習過程中,學生透過親身蒐集數據,學習如何處理和演繹,從而更深入了解他們所探討的科學課題。

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本場次內容分為兩部份,第一部份論述常識科「國民身份認同」學習範疇的教學理念和探究策略,並闡釋學習歷史與培養國民身份的關係。第二部份是兩所學校分享設計和實施「辛亥革命與孫文」單元教學的經驗。兩所學校為配合「辛亥革命百週年」重要日子,讓學生在常識科「辛亥革命與孫文」單元學習中對辛亥革命有更深認識,即中國由君主專制制度走進共和制度,並思考現代國民身份的意義。

## 第一部份 — 常識科的歷史學習與國民教育

常識科由六個學習範疇組成,當中「國民身份認同」範疇裏古代至近代中國歷史構成主要內容,老師在處理有關內容時面對兩個問題:(1)如何讓學生在探究中學習歷史?(2)怎樣在學習過程中使學生建立國民身份以至認同感?亦即達致國民教育的根本目標。常識科「國民身份認同」範疇和國民教育同樣由認識國家開始,那麼,「國家是什麼?」,這是在構思學習內容時要解答的問題,借用政治學的定義<sup>1</sup>,國家包含四個主要元素,即人民、土地、政府和主權:

- 土地 疆界內的自然環境、氣候、地形和天然資源。
- 人民 生活在疆界內的成員、種族、生活習慣和風俗。
- 政府 管治這塊土地和人民的組織和相關的人物。
- 主權 政府對外維持國家的獨立和自主的能力,亦即外交關係和對外影響力。

事實上,常識科有關古代至近代中國歷史的內容也包含這四個主要元素,問題在於如何提供一個探究過程給學生,讓他們在思考中學習。

#### 一、探究中學習常識科的歷史課題

在設計我國古代歷史教學時,可將這四個元素構成一個互動關係<sup>2</sup>,組織不同朝代的學習內容和擬定探究重點,焦點在於思考歷代帝皇的施政效果,評價他們的表現,而不只是由教師單向地講解學習內容。吳翎君(2004)介紹英國和美國歷史課程綱要和課程標準有關歷史思維技能內容,當中適用小學能力的項目如下:

- 1. 編年式思維 ─ 按時序組織歷史事件和人物事蹟; 運用組織圖,包括時間線、流程圖等。
- 2. 歷史性理解 在地圖、圖表、相片、繪畫、實物內找出文字、數字和視覺上的資料; 了解人物在歷史上的重要性。
- 3. 歷史性分析與解釋 分析歷史事件發生的背景,解釋事件之間的因果關係;歷史人物身處的環境,要解決的問題和面對的困難;比較人物的能力、強項、弱點和對社會的影響。
- 4. 歷史的研習技能 蒐集和組織不同種類的資料的技巧。

¹ 楊日青等譯,Andrew Heywood著(2009),頁 134-7。

5. 歷史性議題的分析與決策 — 提出及討論「建議 | 的可能性; 替歷史人物做決定。<sup>3</sup>



圖一:國家元素的互動關係

應用上述五種歷史思維技能設計課堂提問、小組討論問題與專題研習的探究問題,學生藉此歷史思維過程,深入理解和分析歷史的人和事,現將第二學習階段內相關的思考問題列舉如下:

- 1. 政府 中國古代是君主專制管治,君主帝王即政府的最高領導人,因此,學生認識歷代帝王的事蹟、治國政策和措施,實際上是理解不同朝代的政府表現。「秦始皇的領導和管治能力怎樣呢?」「比較漢武帝和唐太宗的領導和管治能力,有甚麼不同呢?」由這些評價問題使學生對歷代帝王有更深的理解。
- 2. 主權 學生從一些古代人物的外遊事蹟和經歷,了解古代中國和外國的關係,例如張騫出使西域、玄奘往印度學佛、鄭和七下西洋。此外,認識歷代帝王與當時鄰邦的關係,反映不同朝代對外展示主權的不同程度,例如:漢武帝和匈奴的關係,唐太宗統治下與鄰國的關係,明代鄭和下西洋期間,途經的國家與明代的關係。學生一方面認識中外文化交流的情況,另一方面,從中國與外國和平相處或戰爭狀態,反思「不同朝代國力的強或弱」、「這種交流是利抑或弊」等問題。
- 3. 土地 除了上述有關地理知識外,學生可多了解不同朝代的疆界和面積,對自然資源的開採和使用情況,以至重大的天災事件,藉此誘發學生對這片土地有更深的感情,這是現時常識科較少著墨之處。<sup>4</sup>
- 4. 人民 在不同朝代的君主管治之下,人民的生活情況,學生可思考「他們活得愉快嗎」、「活得艱苦嗎」,讓學生嘗試理解當時人們的生活經歷。

#### 二、由探究中引發國民情意的培養

在探究過程中,學生對歷史的人和事有深入的理解,誘發情意的發展,不是由老師灌輸某立場給學生,而是他們藉易地而處或感同身處其中所出現的同理心,繼而產生個人的情感。在學習古代至近代中國歷史部分,老師提出以下問題:

- 「歷代君主的管治對當時人民生活帶來甚麼影響?好的影響還是壞的影響? |
- •「在他管治之下,你會活得開心嗎?有安全感嗎?」
- •「你願意生活在他管治的時代嗎?為甚麼?」
- •「你願意跟隨張騫出使西域嗎?為甚麼?」
- •「你願意跟隨鄭和下西洋嗎?為甚麼?」

讓學生「扮演」成為古代中國的一份子,表達對當時帝皇或政府的評價,進而替歷史人物做 決定或給予意見,目的是產生關顧之情和認受感,就是我也是昔日生活在這片土地上的一份子。

在學習秦始皇事蹟時,學生先從正反兩面評價施行的政策和建設,再表達個人對人物的看法。此外,學生利用溫氏圖比較秦始皇與唐太宗兩位皇帝在施政上的異同,大部份學生在異同的分析後,均對唐太宗有較高的評價。為使學生思考鴉片戰爭的發生,他們了解林則徐和義律

<sup>3</sup> 有關歷史思維的理念和教學設計可參閱吳翎君(2004),頁29-51。

<sup>\* 2011</sup>年5月發表《德育及國民教育課程指引(小一至中六)》諮詢稿內,當中第二學習階段有學習目標提出「關心國家氣候變化、自然資源的運用及環保概況,培養愛護國家生態之情」與學習內容,見香港課程發展議會(2011),頁34。



在鴉片戰爭的立場,然後表達對戰爭的看法,最後代入歷史人物林則徐角色,提出個人做法。這樣使學生對歷史事件有更深的理解以至投入感。

## 第二部份 — 「辛亥革命與孫中山 | 單元教學的分享

兩所學校在常識科近代中國歷史部份規劃與落實「辛亥革命與孫文」主題教學,主要有兩個原因,第一個原因是為配合今年「辛亥革命百週年」,藉此重要日子,讓學生對辛亥革命有更深認識,了解中國由君主專制制度走進共和制度的重要意義。第二個原因是老師想通過是次單元教學的規劃和實施,反思推行國民教育的目標和策略。是次單元教學的設計取向有兩個特色:

- 第一個特色是採用第一部份闡釋的探究中學習,誘發國民身份的認同感;
- 第二個特色是提供不同形式的場景,包括中山文物史蹟徑大型街道圖、相關革命機關和人物的展板、校舍壁畫與親身遊覧中山文物史蹟徑活動,讓學生藉此感受香港與孫文和革命運動的密切關係。

現將有關該主題教學的總目標、學習活動和探究問題簡介如下:

#### 單元教學的總目標

- 1. 學生評價孫文在革命運動中的角色和地位。
- 2. 學生思考「革命可以單靠一人完成嗎?」
- 3. 學生理解孫文的學習生活和革命事業與香港的關係。
- 4. 學生反思國民對國家的責任和盡責的表達方式。

將軍澳循道衛理小學於六年級實施該單元教學,內容如下:

思考點/探究問題	學習活動簡介
1.1 童年的經歷,對孫文有甚麼 影響? 1.2 孫文為何選擇革命而不是立 憲? 1.3 孫文的革命事業和香港有何 關係?	課堂教學:     學習孫文事蹟和他在香港的生活情況     教學過程中,學生思考在欄1.1-1.3問題 小組討論:     學生進行腦激盪,列出革命需要的人、物資和方法     資料閱讀和總結:以小組形式,和組學生藉閱讀選定
1.4 革命需要甚麼?	重點的相關展板資料,然後寫出重點
2 孫文和香港有甚麼關係?	場境學習:     學校在禮堂放置中山文物史蹟徑地圖及相關人物和地點的展板     學生找出孫文在港學習、參加教會和投身革命各方面活動的資料,完成工作業。     最後,回應以下評價問題作結,「孫文有甚麼才能和貢獻?」「沒有孫文的話,革命會發生嗎?」

英皇書院同學會小學的主題教學活動主要分為高小和初小兩部分,現表列如下:

小一至小三	小四至小六	
週會講座	週會講座	
主題:孫文的革命事業	主題:辛亥革命與香港的關係	

#### 棋藝活動

• 藉「孫文一生」棋活動,加深學生對孫文的認識。

專題研習:「單靠孫文一人,革命可以完成嗎?」

- 小組形成進行—蒐集孫文與兩至三位革命 家的事蹟資料,運用時間線與圖表形式組 織資料重點
- 總結和評價—學生綜合上述資料後,回 應以下問題:「為何他加入革命份子的行 列?」「沒有他革命會完成嗎?」專題研 習:「辛亥革命是否單靠孫文一人完成?」

#### 課堂教學:向革命英雄致敬

- 學生學習多位革命英雄事蹟,包括秋瑾、 黃興、李紀堂和陳少白。
- 學生製作心意咭及繪圖,表達對革命英雄的感受。

中山文物史蹟徑遊

若干高小學生以導賞員身份,向參觀同學和家長介紹中山史蹟徑的故事和相關資料

現簡述兩所學校在單元教學和專題研習兩個主要項目的實施概況和學生的學習表現:

- 一、單元教學方面 藉問題讓學生思考學習內容
  - 為使學生綜合和分析課堂的學習內容,老師藉提問誘發他們思考「在美國夏威夷和香港的學習經歷對孫文有甚麼影響」,學生能指出「讓孫文對國家的落後有更深的體會」及「了解西方的民主制度」,不僅是「學會了英文」。
  - 為使對孫文選擇革命有更深的理解,學生從正反兩面思考「立憲和革命帶來甚麼好處和 壞處」。
  - 老師提問「需要甚麼才能進行革命」,學生經討論後大都能歸納出「除了孫文外,還要更 多革命人士、金錢、宣傳方法」,這樣使學生對革命有更全面的看法。
  - 好學生認識辛亥革命的經過後,分析「革命讓人們得到甚麼和失去甚麼」。學生認為革命 讓我們得到民主、自由和選舉,有些人卻失去了性命、家人和金錢。

#### 二、專題研習方面 — 資料的綜合和分析

- 藉研習活動探究「革命可以單靠孫文一人完成嗎」,學生蒐集孫文和其他革命烈士的資料,並作出比較。學生大多能從資料中找出重點,運用時間線和履歷表列出人物的重要事蹟,然後從性格、才能、貢獻各方面進行比較,再提出個人看法,例如有些學生選取李紀堂和林覺民與孫文比較後,指出革命單靠孫文一人是不能成功的,「因為最少是要有人捐款或籌款和要有人上戰場打仗」;「因為每人擔當的位置也不同,各人有各人的重要性。要革命成功應該要有不輕易放棄的心,願意犧牲自己的性命和願意離開家庭」。
- 營造場境與實地考察 兩所學校採用展板及「易拉架」形式展示若干革命人物資料,此外,舖設大型中山文物史蹟徑街道圖,讓學生了解孫文在香港學習和進行革命活動的主要範圍,增強學生對孫文與香港的密切感受。由於英皇書院同學會小學位於中山文物史蹟徑範圍內,趁地利之便,舉行中山文物史蹟徑遊,由高小年級學生擔任導賞員,向同學和家長介紹中山史蹟徑的相關資料,參與學生表示此活動讓他們了解「香港在革命運動原來扮演這樣重要的角色」。



本場次分享內容強調學生在探究中學習歷史課題,不論是歷代君主的事蹟,還是近代革命志士的犧牲故事。在學習「革命運動和孫文」單元時,學生不只是認識孫文的生平事蹟和革命運動的發生,更重要是思考「革命運動是否單靠孫文一人」和「孫文在革命運動有甚麼貢獻」,在思考過程中投入過去時空,產生「我是一份子」的認同感,這種認同感不是單向地接收或同意某些情感或看法,而是讓學生理解和體驗過去人們的遭遇,誘發感同身受的個人情意,可以是欣賞或厭惡,可以是支持或批評,重要的是對國家的人和事動之以情,不管是面對過去的歷史還是當代的國事!這也是配合自由和開放社會的教學取向。

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