

Learning Outside the Classroom

Learners of all ages benefit from activities where they can experience real life 'hands on'; through sight, sound and touch they can explore the world around them and have opportunities to experience challenges, try out new ideas and investigate the world around them. In geography we know these experiences as fieldwork.

Fieldwork is recognised as a vital part of the teaching of geography at all levels. Exposure to television, advertising and modern travel has extended learners' awareness of other places and environments, but nevertheless they often remain unobservant, uncritical and unchallenged. Many learners make little use of their experiences in their local area to really understand why things are as they are. *A different view* provides stunning images of places near and far which can be used to encourage learners to become inquisitive about their world.

The seven themes of *A different view* provide the starting points for developing new and relevant approaches to fieldwork which allow learners to have firsthand experiences in the real world. This will involve learners asking the questions, finding the evidence, experiencing the sounds and smells of an area at a particular moment in time. The images in *A different view* allow discussions about what a place might have been like in the past, why it is like it is now and how it might change in the future. Even better if they can go and experience it.

WEBLINKS

GA Website

Think Piece – Secondary Fieldwork

[http://www.geography.org.uk/projects/gtip/thinkpieces/fieldwork\(secondary\)](http://www.geography.org.uk/projects/gtip/thinkpieces/fieldwork(secondary))

Think Piece – Primary Fieldwork

[http://www.geography.org.uk/projects/gtip/thinkpieces/fieldwork\(primary\)](http://www.geography.org.uk/projects/gtip/thinkpieces/fieldwork(primary))

Early Years and Primary Fieldwork

<http://www.geography.org.uk/projects/younggeographers/>

http://www.geography.org.uk/shop/shop_detail.asp?ID=523§ion=2

KS3 Fieldwork

<http://www.geography.org.uk/projects/livinggeography/rotherham/myplacemyspace>

Beyond the Bike Sheds – a resource to develop fieldwork

http://www.geography.org.uk/shop/shop_detail.asp?ID=408§ion=3

Fieldwork resources

<http://www.geographyteachingtoday.org.uk/fieldwork/>

Rivers fieldwork

<http://www.geography.org.uk/projects/ks4ict/idea17>

a different view

a manifesto from the Geographical Association



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Other websites

Developing geographical enquiry skills and other courses from the Field Studies Council
http://www.field-studies-council.org/outdoorclassroom/geography_fieldwork.aspx

A Geography teachers' website which provides a range of virtual fieldwork
<http://www.georesources.co.uk>

The FSC has a good site which reviews fieldwork from KS3 to A-level
http://www.field-studies-council.org/outdoorclassroom/geography_fieldwork.aspx

Learning Outside the Classroom have a clear site which has regularly updated resources and case studies to be used

<http://www.lotc.org.uk/Resources/Resources.aspx>
<http://www.lotc.org.uk/Case-Studies/Case-Studies>

Geography Teaching Today has a good blog discussing Fieldwork techniques and an area that reviews fieldwork techniques for a wide range of areas.

<http://www.geographyteachingtoday.org.uk/talk/fieldwork/>
<http://www.geographyteachingtoday.org.uk/fieldwork/resource/fieldwork-techniques/>

The RGS has a range of templates for local fieldwork

<http://www.rgs.org/OurWork/Schools/Resources/Learning+locally+through+fieldwork/Learning+locally+through+fieldwork.htm>

Staffordshire Learning Net is an excellent Geography site which has a host of resources including fieldwork resources

<http://www.sln.org.uk/geography/>

The BBC is promoting activities within school grounds in the form of Breathing Places

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/breathingplaces/schools/>

Inclusion Interesting discussion pieces on accessibility learning Support for Disabled Students Undertaking Fieldwork

<http://www2.glos.ac.uk/gdn/disabil/>