

Press Release

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The Educational Project

The project will allow almost 2000 students from schools throughout the World (there are currently 60 classes participating, from 6 different countries – Switzerland, France, Belgium, Italy, Canada and Argentina) to work together around a single theme, to communicate with members of the expedition, and with resource people (for example scientists from institutes such as the CNRS in France).

The expedition members are all very involved in the educational project. Some of them participated at the launching ceremony, which took place on the 24th of October at the Onex-Bosson Primary School, where an on-line Chat room was set up to communicate with the other schools participating in the action. A summary of the day's proceedings is available at the following Internet address:

<http://www.educa.ch/projets/wall/journal.htm>

The web site that has been specially set up for the occasion acts as a means of communication and exchange of information for the various groups involved in the project. The school children will create web pages, and carry out research experiments on the theme of the Antarctic. They will also be exchanging and publishing information in collaboration with various groups, most particularly the expedition members.

Web site for teachers: <http://www.edunet.ch/activite/wall/index.htm>

Web site for students: <http://www.educa.ch/projets/wall/index.htm>

One of the planned activities, "*Antarctic Diaries*" began at the end of October. Several classes have already carried out experiments suggested by the site. A discussion group has been dedicated to this activity, which allows the young people to present their scientific conclusions. Another activity, which has also been launched, is the "*Antarctic Encyclopedia*", for which students are already preparing entries for insertion. On Monday, November 13th, the activity "*The Story Goes On*" was set in motion, while the final activity "*We are all immigrants*" will commence at the same time as the expedition.

A mailing list is also being put together, which should allow any one wishing to be kept abreast of developments, to receive regular updates concerning the site. This will open up the possibility to everyone, young and not so young, to follow the activities being carried out in the schools, and will allow for communication with the schools by email, without requiring that the correspondent engage in full participation in any long term work program.

The Wall in Antarctica
From 30 november
Queen Maud Land
www.antarctica.org

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