Student Project: Solutions for the Problem of Wastefulness of Restaurants in Bali, Indonesia

by Jennipher Spector

Tool(s) used:	Sustainability CompassSystems Iceberg
Purpose of using tool:	Synthesizing ThinkingGuiding Discussion
	Overview: Use of Compass model and Iceberg model to explore more deeply about the issue of wastefulness in restaurants.
Context of lesson/case study:	Optional class for grade 5 students interested in having a positive impact in Bali, Indonesia
Participants (# and description):	Currently, two grade 5 students who are highly committed to this project, with plans to expand the group once these two student "founders" have established a clear plan forward
Topic, Theme, or Key Understanding of unit/project:	Solutions for the problem of wastefulness of restaurants in Bali, Indonesia
Length of unit/project:	At least one school year, but potentially longer; currently the project has been underway for one month
Resources/materials & setting required:	Green Spoon 2016-2017.pdf

Lesson Plan/Description of the Project:

I presented the concept to a group of 15 grade 5 students during a period called "Digging Deeper," during which students are given the flexibility to join any activity that they are passionate about. Three students decided to commit to this project, though one student has since left the school.

The Sustainability Compass and iceberg model were used to explore the problem of wastefulness of restaurants in Bali. Once we began to understand the complexity of the problem, possible solutions have begun to emerge. The students have now decided to conduct Internet research to back up their knowledge with facts; create a PowerPoint presentation to explain the project to others; conduct interviews with parents, teachers, students, restaurant owners and workers, and other relevant people to better understand whether people are motivated to eat at restaurants that are less wasteful. If so, they intend to develop a website and/or app to help educate people about where to eat in Bali that has less of an environmental impact.

Reflection

Plusses:

My intention with this project was for it to be as student-guided as possible. Fortunately, I have the pleasure of working with two highly motivated students, so generating ideas has not been a problem. However, they can be a bit overly enthusiastic at times, so the sustainability compass and the iceberg model have been two very useful tools for helping guide their ideas into a more structured format. We will be returning to them frequently throughout the duration of the project to further expand and deepen our understanding of this very complex problem in Bali.

Challenges:

This is potentially a massive project that could involve many experts and last for years in order to be successful. We have just begun this project, but will be returning to the compass and iceberg models many times to keep us on track.

Suggestions for other practitioners and educators:

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Lesson plan submitted by: Jennipher Spector, 2016, while serving as Upper Primary Learning Support Teacher at Green School Bali, Indonesia

