

OFFICE OF SERVICE-LEARNING



2nd Asia-Pacific Regional Conference on Service-Learning

Promoting Intergenerational Relationships and Reading Cultures through Service-Learning: Strategies, Effectiveness and Lessons Learned

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1. Background

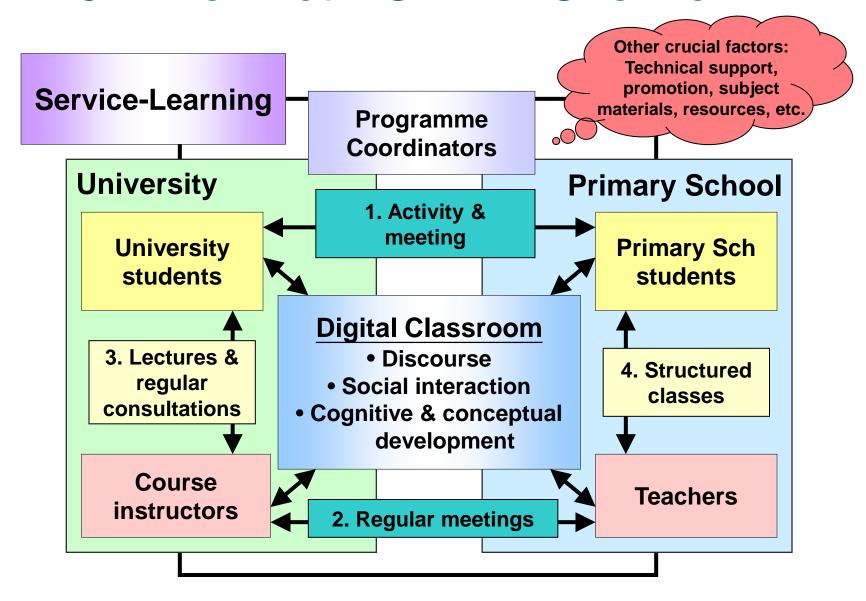
- Impact of Internet on reading habit
- Intergenerational relationships
- Integration of service-learning (SL) and Information and Communication Technology (ICT) into learning
- Riding on FJCU's success: Knowledge Management System (KMS) and the role of service-learning (SL)

A Pilot Digital Classroom Project (DCP)

2. Objectives of the Pilot DCP

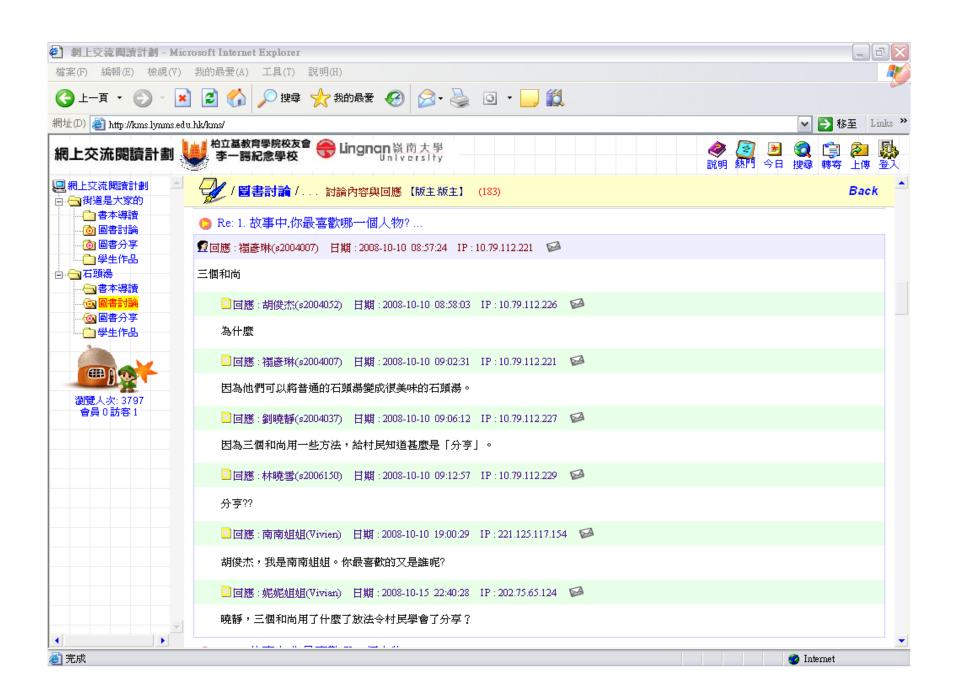
- To incorporate ICT into learning
- To increase learning and teaching efficacy
- 3. To enhance students' independent learning ability
- 4. To build intergenerational relationship
- 5. To make recommendation for further development and sustainability

3. The Pilot DCP: An Overview

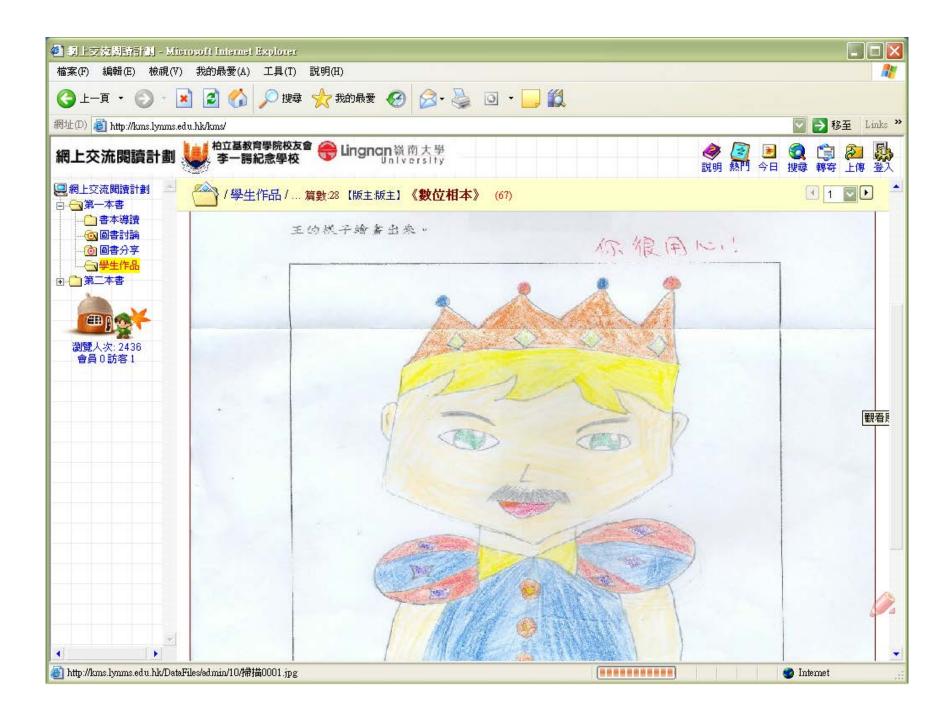


4. Implementation – Phase I (9/2007-5/2008)

Participant	Primary School Students	University Students
No. of Participants	35	4
School Year	Primary 4	3rd Year (Final year)
Role	Answering questionsParticipating in program activities	Peer tutorReading companion
Major Activities	- Reading 2 books (Related to personal growth and civil values)	- Reading 2 books (Related to personal growth and civil values)
	 Replying to questions, expressing personal discussion, opinion on the online forum Participating actively in 	- Enhancing and encouraging primary school students to share their reading experiences
	discussion	- Expressing personal opinion
	- Completing worksheet and related readings	- Assisting teacher in teaching and supervising online
	- Participating actively in the activity arranged by university students	discussion of primary school students
	Students	- Arranging reading activity







5. Evaluation: Methods

- Pre-test and post-test
- 2. Focus group interviews
- 3. Discourse analysis







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6. Findings of Evaluation: Success

- Primary school students
 - Less pressure when expressing own opinion
 - Platform for post-reading sharing
 - Improved Chinese language ability
 - Increased vocabulary
 - Improved written Chinese ability
 - Better communication skills, organizing skills and cooperation skills
 - Build up relationship among different age groups
 - Positive influence from peers

6. Findings of Evaluation: Success

- 2. University students
 - Learning from primary school students
 - More social exposure and increased awareness of social issues
 - Self-reflection
 - Self-motivation to volunteer in the future
 - Time management and cooperation skills

6. Findings of Evaluation: Success

3. DCP:

- Asynchronous vs synchronous discussion
- More elaboration and discussion apart from mere written work
- Establishment of appropriate attitude and etiquette of online discussion

7. Challenges Faced in Pilot DCP

- 1. Primary school participants
 - Chinese input skills
 - Limited online access
 - Differences in spoken Cantonese and written Chinese
 - Suitable for students with higher learning motivation?
- 2. University participants:
 - Role confusion (Teacher? Mentor? Friend? Volunteer?)

7. Challenges Faced in Pilot DCP

- Course instructors and primary school teachers
- 4. Parents of primary school students
 - Perception of "going online"
 - Notice to parents

7. Challenges Faced in Pilot DCP

- 5. Programme design
 - Duration of programme
- 6. System design and management
 - Operational system: Linux vs Windows
- 7. Resources
 - Hardware, system development
 - Human resources

8. Recommendations

- More face-to-face activities
- More involvement from University students
- Resources funding and sponsorship
- 4. Collaboration between Taiwan and Hong Kong universities and primary schools

Acknowledgement

- 1. SRBCEPSA Lee Yat Ngok Memorial School (柏立基教育學院校友會李一諤紀念學校)
- 2. Fu Jen Catholic University (輔仁大學)
- The late Prof Joel Richman



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