

Kathryn Wink Gilligan

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Nature of Science and Math: Analyzing the Presence in Everyday Communication

Part A

Science Addresses Questions About the Natural and Material World

The article does questions the understanding how people understand the geological structures and geological time. Scientists may have found a continent under New Zealand and the author does recognize “that the paper at this point represents the making of a geological case-opening of an argument rather than a solution” (Melvin, 2017) The investigation that there is a submerged geological structure that meets some of the requirements of a continent creates an opportunity to raise more intrigue into the natural world. The discovery of this ‘continent’ was limited to the technology and empirical evidence.

Scientific is a Human Endeavour

This paper does give the science an human touch by talking about how there was suspicion of a continent since the 1920s. The word continental was used in geological papers from time to time. With new perspectives and technology, there is more evidence that there could be a continent rather than just a continental artifact submerged in the ocean.

Scientific Knowledge is Open to Revision in Light of New Evidence

This tenant is strongly represented in this paper. People suspected (according to the article) that there was a continent and there is new evidence to support the geological components for a continent. The author of the article does comment that the whether people accept this new information to support the idea of a continent submerged under the ocean by New Zealand will take time.

Part B

Make Sense of Problems and Persevere in Solving Them

I do not think this article does explain how specifically they discovered evidence for their investigation. The scientists supposedly identified an underwater continent

and that the continent is 1.74 million square miles and 94% submerged. The article did mention that there was suspicions in early geological papers that there was a continent and now scientists have persevere to find more evidence that there is one.

Construct a viable argument and critique the reasoning of others

The article did quote a geologist saying “If we could pull the plug on the oceans, it would be clear to everyone we have mountain chains and big, high standing continent about the ocean’s crust’ and ‘ we feel we’ve gathered enough information to change ‘continental’ to continent’. The paper does make an argument that land mass meets the geological definition and I would have to read the actual primary source article to see what critique they have for reasoning of others.

Use appropriate tools strategically

The article refers to the data that the scientists collected but does not do a great job actually describing how they found their evidence to support their claim. A suggestion would have been to have the article describe how the scientists made their discover and why that was so significant.

Work Cited

Melvin, D. (2017, February 18). Scientists Say They’ve Discovered a Hidden Continent Under New Zealand. Retrieved February 21, 2017, from <http://www.nbcnews.com/news/world/scientists-say-they-ve-discovered-hidden-continent-under-new-zealand-n722796>