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Social Enterprise

When Mrs. Dai announced that we were going on a school trip to Good Lab and Good Kitchen, a social enterprise, we were all excited, but confused since the term “social enterprises” was an unfamiliar one. Curious to find out, we searched the Internet and found out that a social enterprise was an organisation that employed strategies to benefit the environment and the community instead of maximising their profit. The social innovation hub, Good Lab and Good Kitchen, was a non-profit social enterprise.

With our newfound information, we were eager to witness the location ourselves and find out more about this fascinating organisation. We visited Good Lab and Good Kitchen, and learned about Diamond Cab, a taxi company specially designed for disabled people. After the trip, we had gained a lot. This was definitely an eye-opening and educational experience for all of us.

First, we went to Good Kitchen. Good Kitchen is a social enterprise that helps weak communities. Inside Good Kitchen, there is a shelf full of products made by weak communities called the “Good Corner”. Customers can buy them and the money will be donated to the weak communities to help them financially.

Good Kitchen is also very environmentally-friendly. After cooking, the cooking gas will be turned back into water. The water will be used to mop the floor and tables at the restaurant. This method reduces carbon dioxide and will help ease the world’s global warming.

Good Kitchen is a wonderful restaurant that cares about the environment and the Hong Kong community.

The Good Lab is Hong Kong’s first Social Innovation Hub. They build a community of change makers at their co-working spaces by providing learning programmes and experimentation opportunities for the development of innovative ideas. The Good Lab has a lot of environmentally-friendly facilities, making it a working and environmentally-friendly place.

After our visit to the Good Lab, we understood that we don't always have to be a lawyer or a doctor, instead, we can use our creativity to think of something that can help make the world better. We are glad to have an opportunity to visit the Good Lab. We have learnt a lot of things there. We all hope to visit the Good Lab again.

After our visit to Good Kitchen and Good Lab, we learnt about another social enterprise — Diamond Cab. Diamond Cab is a social enterprise that caters for disabled people who have to travel to different places and aren’t able to find a suitable or safe vehicle to take them

there. They have a 24 hour hotline available at all times, though they prefer advanced booking to best arrange their services. Once a call for help is made, a Diamond Cab drives over to the person in need and picks them up, then takes them to wherever they requested. During the journey, the drivers offer their most sincere care towards the passengers and often make the passengers feel at home. The CEO of Diamond Cab, Miss Doris Leung, told us that the inspiration behind this project was her mother. Her mother was permanently disabled after two operations on her brain tumors and became too weak to take care of herself. Miss Leung found out that sometimes she and her brother were too busy to take her mother to places, so she researched on some wheelchair accessible vans, and with no choice more, her mother had to try one out. When she got into the van, she complained that it was rather smelly in there. Miss Leung decided she needed to take action to change the situation. And that was how Diamond Cab was founded.

We all think that Diamond Cab is a very meaningful social enterprise coming from a group of thoughtful innovators who have decided to spread the love around Hong Kong.

This visit was not only memorable but also tremendously educational. We not only learnt a lot about social enterprises but also learnt to live up to our school motto — ” Daily Giving Joyful Service”.



Figure 1: Good Kitchen

Figure 2: An Environmental Friendly Lamp from Good Lab



Figure 3: A Model of Diamond Cab

