

VOLUNTEERING PROGRAMME

KWAPITELA SCHOOL VOLUNTEERING GUIDELINES

We have found from our own and volunteer's experience that the pupils in Grade 4 and 5 are the best age group to target for interaction with volunteers for the introduction of English as a second language . Their primary language is Zulu and their exposure to English will only begin at school from the age of Grade 4. The younger pupils in Grade 0 to 3 have great difficulty understanding a non Zulu speaker and the older age groups of 6 and 7 are difficult to control and harder to engage with.

Some ideas from past Volunteers;

With the Grade 4 & 5 students I followed a very specific schedule. At the beginning of the week I'd introduce a new list of vocabulary (usually between 10 and 15 words). We'd define them, then spend the next few days practicing them with various puzzles, assignments, and games. Then, at the end of the week, I would administer a quiz testing both the students' spelling ability and comprehension. Along the way the students also read books, completed reading comprehension activities, and performed other activities as time permitted.

The teacher of Grade 4 and 5 will allow you to spend time with the pupils. We recommend no more than 90 minutes as beyond that, their concentration span will fade . The pupils are fed breakfast/lunch between 10.30 and 11.30 daily so we recommend arriving at the school at 11.30am when the children have full stomachs and can pay better attention.

The ideas overleaf are a guideline of activities you can engage the children in.

Each pupil has been given a hard covered composition book by Sani Lodge for the purpose of doing any work volunteers from the Lodge ; ie spelling words, learning new vocabulary, writing short stories, drawing pictures. Please ask each child to take these books out when you arrive. They are usually kept in the classroom cupboard. The children each have pencils that the school provides .

Sani Lodge provides you with the following to prepare you for your volunteering session;

1)the same hard covered composition book to record what you have done with the children during your time.

2)A box with pencils, sharpener, eraser, one pair of scissors, colouring in pencils, wax crayons.

3)Coloured board

4) Magazines such as National Geographic from which you and the children can cut out pictures or use to talk about naming pictures beginning with a specific letter.

5) There are reading books in the classroom

6) Sani Lodge has via an NGO donated many books for the children to read and take home. Ask the teacher where the books are kept if you want to read from them.

7)There are many books stored in boxes in the adjoining room at the restaurant which you can use as resource material for children to read or for you to read stories to them.

What to bring:

Hat
Comfortable footwear
Sunscreen
Water
Packed lunch
Snack (optional)
Raincoat
Jersey
Camera
Daypack
Refuse bag for your own rubbish

DRAKENSBERG ADVENTURES MINIMUM IMPACT REFUSE POLICY

All your own refuse must be carried out with you. No toilet paper or tissue paper is to be buried, placed under a tree or rock, or strewn about above ground. Please bring your own refuse bag to discard any litter you generate on the tour ; ie plastic bottle, tissues, used toilet paper, plastic bags.