



KIT LIST AND INFORMATION DOCUMENT - KWAPITELA SCHOOL VOLUNTEERING PROGRAMME

KWAPITELA SCHOOL VOLUNTEERING GUIDELINES

Thank you for choosing to volunteer assisting the learners with English. You will need to mentally prepare yourself on how you will keep the children's attention for 3 hours. The teacher will not be with you during your time as the whole point of volunteering is not just to help with English, but to enable the school (which has two grades per teacher/classroom) to split classes so that instead of two classes being in one classroom with one teacher, the teacher can give quality teaching to one class while you are with the other. 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 first language is Zulu and the language of instruction is Zulu until the start of Grade 4. From Grade 4 onwards, the language of instruction is English, but they have little other exposure to the language. The younger pupils in Grade 0 to 3 have great difficulty understanding a non-Zulu speaker and the older age groups of Grades 6 and 7 are more difficult to control and harder to engage with so teaching experience is useful for this age group. Two grades are together in one classroom totalling approximately 30 children so the plan is for each volunteer to take a small group and maximum of 8 children of one grade outside if weather is good or to the library whilst you teach them so as not to disturb the other grade being taught by the teacher. Remember you will be alone teaching the children so be prepared beforehand. See ideas overleaf.

TIME SPENT WITH LEARNERS; 11.30 AM after break TO 2 .30 PM when school closes. Each group of children will only be able to concentrate for a maximum of 90 minutes.

CLASS SIZE ; be prepared to teach English to a small group of children ie maximum of 8, outdoors if the weather is good or in the school library. You will not be accompanied by any teacher. You will be the teacher. You are not expected to teach a whole grade of children at one time.

AGE OF CHILDREN; GRADE 4's are 10 years old and GRADE 5's are 11 years old.

REFRESHMENTS; please take something for you to drink and eat as the school cannot provide

SCHOOL GRADE TEACHER; may not be there due to training course so please just take one small group at a time. You are not expected to teach more than one small group at a time.

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. 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.

VOLUNTEERING IDEAS FOR TEACHING ENGLISH:

1) Start off by telling the children where you are from and show them using an atlas. Sharing your own culture back home with the children will teach them about different parts of the world as well as other languages and ways of life.

2) Spelling tests

3) Paired reading – one on one reading with each volunteer and the child.

Adult starts off reading the story and then encourages the child to read either the next word, sentence or page. Show how to read from left to right with the finger under each word of each sentence when adult reads as well as when child reads

4) Reading aloud in groups

5) Reading individually

6) Stories read to learners

7) Simple debates

8) Write a sentence about a word ie house

9) Choose a theme and learn new vocab ie farm animals, habitat

10) Reading games – write words from a story on cards and play snap. If learner can read a word out aloud from story on card, can throw dice and move on snakes and ladders board.

11) Matching game – pull out pictures from magazines and see if learner can match picture to words on paper or board that you have written. Praise!! Do words first and then read the story or other way around.

12) Games from Envirokids magazines

13) Vocabulary , plurals, adjectives, verbs, nouns, antonym, synonyms

- 14) Conversations about different countries, animals in South Africa etc
- 15) Make a pack of cards with two cards each showing the same word and play snap
- 16) Prepare words from easy level (number 1 on dice) to hard (number 6 on dice). When child throws dice, the number on the dice refers to the level of difficulty of the word to be read out. If word read out correctly, child can move on board game ie snakes and ladders
- 17) Cut out words and matching pictures. Then ask each child to match the words to the pictures.
- 18) Make simple sentences from 3 or 4 words. Cut out each word and jumble them up . Child has to make a sentence from the words.
- 19) Draw a big donkey shape without ears or tail or eyes or nose. Then cut out words for each part missing. Child gets a chance to reach a word, is then blindfolded and has to affix the word onto the correct part of the donkey.
- 20) Act out a play – write a little play about a theme and get learners to each play a part ie “ I am going shopping” theme. Act our stories. Dress up and be dramatic

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

- 1) **A box with pencils, coloured pencils, sharpener, eraser, one pair of scissors, dice for games, all for your use. The children have their own pencils, sharpeners and erasers.**
- 2) **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.**
- 3) **There are reading books in the classroom and the library. Please make full use of the library for teaching purposes.**
- 4) **Envirokids educational magazines to play games with counters and dice. Please do not cut up Envirokids magazines!**
- 5) **Nalibali newspapers are supplied with stories and activities for each child to do.**

PERSONAL ITEMS FOR YOU 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.