

AFTER-SCHOOL



Autor

Hello my name is Andisiwe Masiphula, and I am working as a teacher for Transcape. I have been working for Transcape for 8 years and I am working in the Mdumbi Education center.

My main projects are the “After-School Enrichment Program” and the “Children in Need Program”

Report

The After-School takes place in the Mdumbi Education-Center every week from Monday to Friday.

The Children come at 4 pm from the State-School to our After-School, so we can help them with their Homework, and give them some extra lessons in English and Mathematics.

If they come earlier we play some educational games with them or go to the sports field and play soccer and netball, which they just love!

We always give them 1 English exercise and 1 Math exercise.

We also debate or discuss about different topics with them, so they can improve their English skills, and decrease the fear of speaking English.

If they have any questions, they can ask me or one of our volunteers from Germany who are assisting me every day when I give my lessons.

We have groups from 10-35 students every day. There are different groups coming on each day.

Grade 6/7:

This group consists of 30 students. They are a little bit shy and afraid to speak English but they understand most of it. Only a few need a little more support and motivation. But they are improving their English very well.

Grade 8/9:

This group consists of 11 students. They are more mature and less afraid to use English. You can hold discussions and debates with them. The topics you can talk about with them are more complex.

Evaluation:

We evaluated all of them in English and Maths. The aim for that is to see how they are improving.

We do this evaluation two times a year, one at the beginning, the other at the end. We keep the results confidential. We are happy to report that we see an improvement in ALL of them.

Extra:

There are two volunteers from Germany working in the After-School as well. They are very beneficial to our classes as the kids have to use the English language to communicate with them. They also support me with the English and Mathematic exercises.

Kids from the other classes often come, even though it is not their day or time to come. That shows how much they like to come to After-School.

Once a month we cook with the children together. Everybody brings some food to make a big dinner. This event improves the team skills, and it's a lot of fun for everyone.

I was very privileged to attend a workshop of an organization who calls "Thanda" They specialized in teaching teachers in rural areas who have very little excess to resources and teach disadvantaged children. They showed me new teaching methods and gave a lot of material for our classes.

They were also here to monitor our After-School, to see how our lessons are going.

Challenges:

We can never tell how many children will come. It really depends on the weather. Sometimes there are 20 children, sometimes no one comes. This makes it sometimes difficult to prepare the lessons.

Most of the children speak only Xhosa during the lessons, especially the small ones are afraid to speak English. Sometimes the kids start laughing when someone makes a mistake. It's a challenge to change their behavior.

Benefits:

The children are improving not only their English and Math's skills, they also learn a lot of social skill through games. The interaction with each other and the foreigners lets them gain very important communication skills.

The children seem to like the program, because they are coming more often and the numbers increase steadily.

Plans for the Future:

We want to form more groups, so more children can access this extra learning program. We want to get computer based learning software, were the children can not only learn English and Math's but also excess all other subjects plus have exposure to computer skills.

Thanda advised me, that an active exercise or game is a good method to start the lessons or when the kids are getting bored. This, they called an "Ice Breaker"

I will go to a workshop in June again to improve my teaching skills. We will also get new material, for example new books and receive guidance in lesson planning.

I sincerely want to thank you for your support towards the Aftre school enrichment program. If you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact me or our donor relation officer.

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Truly yours

Andisiwe

After-School

Pictures

