help...
learn...
explore!

TEACHING

As a native or near native speaker of the English language, helping to teach is something which is of immense worth in the locations we work in. People want to learn English as it is widely recognised as something which brightens prospects. Furthermore, as normally you will be able to assist with teaching many of the local teachers too, the old maxim of 'teaching a man to fish is better than giving him food' really does ring true and bring on a whole new life of its own.

Teaching & IT Projects

We can arrange for you to teach children of various ages from 5 to 16 years old. There is also teaching of older university students predominantly in Bolivia but also in some other countries we work in. If you had a preference for teaching older or younger students, it would simply be a question of letting us know and we can take you through your options.

Teaching in Peru

We have set up special centres in both Sri Lanka and Ghana to teach IT to local students. Having even very basic knowledge of computers can provide a pathway to better jobs. If you have an interest in this area you can teach packages such as Word and Excel and even show some students how to use a mouse and keyboard!

"The children enjoyed the classes. Their English improved, but more importantly they realised that learning English can be fun. The teachers also found it really helpful to have someone to practice their English on."

Sue Hunt, Teaching in India

Teaching&ProjectsAbroad

The problem

We find that in many locations we work in the students and indeed perhaps the teachers too have a very good grasp of the grammar rules because that can be learnt from books. However, many of the students have never spent extended or perhaps anytime in an English speaking country. This means that they sometimes do not know how the language actually works in practice or how to pronounce things properly. For this reason we focus on **conversational English**.

TEACHING

The 'stereotypical' teaching volunteer

There is no such thing as a 'typical volunteer'. You may be considering entering the profession or are a qualified teacher; perhaps you want to improve your public speaking skills whilst giving something back or of course many people are simply trying to do something that little bit different as a break from normal routine. Whatever your situation we would love to hear from you!

We do not require you to have any experience or qualifications to join us on a teaching placement. If you do then that is great but it is not essential. We provide you with support inside and outside the classroom but our volunteers teach 'conversational English' whereby they focus on how the English language works and pronunciation rather than the hard and fast rules of grammar. We will also supply you with a teaching ideas pack to help your classes get off to a flying start. Anything you could do though to enthuse the students into learning the language, making them speak in front of their classmates and making it come alive will mean you are doing a good job!

If the thought of facing an entire classroom of curious school children all asking at once 'what is your home like?' or 'do you know the Queen?' just seems a little bit too much for you then don't despair. It would simply be a question of you telling us if you would prefer to teach with another volunteer, with a local teacher or to act as more of a language assistant taking small groups of students out of the class for some more individual attention. Pretty soon though we guarantee you will be asking to take on the masses by yourself!

Teaching other subjects...

When teaching English there is plenty of scope for allowing your creative and individual talents to shine through. Your own imagination is the limit when it comes to employing drama, dance, music or games. We have had volunteers introduce students in China to 'The Beatles', an all African junior school cast for Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet and India probably holds the record for the world's most frantic and intensely fought version of 'heads, shoulders, knees and toes' amongst many more!!!

If you wanted to teach other subjects though it is only a question of dropping us a line. We have had people teach other languages, physics, maths, plus many more...artistic and sporty people are always especially in demand to help add some colour to a corridor or coach a school football or netball team!

"I enjoyed the teaching more than I could have ever imagined. They are afraid of making mistakes so playing games and acting out the meaning of words (in the most ridiculous way possible) turned out to be the best way to get them talking. Using props also made the children very excited especially photos and coins."

Claire Higginson, Teaching in China

"A moment that neither of us will ever forget was on our last night when the children put on a show in our honour. They had all gone to so much effort to get costumes and practise their songs and dances. They also made a speech at the end that was so touching and had made us cards and presents. Many of us were in tears-I will never forget that memory."

Bianca Abrahams, Teaching in India

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Further information...

If you would like any further information on Teaching placements, or any other projects please do not hesitate to get in contact with us. Our staff are always happy to help!

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