

CHILDREN IN THE WILDERNESS VOLUNTEER INITIATIVE ACTIVITIES

If your clients are eager to experience and interact with students from a rural basd Zimbabwean school, we propose a morning programme (09:00 – 12:30) for guests to get involved with a variety of different activities from tutoring with our literacy programme, working in the gardening, to making an eco-bench. Dependent on the number of guests, we could split them into groups, where each group will participate in the activities set for the day in rotation, potentially working with different age groups and classes for a more rounded experience, as well as to ensure to spread the benefits to as many of the children as possible. This way, guests will then be able to get involved in each activity. A breakdown of the morning could be:

09:00 – Arrive at school/welcome
09:20 – Activity 1
10:00 – Break
10:20 – Activity 2
11:00 – Break
11:20 – Activity 3
12:00 – Clean-up/goodbyes

By scheduling it this way, we have time for activities to run over/ not rush. It also gives guests a chance to interact more with the local students and be back at their hotel in time for lunch.

Cost

If Wilderness Tours could be used for transport that would be preferred, particularly as our guides know more about the schools that we work with, their history, and the projects currently running at each institution. We can organise these transfers through our Wilderness Touring department.

For a half day of activities we usually charge **USD\$50** per guest to cover our overheads such as tools and supplies, though this is of course dependent on the types of activities selected, but the schools are always appreciative of any further donations.

Activity Options:

Literacy Programme - Stellar Wordworks



Wordworks is a literacy programme aimed at early language and literacy development for children. Many primary school children in Zambia, while able to read, lack comprehension skills. Thus, Workworks combines reading and visual resources to help comprehension in addition to word recognition. Students also get to keep a small print out of the story they read, and are able to colour this in.

Classroom Wall Mural Painting



Guests will be able to get involved in painting murals around the school. We will pre-prepare selected classroom walls with a relevant mural outline that guests will fill in. This will add much colour to each room that is painted.

Gardening/ Eco-Bench/Tree Planting



Guests can get involved with either the Eco-Club garden, tree planting, or building of an Eco-Bench using clay soil and plastic waste. This will depend on the time of year, rainfall, etc., as to what stage the garden is at and whether planting can happen. Eco-Benches are popular as they utilise plastic bottles filled with waste to create something that students can use to sit on so that they don't have to sit on the ground at break time.

Paper Making



Guests will get to interact with the children while they learn and focus on the importance of reusing and recycling products used daily such as paper. In this process we breakdown old used paper from previous terms or camp-based offices and mix things up with the inclusion of natural products such as elephant dung and flowers to give the new paper variety in colour and texture. This gives the children more paper to use for future projects or thank you cards etc. for the guests themselves.

Litter Collection



This activity provides guests with the chance to not only interact with the children in small personal groups but will have an overall effect on the surrounding community as well. Guests will break off into smaller groups with the children and be directed to badly littered areas in the village where they will work together to create a cleaner environment. This gives guests the chance to teach students the importance of conserving our environment through clean and responsible living.

Upcycled Toy Making:



This activity combines the general message of recycling with children's love of toys. Guests will be able to show their creative side, working with the children to create toys and games from recyclable

items such as a soccer ball from plastic bags or push wheels from an old floor polish tin. These toys are then left in the school's care for the children to enjoy for years to come.

Eco-Club Lesson:



In this activity guests get to see first-hand the curriculum of conservation and environmental education we provide to the schools in our programme. It will give the guests the opportunity to share their passion for conservation with the children as they take part in the practical lesson as well as the accompanying games and projects. Guests will be split into groups with an equal number of students to allow more one-on-one interaction.

Soccer in the Wilderness:



This activity is a favourite among many of the children as it includes one of their most-loved pastimes: soccer. The guests will help the children develop their ball skills through various drills and mini games and end off the activity with a match of mixed teams. This helps not only to develop the



children's ball skills but also gives them a better understanding of teamwork and good sportsmanship by following the example of the guests and getting to play alongside them.

Cultural Village Tour:

We do also offer guests the opportunity to meet the headman of the surrounding village and get a tour of his homestead. This activity gives the guest an opportunity to engage with the local people and listen to stories and even participate in their everyday activities. Further to this the guests will get an introduction on various sustainable income generating projects in the area. These include, goat farming, basket weaving, recycled paper making, recycling glass and other waste materials, a thriving community garden, and many more.

Please note that we don't encourage cash gifts to schools, so if guests would like to make additional monetary donations, they can go through Children in the Wilderness.