



Travellers Worldwide is a leading International Provider of
Volunteering Programmes, Work Experience Internships
and Cultural Courses Abroad

SOUTH AFRICA



TEACH AND CARE FOR PHYSICALLY DISABLED CHILDREN AND CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS IN CAPE TOWN

Assist in a primary school for children with a variety of disabilities or special needs. Some of today's pupils have cerebral palsy, which refers to a group of permanent but non-progressive disorders of posture and movement. It is due to a dysfunction of the brain, which can occur during birth or as a result of accident or illness in childhood.

Some children have other syndromes or conditions such as muscular dystrophy, multiple physical impairment, ADHD and specific learning disabilities. You'll work in five different areas, including class aide, 'scribe' administration, library and generally filling in wherever you're needed.

Thank you for your interest in volunteering on this Project. Below is a description of what you can do and expect. You can volunteer whether you're taking a gap year, on a career break, retired, or on a holiday with a purpose. No matter what your age or experience, we look forward to welcoming you to the team!

WHAT DO YOU GET?

SELF-DEVELOPMENT:

- New skills, more confidence, a greater understanding of a different culture, invaluable personal and professional development.
- The enormous satisfaction of helping disadvantaged children and knowing that you made a difference to them.
- An entry on your CV or résumé that will put you head and shoulders above most others in the job market.

SAFETY AND SECURITY

- Your safety is our top priority. We risk-assess all destination countries, projects, accommodation and more to ensure that they are stable and safe.
- We have experienced local staff with 24/7 back-up and support who are there to assist you and look after you, starting with an in-depth induction on your arrival.

AN ADVENTURE!

- An exciting, never-to-be-forgotten adventure into Africa and the many diverse cultures in South Africa! And best of all ... **an unforgettable experience!**

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TravelQuest Ltd t/a Travellers, registered in England & Wales, Registered Office: 7 Mulberry Close, Ferring, West Sussex, BN12 5HY, Reg. No. 3072191, VAT Registration: 786540201

Prices: From **£1,695** excluding flights.

Please see Full [Price List Online](#).

Duration: From 4 weeks to 12 weeks or longer, subject to visa requirements

Start Dates: All year round, subject to school holidays - you choose your start and finish dates.

Requirements: No qualifications or experience required, just lots of enthusiasm and a love of children...

What's Included:

- | | |
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| ▶ Arranging your Programme, | ▶ Full pre-departure support and assistance, |
| ▶ Payment Protection insurance | ▶ Accommodation |
| ▶ Certificate of Completion | ▶ Transfer to your on-site accommodation |
| ▶ Meeting you at the nearest airport | ▶ Local in-country team support and backup |
| ▶ 24-hr emergency support. | ▶ Free T-Shirt |
| ▶ Food | |

What Not Included: Flights, Insurance, Cost of Visas (if a visa is required), Local transport to and from your project, Return transfer to airport.

SUMMARY

PROJECT OVERVIEW

Assist in a primary school for children with a variety of disabilities or special needs. Some of today's pupils have cerebral palsy, which refers to a group of permanent but non-progressive disorders of posture and movement. It is due to a dysfunction of the brain, which can occur during birth or as a result of accident or illness in childhood. Some children have other syndromes or conditions such as muscular dystrophy, multiple physical impairment, ADHD and specific learning disabilities.

The school is set in a beautiful location, overlooking the Rondebosch Common and facing the impressive side of Table Mountain. The school has 250 pupils ranging from 3 years old to about 13, from pre-primary to year 7. The school buildings are spacious and brightly decorated with art works done by the children and the grounds are immaculate and well-kept. There is a heated indoor swimming pool used largely for therapy. Part of the school day is allocated to sport and pupils take part in school leagues as well as sport for the disabled. On Mondays a group goes to a farm for Riding for the Disabled.

Lack of concentration, dyslexia or hyperactivity are often linked to their conditions and the children can get over-excited by changes in routine, which means that teachers and assistants need to have endless patience in dealing with small upsets. The teachers are grateful for the help of volunteers – just the presence of another adult in the classroom makes the activities run more smoothly. Your placement at this school will be an unforgettable experience.

YOUR WORK AT THE SCHOOL

When you arrive you will spend some time with the teacher in charge who will talk about the Special Needs of the children and about your role in the school as a volunteer.

The work falls into five categories:

- Admin (receptionist, switchboard - if there is someone absent);
- Library (mending books, cataloguing, etc);
- Class Aides (helping children in the nursery section, or helping the teacher with various class activities, or listening to children reading);
- Being a "Scribe" or amanuensis (this means you will go with a pupil who is disabled and cannot write, sit with him/her in class and take notes, and then write for him/her while he/she tells the scribe the answers in tests or examinations).
- The fifth category is basically filling in where needed – perhaps in charge of collecting children who need physiotherapy



You will then be allocated to a teacher who will introduce you to the work. You may spend time in all different areas of work in the school before settling into a particular area. You can make a specific request if there is anything that you are particularly interested in – for example you may prefer working in the Nursery, or with the older children, or helping in the Physiotherapy or OT departments.

You can also help with Sport and Physical Education, such as swimming, soccer, cricket as well as sport for the disabled.

Different age groups end their school day at different times. After the pupils have left, you may be given preparation tasks for the next day by the teacher, or there might be admin work in the office or the school library. This will be until 3.00 pm.

Sometimes there might be extra duties after this, like preparing for school Sports Day or School Concert. We urge volunteers to get involved with extra functions taking place at the school as you can have a lot of fun and get to know the children far better by getting involved in the after school activities.

Your weekends are entirely free (for sightseeing, travel and fun)!

SCHOOL TERMS IN SOUTH AFRICA:

Dates for the **2015** school terms (semesters) are given below.

Term 1: 21 January – 1 April

Term 2: 13 April – 26 June

Term 3: 20 July – 2 October

Term 4: 12 October – 9 December

Dates for the **2016** school terms (semesters) are given below.

Term 1: 13 January – 18 March

Term 2: 5 April – 24 June

Term 3: 18 July – 30 September

Term 4: 10 October – 7 December

Please see a complete list of current public (bank) holidays for 2015 and 2016 at <http://www.publicholiday.co.za>

This project is not available during school holidays. Therefore, please compare the above school term dates to the dates of your placement. If a holiday falls during your placement, you should use this time to do any independent travelling and sightseeing. Generally the last week before terms end is given to exams and tests. This means that you will generally find your work load dropping during this week and you will usually find more free time than normal school time.

“Positive Experience - Working in the school with special needs children. It was amazing to see how the children really appreciated the one-on-one time you were able to give to them as a volunteer.

Siobhan Scarlett

“The best thing about the placement was undoubtedly the kids. Although they could be hard work at times, the huge smiles on their faces when you waved or said hello to them in the playground (especially the wee ones) would melt your heart...”

I had an amazing time in South Africa, truly one of the best experiences of my life. It's a fantastic country, full of friendly people, and I'm definitely endeavouring to return at some point in the future. Many thanks to all at Travellers for making it possible. ”

Karen Mackay



ACCOMMODATION

Nestled under the mountain near the city, is the trendy and arty suburb of Observatory, the student Mecca of Cape Town. We have chosen this location as an accommodation base and make use of a backpacker's lodge, where you will be staying. Its distance from the projects, safety conscious attitude and very friendly staff make this the ideal home away from home.

South African backpackers are unique and majority are run as a 'home away from home' in large houses, so there is always lots of space to relax and watch TV, read a book, or just sit by the pool and soak in the sun.

In Observatory, we use The Green Elephant backpacker's lodge, which has been running since 1994 and is spaced across 3 beautiful houses. The main house consists of dormitory style rooms, free unlimited wireless internet, a festive bar, a braai (BBQ) area and a swimming pool. The other two houses have private rooms (single and double rooms).



The lodge is situated in the heart of Observatory and a short (5 minute) stroll away from a large supermarket, internet café, restaurants, coffee shops, pharmacy and laundromat. The lodge is also closely situated to the main road, where busses and taxis are available literally at your doorstep.

You'll be staying in a dorm-style room in the main house, which consist of 6 beds each. The mattresses are great and all linen and towels are provided, but it's a good idea to bring your own beach towel. There is a laundry self-service area available at the lodge for R15/load (about £1), but there are also laundromats a few minutes' walk away that will wash, dry and fold for you.

The lodge has a 24-hour reception desk, and they pride themselves with long-term staff of up to 20 years. This translates into a safe environment with experienced staff, who are able to offer the best local advice to guests for trips & tours, restaurants and basically any local information on the Cape Town area.

The Green Elephant is also committed to low impact and sustainable tourism to preserve our natural beauty for future generations. They recycle everything from water (in grey water systems) to bottles, paper and plastic, which we strongly support!

FOOD:

You'll be given a food budget which will cover your basic essentials (but not extras like drinks, snacks and eating out).

All the lodge houses have fully equipped self-catering kitchens, with all the necessities to cook a good meal. If you aren't feeling up to cooking on any particular day, the lodge also does meals that can be paid for on the day. For example, Thursday nights are pizza nights, and they also do BBQ's on regular occasions.

WHY TRAVELLERS WORLDWIDE?

- Over 20 years' experience of sending thousands of participants overseas, plus the largest variety of flexible projects that are value for money!
- Accredited projects helps appeal to future employers
- Excellent support! And 24/7 emergency helpline for you and your family
- Your own dedicated Project Co-ordinator to answer all questions before, during and after your trip of a lifetime!
- Detailed information on your project and country and suggestions, safety guide, tips and checklists, via our EXTRANET, available from anywhere, 24/7.
- Free pick up from the nearest airport.

HOW YOU MAKE A DIFFERENCE:

By joining a Travellers Program you enable us to keep donating money to worthwhile projects around the world; from clothing and feeding school children, building playgrounds or funding vital conservation research - your participation makes these donations possible.

Donations to **Bridge The Gap Foundation**. This Foundation was set up by us to donate directly to particularly worthwhile and necessary projects for children and animals around the world, and partners with other NGO's to raise match-funding for worthy projects.

The price of this project is a reflection of the following costs:

- ✓ Accommodation and Food
- ✓ Full pre-departure support
- ✓ Meeting you at the airport
- ✓ Transport to the placement site
- ✓ Local in-country team support and backup
- ✓ 24hr emergency helpline
- ✓ UK administration
- ✓ Marketing (brochures, website design and maintenance, attending careers fairs, advertising, website listings and presentations)
- ✓ Project Research/Site Inspection
- ✓ Staff Training/Equipment
- ✓ Donations to worthwhile project
- ✓ Free T-Shirt
- ✓ 24hr emergency helpline

"Travellers is an amazing organization that offers life changing experiences to people of all ages, I will highly recommend it to everyone, and I will be planning another volunteer experience for myself as well as for my sons. Thank you so much for the experience of a life time!"

Deanne Peterson

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Got any questions? Please email us: info@travellersworldwide.com

Once you have applied for a placement, we'll contact you and send you our Welcome Pack. You'll also receive Log-on details and password for our Volunteer Extranet where you'll have access to all the documentation and information which we've put together to facilitate preparations for your adventure! Your Project Co-ordinator for your country will liaise with you throughout the arrangements process, as well as while you're on your placement and on your return home.

The documents you'll have access to also include a Country Fact file, Safety Guide and any manuals that may assist you on your particular programme (for example, Teaching Guide, Sports Manuals, Enrichment Suggestions for Animal Care, etc.). We do all we can to make your stay one that you'll never forget. As with all our destinations, the culture and heritage is different to what you're used to ... which, although one of the most exciting aspects of travelling, should be borne in mind. Self-reliance and independence are highly appreciated in all our destinations and will help you to make the most of this wonderful opportunity! This is a truly awesome, elegant and beautiful country.

On Arrival, your Introduction to the Country:

When you arrive you will be welcomed by a member of our South African staff who will take you to your accommodation and introduce you to everyone. During your first few days you'll be given an induction so that you can learn about the country and its culture, as well as other useful information, like how to use the transport system, banks, safety issues, tipping, and lots more.

You will have weekends free and this will also allow some time for travelling and sight seeing.



THINGS TO DO IN SOUTH AFRICA

LOCATION, EXPLORING AND SIGHTSEEING:

The best advice you'll get from us is to try to see some of the country while you're in South Africa. It's big (huge!) and each different region is exciting and very, very beautiful. **Cape Town** is probably the most beautiful city in the world (I can say that, I grew up there :-). **KwaZulu-Natal** comes a very close second, albeit very different. **Knysna** is where South Africans go on holiday, which gives you some idea of how lovely the region is.

ACTIVITIES IN CAPE TOWN

Adrenaline Activities - Enjoy exciting and "real" adventures with an adrenaline twist!

- Abseiling
 - Sandboarding
 - Deep-sea Angling
 - 'Kloofing' (insanely jumping off very high cliffs into pools of water!)
 - Paragliding
 - Helicopter flips
 - Bungee jumping (just up the coast)
 -and a LOT, LOT more!!!!
- ❖ **Township Tours** - A visit to one of the many townships surrounding the city is an experience that will open your eyes to the way in which the biggest portion of Cape Town's population are living. Take a township tour of Langa, the oldest township in South Africa or Khayelitsha, the second largest township in South Africa. Township tours will usually be co-led by a resident in the area, showcase local industry and community projects and include a visit to a township bar or 'shebeen'.
 - ❖ **Two Oceans Aquarium** - Located in the V&A Waterfront, the Two Oceans Aquarium has lots of display tanks, interactive experiences, a touch pool and the highly popular predators' tank.
 - ❖ **Cape Winelands** - Wine lover or not, a visit to the Cape Winelands is an absolute must as the region is one of breathtaking beauty and majestic mountain backdrops.
 - ❖ **Relaxing drives:** Drives are a very popular leisure activity in South Africa, because the roads are generally wide, in good condition, relatively empty and a pleasure to drive on. People often go for drives on a Sunday afternoon to a favourite hotel or restaurant for afternoon tea and scones, or to the top of a pass just to look at the view, or to a national park to watch the baboons - there's always a good reason to go for a drive!



HOW TO BOOK

TWO EASY WAYS ...

Complete a [booking form](#) online.

Telephone
01903 502595 (UK)
or
1-603-574-4935 (USA)



THANK YOU FOR YOUR INTEREST IN OUR PROGRAMME!

We hope you'll join us!

Don't hesitate to contact us with any questions.

We're happy to help you plan your exciting adventure!

www.travellersworldwide.com

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