

Description:

We are an open-minded team consisting of 10 teachers and social workers who deal with around 80 kids in pre-school age (between 2 and 6 years old). For us the thoughts and visions of Maria Montessori are the center of our educational conviction, mainly in reference to the idea of the child, the role of the teacher and the view on the world surrounding the child. In the Kindergarden there are many children with migration background and we have been working with Spanish native for nine years. As an integrational Kindergarden, we also deal with kids with physical and psychical disadvantages. We see differences, not important if visible or not, as an enrichment of our cohabitation.

We always have many trainees in our house and their help and support really enriches our daily work. The idea to invite a European Volunteer into our team came because of our personal interest and the positive experiences other institutions told us. As a Montessori institution we are really interested in cultural exchange, many influences and elements from individual people to give the children a real impression of our varied world.

Leipzig is located in the northwest of the Free State of Saxony. The city and its 500,000 inhabitants became known throughout the world in the fall of 1989 as the center of the revolutionary movement in East Germany. It's home to the second oldest university in Germany as well as serving as an important trade fair center have both had a decisive influence on the city to the present day. Around 1 million people visit Leipzig every year, enjoying the city's lively atmosphere and diverse cultural offerings. Our Kindergarden is located in the east of Leipzig, in the district Reudnitz, which is often called a "social conflict area". It is a district with a high percentage of immigrants and unemployment. It is only 10 minutes by tram to the city center.

Tasks:

The volunteer supports the workers in their daily routines with the kids and shall set up own small or bigger projects in the Kindergarden. He/She will get to know the Montessori-concept and how to act according to the Montessori principles with the kids. The volunteer will focus on the elder groups (4-6 years old). He/She will organise celebrations; get to know and co-arrange the work with the parents; participate in important processes like preparing elder kids for school, attend projects that are carried through in the second language Spanish. He/she shall actively enter aspects of his/her own culture into the daily life with the kids and create special projects around this. He/she shall carry through an own project, for example in the fields of theatre, wood-working, music or dance.

In addition we will realize several project days towards topics of europe / mobility in europe. The volunteers will be asked to take part, to learn methods and to make a presentation about his/her EVS and / or other mobility possibilities in Europe in a school class.

Selection process:

Please hand in the filled application form. You needn't complete the part of the sending organisation, because this is still arranged with a partner organisation from each of the numerated countries. We will give a first feedback on the application within two weeks. Those applications

which pass the preselection are forwarded to the project responsables who usually decide within two weeks after the application deadline. The project is still approved.

Selection criteria:

We would like to see the following: interest in working with children aged under seven, interest to see and live the Montessori-concept, basic German knowledge, open-minded and communicative behavior, ability to work in different groups, creativity and accuracy