

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, there will be realised several project days towards topics of solidarity in europe / participation / social projects for all EVS volunteers. The volunteers have to take part, learn and to realise an own social idea. They should also inform about social project in their homecountry and present it to the others.**

Selection process:

Please complete the online questionnaire you find on our page. We collect all applications until the deadline, then all applications that are complete will be forwarded to the responsables of the hosting organisation who decide about the candidate. The selection process takes 1-2 months. You will get an answer during or latest after 2 months.

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