



SOUTH AFRICA: TEACHING DISADVANTAGED CHILDREN IN KNYSNA

South Africa has everything..sun, sparkling warm and clear oceans, and the most beautiful golden beaches you will ever see ... stretching for miles, mountain climbing, biking and hiking, outstanding Game Reserves where you can see wild animals in their natural habitat, sharks, whales and dolphins, and the amusing Cape Fur Seals, elegant restaurants, barbecues and beach parties!

But most of all, South Africans are the friendliest and most hospitable people in the world - without a doubt! If you're invited to dinner ... don't eat for a week beforehand because you'll be overfed, especially if it's a barbecue.

WHAT DO YOU GET?

- An exciting, never-to-be-forgotten adventure into Africa and the South African culture.
- New skills, more confidence, a greater understanding of a different culture, invaluable personal and professional development.
- An entry on your CV or résumé that will put you head and shoulders above most others in the job market.
- Experienced local staff with 24/7 back-up and support who'll meet you at the airport on your arrival - helps you **feel safe and never alone!**
- An in-depth Induction makes you **feel local straight away!**
- An opportunity to **make lifelong friends from all over the world.**
- And best of all ... **an unforgettable experience!**



► SUMMARY FACTFILE

Start Dates	All year round (subject to school terms) - you choose your start and finish dates!
Duration	From 2 weeks and up to 1 year, subject to visa requirements
Requirements	No qualifications needed, just a good dose of enthusiasm!
Price	From £845 / US\$1,270 for 2 weeks, ranging to £2,595 / US\$3,895 for 12 weeks. Full Price List and other Currencies
What's included	► Accommodation ► Food ► Meeting you at the Airport ► Transfer to your accommodation ► Full pre-departure support ► Local in-country team support and backup ► 24-hr emergency support ► Two free T-shirts
What's not included	Flights, Insurance, Cost of Visas (if a visa is required, but we'll provide necessary documents and assistance), Return transfer to airport.
Who can do this Project?	All our projects are open to all nationalities. Unless otherwise stated, you need to be aged between 17 and 70+

PROGRAMME OVERVIEW:

Teach disadvantaged children in township schools in a beautiful resort town. You'll work with underprivileged communities who really appreciate your help. You can choose to work with primary or secondary schools.

The Teaching Programme

Our teaching programme is based in the beautiful Western Cape's Garden Route area, situated in Knysna. The schools cater for many children from the poorer township community. Your help and support are appreciated by everyone, but mostly by the children! Our programme has been running in this region for many years and the impact our volunteers have had is amazing. Many of them return again and again. The result is a community that has benefited tremendously since we started.

Standards in the schools are generally average, but materials and resources may be scarce. Even with the lack of facilities, etc., the enthusiasm of the students and staff at the schools more than make up for this. The children have a fantastic energy about them and you will be immediately welcomed in by hoards of children running up to greet the new teacher. It is often difficult to stop them smiling!

Work Content

You'll normally begin your placement by assisting the teachers but, depending on your ability, you may progress very quickly on to being given complete control of a particular class or group. You'll receive a lot of help and support from the teachers and staff at the schools, but you should be prepared to use your own initiative and ask when you need something. The average class size is about 40.

Teaching English

You will normally be asked to assist with teaching conversational English - you are not expected to be an expert on grammar or literature. The important thing is to help people speak English. You may also be asked to help with other subjects but this is optional and it is only if you feel confident.

We provide you with a teaching Suggestions Booklet which has ideas for teaching English and will also help structuring lessons in other subjects. Video facilities are available in some schools and audio equipment is quite commonplace.

Most of the schools are State schools, both secondary and primary. You will generally be asked to help out with any age groups. You are, in fact, very likely to be in popular demand everywhere - in and out of the classroom.

Teaching Drama, Music & Dance

Drama, Music & Dance classes are called Arts & Culture class and run in conjunction with the Life Orientation classes. The purpose of these classes is to develop Team work, Confidence, Self Esteem, Communication Skills and Leadership.

People from all backgrounds can participate in drama, developing essential skills by learning to express themselves and gain self-confidence. Theatre can be aimed at young people, old people, disadvantaged people, sick people, homeless people - to educate and inform or simply to entertain. This can take the form of productions for schools, orphanages, old people's homes, plays for the education of local children, theatre workshops for disadvantaged children.

You'll be able to do some or all of the following:



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- Organising and putting on drama workshops in various township schools in Knysna. This would involve energising warm-ups, improvisations, dance-drama and devising pieces of theatre in small groups.
- Organising drama sessions during school-time for pupils.
- Helping the local school children to put on a small-scale productions so that they can all be involved in some aspect of it (either acting, creating costumes, masks, set or make-up). Please note that these may not always take place during your project - it will depend on what's happening when you're there and where in the school curriculum the classes are.
- Devising and performing educational pieces of theatre (on issues such as bullying) for the school children at any available venues (town hall/school yard/wherever!).
- Alongside the drama, volunteers could also help out with conversational English classes (and any other subjects where needed). It may also be possible to incorporate drama lessons into the English classes, perhaps once a week.



Teaching Design Technology

Walk around the streets anywhere in Africa, but especially in the townships, and you'll be overwhelmed by the creative talent in the communities. From the Craftsmen who make cooking pots from discarded oil drums on the road side, to souvenirs. If you look at the shanty houses, you'll be impressed by the initiative used in putting them together.

Design Technology was introduced into the school curriculum in South Africa back in 2000. It has proven to be extremely popular amongst the children. The problem is that many of the poorer township schools know little about the subject and are in desperate need for people with design experience to come to their schools, bringing with them their own ideas and hopefully help to nurture a new generation of design thinkers in South Africa.

For this programme you will be placed at one of the high schools.

This is an excellent placement for anyone studying or has good knowledge of Design Technology. By helping the children have a greater knowledge of the subject, you will find that the teachers will be extremely grateful for the support and knowledge as this is a subject the schools are still learning about.



Coaching Sports

As with Drama classes, sports classes also run in conjunction with the Life Orientation classes. The purpose of these classes is to develop Team work, Confidence, Self Esteem, Communication Skills and Leadership.

These classes also help to develop skills, knowledge, values and attitudes that empower learners to make informed decisions and take appropriate actions regarding:

- Health promotion
- Social development
- Personal development
- Physical development, movement and orientation to the world of work.



As sports lessons are run in conjunction with life orientation classes it is difficult to say how often you will be able to coach sports, therefore please note that you will not be guaranteed full time sports coaching on this particular project.

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However if you use your own initiative to generate sports activity when and where you can or even after school, then we are sure that you will gain so much from this experience, just seeing those happy faces on those enthusiastic children will make it all so worthwhile!

The following sports are usually popular:

- Football (April to September)
- Cricket (October to April)
- Netball (Usually all year round)
- Rugby (February to September/October)

Although facilities are basic, there is still a lot that you can do.

Please ask your Project Coordinator if there is a subject that you would like to get involved with that is not listed above, as it may be likely that something can be arranged for you. Please note that the above subjects will not be full-time, so you will be asked to combine them with teaching English too, so that you have more of a full timetable.



Working Hours & Term Times

School hours are generally from 8am until 2pm, however you are likely to be collected from your accommodation at about 7.30am to ensure that you are at school and settled in before the students arrive.

Quite often there are after-school activities that you can get involved with; such as helping out at a local soup kitchen. Further details on the current activities available will be given to you during your induction on arrival in South Africa.

Please note that teaching is only available during the school term times which are as follows:

Dates for the **2011** school terms (semesters) are given below.

- Term 1: 19th Jan – 1st April
- Term 2: 11th April – 24th June
- Term 3: 18th July – 30th Sept
- Term 4: 10th Oct – 9th Dec

Dates for the **2012** school terms (semesters) are given below.

- Term 1: 11th Jan – 23rd March
- Term 2: 10th April – 22nd June
- Term 3: 16th July – 28th Sept
- Term 4: 9th Oct – 7th Dec

LOCATION:

The Garden Route area is famous throughout South Africa for its beauty and is a favourite resort for holidaymakers and weekenders. It is situated in the Western Cape Province and is very central, lying halfway between Cape Town and Port Elizabeth. The majestic Outeniqua Mountain lies to the north and the Indian Ocean to the South, giving the area a very moderate Mediterranean climate.

Knysna is a lovely holiday resort town, very popular among South Africans and international tourists alike. It is situated in between George and Plettenberg Bay, and is very famous for the beauty of its lagoon. The atmosphere is very relaxed and you will find plenty to do in and around Knysna.

ACCOMMODATION & FOOD:

In Knysna, you will live in our volunteer house with other Travellers volunteers. You will most probably be sharing a room with other people. It will depend on how many people are there at the same time as you. The house is very comfortable and situated at walking distance from the town centre.

You will be provided with a food budget so that you can cook and prepare your own meals.



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Please note, though, that occasionally the accommodation and houses that we use may change owing to availability, so the facilities you can expect may change accordingly.

VISAS:

For most nationalities visas are not required for a stay of 90 days or less. If you do require a visa, we will liaise with you about your visa requirements, and make the visa process very easy.

FLIGHTS:

You have the option to arrange your own flights or we can assist you with your flight arrangements. If you would like us to do this for you, we will liaise with you regarding available flights and dates to suit you. All arrangements for your flight bookings/payments will be fulfilled by [Murray Rogers Travel Limited](#), ATOL No. 6856.

INDUCTION ON ARRIVAL:

You will be met at the airport by our South Africa Organiser, Sharon, who will take you to your accommodation and introduce you to everyone. They will also take you to your place of work and introduce you there. Our SA team is on call 24/7 if necessary, and are always there to help you in many different ways. Of course, they are in regular contact with you.

COSTS:

Please see the prices pages of our website [Full Price List](#). The price of this project is a reflection of the following costs:

- ✓ Accommodation
- ✓ Food
- ✓ Meeting you at the airport
- ✓ Transport to and from your project
- ✓ Local in-country team support and backup
- ✓ 24hr emergency helpline
- ✓ Full pre-departure support
- ✓ 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 projects

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.

For every volunteer, a donation is made by Travellers on your behalf into the [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.

COUNTRY PROFILE:

South Africans are the friendliest and most hospitable people in the world - without a doubt! If you're invited to dinner ... don't eat for a week beforehand because you'll be overfed, especially if it's a barbecue. Wine is cheap and good. The salads are to die for.

Cape Town at the risk of upsetting other cities, this is the most beautiful city in the country, if not the world. It has been voted the world's third most popular holiday destination ... and it is worthy of that title. Here we have work experience placements (including an Adventure Tourism placement that is ... wow!), teaching and sports projects, and some excellent marine conservation projects with sharks and whales. We also have some unbelievably good care projects, working with children with autism or mental or physical impairments - extremely worthwhile and satisfying projects!

The Western Cape region includes Knysna, George and Plettenberg bay. These small towns lie on the world-famous Garden Route and are conveniently placed halfway between Cape Town and Port Elizabeth. Here we have very worthwhile teaching, care and sports projects as well as one or two work experience placements. This is a very social

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environment where the majestic Outeniqua Mountain lies to the north and the Indian Ocean to the South, giving the town a very moderate Mediterranean climate.

KwaZulu-Natal (KZN) is home of some of the most stunning Game Reserves in the world. This is glorious country, exotic, tropical, at once arid and unbelievably lush. Here Travellers has exciting conservation projects on Game Parks, working with animals and plants, and also our monkey rehabilitation project. We have a superb rural teaching placement working with Zulu children and an equally excellent Care project. KZN is the place to be for the true African experience.

Port Elizabeth is given the title of the 'Friendly City' by locals; Port Elizabeth (or simply 'PE') is a major tourist attraction. Lying alongside Algoa Bay on the south eastern coast, PE has a stunning shoreline and longer hours of sunshine than anywhere else in South Africa. With water sports galore, PE is a beach lover's paradise!

The Cape Peninsula has a Mediterranean climate with well-defined seasons. Summer temperatures are mild, with an average maximum of about 26°C (79°F). Winter lasts from May to September. The months are cool, with an average minimum temperature of 7°C (45°F). Most of the city's annual rainfall occurs in wintertime, but due to the mountainous topography of the city, rainfall amounts for certain areas can vary dramatically. The Peninsula gets frequent strong South-Easterly winds, locally known as the 'Cape Doctor', because it blows away pollution and cleans the air!



THINGS TO DO IN: SOUTH AFRICA

In the **Cape, around the Knysna area**, there's an amazing choice - these are just some of them:

- **The Garden Route**, possibly the most beautiful stretch of coastline in the world.
- **The Elephant Sanctuary** where you can walk and ride African elephants
- **Monkeyland**, a monkey and lemur sanctuary where you can walk through forests surrounded by them
- **Birds of Eden**, a bird sanctuary
- **Extreme sports** like sky diving, paragliding, kite surfing, sand boarding, surfing and mountain biking
- **The Cango Caves**, a truly awesome cave system and a must on your sightseeing list.
- **Whale and dolphin boat trips**
- **Zip line canopy through the Tsikamma forest**
- **Bloukrans Bridge**, the world's highest bungee jump at 216m
- **Internationally recognised Scuba diving courses**
- **Wildcat Experience** in Plettenberg Bay where you can walk cheetahs on a harness at sunset
- **Oudtshoorn**, home of the ostrich farms and crocodile cage diving
- **Victoria Bay and Herold's Bay**, renowned for surfing, bathing and fishing.
- **Four superb Golf Courses** and numerous other sports facilities, including flying, paragliding, squash, horse riding, tennis, hiking and mountain biking.
- **Plettenberg Bay game reserve** where you can do a horseback riding safari for really close encounters with giraffe and rhino



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In **KwaZulu-Natal** (known as KZN for short), you're surrounded by

- **Big Five game parks** (elephant, lion, leopard, buffalo, rhino) - Umfolozi-Hluhluwe, Phinda, Tembe, Pongola, Mkuzi.
- **St Lucia** is beautiful with its Crocodile Centre and Wetlands.
- **Numerous nature parks.**
- **Fantastic Beaches** for swimming and diving.
- **Durban** a lively city where South Africans go to have fun.
- **The San Art Park** for a collection of astounding rock paintings.

In **Cape Town** and surrounding regions, you're spoilt for choice! There are too many to mention, but here are just a few favourites:

- **Table Mountain:** Climb or take the cable car up the majestic Mountain for panoramic views of the city.
- **Cape Point Nature Reserve** is a great place to visit to see the Atlantic and Indian Oceans meet.
- **Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens**, home of unique flora and fauna. The 'Fynos Kingdom' here is endemic to this part of the world and South Africans are very proud of it!
- **Robben Island** is where SA ex-president, **Nelson Mandela**, was imprisoned for 27 years is a ferry boat ride away.
- **V&A Waterfront:** Spend a day - or a few - in the picturesque and vibrant V&A Waterfront and feel the atmosphere of the Cape with live music, numerous malls, restaurants and craft markets. This place really hums!
- **Extreme Sports:** Abseiling, sandboarding, scuba-diving and mountain biking, Cape Town has it all for the adrenalin junkies.
- **Wine Tasting in Stellenbosch**, home of South Africa's favourite and award winning vineyards. It's also outstandingly beautiful.

WHY GO WITH TRAVELLERS WORLDWIDE?

- Professional work experience placements
- Over 15 years' experience sending thousands of participants overseas, plus the largest variety of **flexible projects** that are **value for money!**
- Excellent support - second to none in the industry
- Accredited projects helps **appeal to future employers**
- Your own dedicated Project Co-ordinator to answer all questions prior to, 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.**
- 24/7 emergency helpline for you and your family
- Free pick up from the nearest airport .

VOLUNTEER FEEDBACK:

'I am absolutely loving this experience. I feel like I am really making a difference at my school placement and at the same time feel that I am benefiting from being there just as much as the students are from having me there! There's so much opportunity for extra involvement as well. For example, as well as teaching dance and drama at the school I am also directing a play and giving private dance classes at lunch times. The volunteers also get the opportunity to visit and help out at a soup kitchen and orphanage in the township which we go to a couple of times a week after

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school. This is great fun and also a very humbling experience. I don't think I could actually define my "best experience" as one moment. What with teaching at the school, rehearsals for my play, the dance classes, soup kitchen, orphanage, hanging out at home with the other guys, going for a drink, the worlds highest bungee jump, trips to the beach, and countless other activities we really are spoilt for choice. I have been here for over 2 months now and I can honestly say there has not been 1 day that I haven't enjoyed!!'

Luke Brennan

'I would definitely recommend this placement to others. It's just amazing to see kids who really want to learn. I love it when the kids come up and ask me what we are going to do today! I think this placement would suit anyone who is willing to just throw themselves in the deep end. The kids are just amazing, with a little patience and a lot of enthusiasm you'll have a ball!'

Mary Stokes

HOW TO BOOK:

Please complete a [booking form](#) online or you can send a postal booking from our free brochure. When we receive this, we'll telephone you to discuss the details and then start the exciting process of planning your trip!

We do hope you'll join us and are confident that you'll find this an incredible experience. Don't hesitate to contact us with any questions - we'll be happy to help you plan your exciting adventure!

You may also be interested in other courses with Travellers – please visit our [website](#) for details of all our projects. In fact you can choose from over 300 projects in 19 countries!

Make a Difference – Get Involved!



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