

你好English Project Report



Global Social Leaders Competition 2019

Hyning Gan, Nyassa Garg, Timothy Chan, Cyrus Chan

Click on this link to see the FULL PROCESS AND PROGRESS REPORT

Please refer to this document to see the full process and more information on our project

Your learning and knowledge gained

Share your learning and the skills you have developed

This project has extended our knowledge and understanding of service learning in many different ways. We have learnt not only how to teach kids, but the type of materials and activities that would spark their interest. Throughout this project, we had our ups and downs, some lessons being successful whilst others had been quite challenging. We were able to expand our knowledge on how to be effective teachers and how to work together better as a team. This project has extended our knowledge and understanding of service learning in many different ways. We have learnt not only how to teach kids, but the type of materials and activities that would spark their interest. Throughout this project, we had our ups and downs, some lessons being successful whilst others had been quite challenging.

Demonstrate the knowledge you have gained about your community

We started to understand different ways of coping with the children's behaviour such as being patient, clapping our hands in different beats and making them copy it to get their attention etc. This furthered our connection with our community. Understanding individual student's behaviour also helped us get a better understanding of how to teach them, some being boisterous and loud while some were quiet and shy. After a few lessons of our activities, we were able to get them to step out of their comfort zones and be comfortable performing and answering questions for us. Knowing that these kids were a lot younger than us made us realise that we couldn't reproach or get angry at them for being silly, especially when they're learning a language that they all didn't enjoy. We also had to learn to teach a language which was a mother tongue to most of us. All of us learnt how to speak English by mimicking our parents or our friends, which was something that they lacked of. So finding different ways of teaching them how to pronounce words was a skill we slowly developed through out the classes. All in all, this project was a tough one but we were able to get through it by acquiring different skills and knowledge through trial and error, extending our knowledge and understanding of teaching through a whole different perspective.

Understanding of the SDGs

As mentioned in our project proposal and submission form, the SDGs we are focusing on in our project are quality education and reduced inequality. From doing research as well as experiencing these issues through our project, we have come to have a greater understanding of these SDGs.

Quality education: Over 265 million children are currently out of school and almost a quarter of them don't continue education after primary school (according to the UN). This is especially prevalent in poorer and less fortunate communities because of family issues as well as their living environment. This is an important goal because education is the foundation for a better future and a more improved quality of life. Giving our future generation access to knowledge and information can empower a whole new wave of thinkers to solve our world's problems.

Reduced inequality: Although the goals set out by the UN are tackling international inequality, our project focuses more on inequality between the country, or sometimes within the city. The wage gap between cities can affect their education and deprive them of resources others might have. We want to be able to give everyone an equal chance by receiving the same resources, this way we know that people who are less fortunate also have a fair chance of improving their life circumstances.

Your impact on others and the community

Measure and demonstrate how your project has helped to address one or more of the Global Goals

Overall, we think that we were able to accomplish many aspects of our proposal through our action in community service, and had satisfactory results in terms of achieving our main goal of teaching the students English during our community service. We think that we were able to create a fun, interesting and comfortable environment for our class in community service through the use of games and class discussions in our teaching. Through our teaching we were able to improve and enhance the global community through a small action by encouraging learning for all as a concept, and providing resources to those who do not have access to them due to living in an underprivileged environment. In addition to simply teaching the students, our use of research and having an open minded approach was beneficial as it gave us a different perspective as to how English is taught to a second language speaker, and different factors such as clarity with communication that we need to take into account when teaching a language that we are already familiar with. In our proposal, we aimed to always come to our lessons with a specific learning plan which would be very

comprehensive and detailed. In many of our lessons, we prepared a detailed time plan with the lesson content and activities we would do for the day. We additionally prepared worksheets for the students to complete in class time which became an effective way for us to review content and control the class at the same time. This also implemented more of a personalised learning strategy that they would not usually get in a class of 40 for the students, as we would walk around and help students to review individually. In terms of being selective with what we teach, since we had such a large class, it was hard to cater to individual needs, so we focused on teaching concepts which would be useful in a general setting for the future, and made sure that we taught new things to them.

Number of students, community members and organisation(s) involved in and impacted by your project

Through our direct interaction with our school community, as well as all the people who have listened and donated to our project, we have definitely involved and impacted a lot of people through our project. The class of students we worked with to develop our game and classes with have been the most impacted by our project. We feel very rewarded to see the look on their faces when they learn something new in a fun and interesting way. Also, the teachers of our rural schools have been involved with the design of our lessons. We were able to work closely with the school staff to make sure some of our project ideas will be sustainable and how we can improve our classes. Furthermore, we presented our project to our entire school as well as several experts who were related to the field of service. This inspired some students to work on projects of their own or learn more about the rural education problems in China.

Number of hours spent working on the project

This has been a year long project for our group and a lot of time and energy has gone into researching, designing, planning and executing our initiative. We have spent around 500 hours collectively working on writing up our ideas, designing class plans or products to improve our service, and teaching the classes and doing the service itself.

Special recognition

Demonstrate how and where you have involved other people and partners in your project

As I have mentioned previously, we have involved our school partners in our project as well as our school community. We were able to involve our partner school by spreading their word on some issues within rural education, especially in China, along with implementing new changes to their classroom environment. Not only were the students involved with the success of our project, but the principal, teachers and staff of our partner school were able to help us improve our project. Our project has gained quite a standing in our school with many people interested in the service that we do. We have shown that it is possible to create such a project and have an impact on the community around us. Additionally, due to the widespread knowledge of our project within our school community, we were able to raise over 500RMB (60 GBP) for our cause, as well as donate a portion to it for "Teach For China", another organisation specialising in rural education in China.

Show that you have considered the sustainability of your project

With the fact that we are only available to teach these students for only a year, sustainability was something we addressed from the beginning. The online aspect of our game was something we implemented, despite the struggles because we knew that it was something accessible to from all over the world, at any time regardless of whether we were physically present or not. In addition to this, we wanted to spread our findings to the teaching staff at the school because they had more control over the lessons and how sustainable our changes were for their classroom. With the teachers knowing our progress for our project, we were able to ensure that at least some of our changes could be kept for a longer time throughout.

In the future, we hope that this motivation to learn English for all communities will continue for a long time, so that many students can have some access to an international education, so that they can fully succeed in the future. We think that we have been fortunate enough to grow up in an environment where opportunities and resources are accessible to us, and we think that although other people may not have these opportunities and resources, they should be given a boost as well, so that they can grow to their full potential. Even though our game was quite basic, we hope that others can follow our lead to not only create long lasting contributions to the global community, but take initiative to make direct impact to the local communities.

Thank you

We would like to thank a group of our teachers at our school, Hangzhou Chinese International School. Since this project has gone through so many stages, we would initially like to thank Mr. Pollock and Mrs. Pollock, the two teachers in charge of the project Hangzhou Hawks. The unit that initially started our drive for this initiative, then further through to another service project called Designing Social Change. Without them, this whole project would not have been possible. Additionally, we would like to thank the judges and staff at Global Social Leaders who have taken the time to evaluate and provided valuable feedback for our project. We are very grateful to have joined this competition!