

Vamsi Desu – NSF APNA Youth Ambassador

“We want to learn more English. When are you coming back to our school?” one of the boys asked when I stepped outside of the classroom. At that moment, I was beaming and happy



that I had made a difference in their lives.

Being an APNA Youth Ambassador was one of the best experiences I have ever had. I arranged my one week workshop at S.M.Y.R.R. High School in Vijayawada, Andhra Pradesh. It was a personal connection for me, as my grandfather was a former principal at the school. The

current principal helped me with starting each day with everything I need. The local NSF Vijayawada chapter coordinator, Mr. Surapaneni Venkata Ratnam, helped me get in touch with

school and plan the week. Additionally,

my mother got in touch with Mr.

Venkat Gade and he provided us with

all the information necessary to make my workshop as successful as possible.

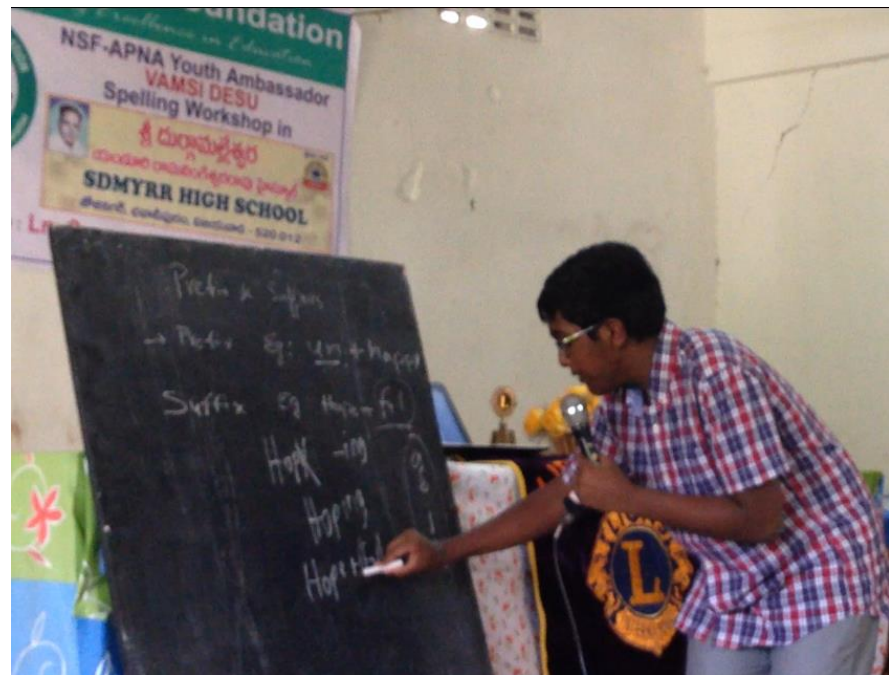
Every day for a week, I came in for an

hour and a half to teach the seventh

grade, which consisted of about 50

students. I taught the basic spelling

rules of English which consisted of



plurals, prefixes, suffixes, and numbers. The four days were great and many kids participated in answering questions. The kids were so ecstatic and eager to learn as much as possible. During break time, kids would come up to me and ask me countless questions about me.

“Do you have a brother or sister, *Anna*?”

“How is America, *Anna*?”

“Do you like English, *Anna*?” The questions were endless, but I understood their curiosity. They never had

guest teachers to their school and this workshop was something very new to them. After a great four days of teaching the kids, we had the competition in an exam which consisted of the rules I taught them. Most of the kids did well and I was very proud that I had taught them well. However, the scores were very close. We had separate awards for boys and girls. The award ceremony was attended by the entire school and we gave the winners writing and grammar books. This is an experience I will never forget. Last but not least, I would like to thank S.M.Y.R.R. High School, the teachers, Principal Krishna Kumar, Local NSF Coordinator Mr. Surapaneni Venkata Ratnam, Mr. Venkat Gade, and North South Foundation for giving me this opportunity.

