

Overall Experience in Teaching (2016)

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My previous motivation to volunteer for the NSF APNA program was to develop teaching skills, enhance knowledge of and connect with my ancestral homeland, share my academic skills, especially with underprivileged students in India, and utilize my summer vacation in a fruitful manner. I always aim to influence the students in a positive and meaningful way. When I first saw the NSF APNA program on the email update, it gave me an inspiration, which said that, “Every child deserves an excellent education”. This influenced me to join the NSF APNA program and help the children become good members of the society.

My overall experience at volunteering at an Indian Government School was really important and one of the best experience I will never forget in my entire lifetime. I went to India this year, to meet my grandparents and see my relatives, and I was thinking that I could utilize my summer for at least for a week in a nice way. So, I was really interested in teaching the kids in Government School. The school was only couple minutes away from my grandparents’ house which was really convenient and nice, as my mom and I used to drive the scooter to the school every day.

From the day, I started teaching them to the end of the teaching session, I had a great experience with meeting all the kids, as well as the principles. On day 1, I started out by introducing myself, and giving them a general overview of the NSF APNA program, and the things that motivated me to teach Indian kids. I also taught them 20 new Vocabulary/Spelling words on that day. The next day, we reviewed those previous words, and then I gave them a short practice quiz to make sure everyone was caught up. On that same day,

I thought them the next 20 words. This routine continued until Thursday of that particular week. So overall, I thought them the meaning and the spelling of eighty different words. On Friday, was the big day, which I give them a 20 word test, and rank the top three kids by giving them 100 rupees each. I also had 8 American gifts, and just did a lottery with all the kids name in a box, and picked the kids name. I was very excited to see all their happiness as they were all coming up to retrieve their prizes. The principle was in the classroom on Friday to give the top three prizes for the students, and he and all the students were in a happy mood as well!



I am positive that every student in the class had one of the best experience that week, and a great one week of my teaching. I was very happy to see all the kids faces, as they used to enter the room, and they used to sing a song for introduction, and every single person was well behaved and they all treated each other with fair respect. Also during some of the school time, I used to show them where my house was located back in America. I used to show them my family and friends in America and they were just really amazed and just wished for a bright future for themselves. I know every single one of them will all go in an awesome career and they will all succeed in their life. During the class time, we used to play some fun games relating to education, sing some Indian songs and just have a great time in the classroom setting.



Volunteering is a great opportunity for me, as it really shows the amount of dedication and work I have given back to the Indian community. The volunteer work is not just for the resume, and sometimes it would lead to direct job opportunities. It also shows colleges how we took the initiative to volunteer at a organization and the time we dedicated. Being a leader or helping out to the students in anyway would show that I am an important part to the organization. Finally, for myself, volunteering leads to the joy of helping others and helping to improve our ancestral community. We can all make a difference and gain new skills that embrace our responsibility to provide for the needs of communities and peoples across India.

