



INFO SHEET: EXPERIENCE AUSTRIA

Project: Kindergruppe Goldrichtig, Verein Kinderinitiative

■ WHAT IS IT?

Our project was founded in the summer of 2012, means we are quite new. We are taking care of children from 6 to 10 years old after school. This includes:

- buying, preparing & serving healthy, seasonal and regional food
- supporting the kids by doing their homework
- let them play in- & outside of our place and give assistance if it's needed and wanted
- organizing and doing trips to the surrounding of vienna (wiener wald, donau...) once a week

We are a so-called "Kindergruppe" that means the capacity of our place is limited (not more than 14 children). The kids are between 6 and 10 years old. One of our biggest aims is the idea to provide outside-activities and healthy food for the children. Most of our activities and interventions depend on the state of development of the children. School and Parents are regarded as important communication-partners for doing professional work.

More infos: <http://kinderinitiative.wordpress.com>

■ WHERE IS IT?

The Project is located in Vienna, capital of Austria. Vienna has 1,6 million inhabitants. Located in the centre of the new Europe and heavily influenced by its history as the capital of the Austrian Hungarian Empire, it builds a bridge between east and west. Many historical buildings offer loads of sightseeing opportunities, but fortunately Vienna is also influenced by modern times: it has a lively night life, many opportunities to practice sport and a large cultural programme.

■ WHO IS GRENZENLOS?

Grenzenlos is a Vienna-based NGO different from the project. We are supporting the project and the intern/volunteer before and during her/his stay, and we are organizing the logistics.

Grenzenlos identifies and prepares hosting projects, organises the accommodation, offers a basic introduction and orientation for the participant after arrival, helps with finding language courses if needed, offers a mentoring program, helps with all administrative matters and conducts the evaluation meeting at the end of stay.

■ JOB DESCRIPTION AND DAILY ROUTINE

You should be at our place at 12:00 a.m. Together with one member of the staff you are preparing the place, so that the children feel good, when they come after school. That doesn't mean to clean up the whole place (we have cleaning stuff!), but organizing the surrounding of the children for their belongings. You support the kitchen work (we do together with the kids) and enjoy your food together with the group. After eating it's time to motivate the children for doing their homework. This takes from 45 min to 1,5 hours. Depending on the weather we spend the rest of the day inside or in one of the close by parks. When we are inside the kids are mostly very independent and have their own ideas how to organize their time. We try to support and assist them, where it's needed – but don't want to interrupt them and plan their spare-time all the time! We see them as individuals, with their own ideas and wishes. Respect each other is one



of the few rules! It's our job to figure out together with the kids, what it means.. From time to time we organize "hort-conferences", means we sit together and discuss and talk about our rules.

At the end of the day we try to set-up the place for a new-start at the next day. Mostly we do this together with the kids and it doesn't take more time than 20 minutes.

- activities we offer inside: reading books, painting, drawing, playing chess/backgammon/go and other board-games, listening to music, working with different materials as paper, stones, wood...
- activities we offer outside: going out to the green (only 20 min by tram and we are in the forrest), visiting nearby parks, visiting exhibitions, museums, cinemas...

Important: german language skills are o.k to have – but not a condition! children speak so many languages...they will teach u!

Duties of a volunteer

- being there right in time
- give help & support by organizing the place
- assistance-jobs by getting, preparing and serving food
- helping the kids by doing their homework
- assistance by planning, organizing and doing in- and outside activities

■ FACTS & NUMBERS

Employees: 1 Full-Time, 1 Part-Time

experience with international volunteers:

support for volunteers:

- Communication in german (if needed – our staff speaks very good english, a little spanish, italian...)
- Monthly team reflections (feed back...)
- contact to "grenzenlos" and other organisations, if it's needed

Volunteering duration: 3 month at least (6 or 10 months would be better, September – January; February - June)

■ REQUESTED SKILLS

Minimum of English, mind-openness, lack of prejudices and the ability of improvisation is wanted!

■ HOW TO APPLY?

Send your Volunteers Motivation letter together with your CV to Grenzenlos: austria@grenzenlos.or.at

The selection will be made by the Hosting project itself.

■ CONTACT

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For infos, see also: www.experience-austria.org