

News 2 Volunteer report: Nature kindergarden Gatschhüpfer (moodhopper)



The nature kinder garden Gatschhüpfer is a private nature kinder garden in the suburbs of Vienna. You may ask what is a nature kindergarden? The kinder garden is not located in a building but the forrest and the meadows on a hill called Kahlenberg are the playground for the activities. That means that the children are outside all the year around. Right now Miwa Tanaka from Japan is supporting the staff of the kinder garden. We were curious how Miwas voluntary service is going on and asked her about her experience:

„I am volunteering for kinder group and I have been in Vienna almost 5 months. The kids play outside in a beautiful hill and forest. We wait for the kids at a meeting point and reach the place by public bus, it seems like a field trip everyday! When I arrived in Vienna in March there were no flowers, nothing green, just cold and still some ice was left. But now our kindergarden is surrounded by a beautiful flourishing nature. We eat food outside and it is like a daily picnic. And we celebrate every child's happy birthday. Children are growing so fast. I was surprised after a long weekend because they clearly looked bigger than before. I can feel that parents and teacher have a strong relationship. And parents have helped me enjoying my staying in Vienna. I have to thank to their great kindness! In Vienna itself there are many tourist place and even just having a normal walk and staying in the city or in a park is very joyful.”

If you or someone you know is interested in having the same experience: The kinder garden is still available for a volunteer for 2 months between October and November. Applications send to Austria@grenzenlos.or.at