**Service Learning Portfolio**

**Chanho Park**

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**Smart Goal**

Specific: We want to have fun with the orphans and want them to learn the basic wording of the alphabet and know how to count numbers.

Measurable: It is measurable if we make them read the English words we taught at the end of the year we will know if they learned or not.

Achievable: it is achievable because we are going to start with the alphabet and basic words that normal 6 or 7 years kids would read.

Realistic: It is realistic, because we will supply the tools needed for learning and our goal is reasonable and most kids know how alphabet read.

Timely: It is enough time for kids to able to read the basic words

**Updated Action Plan**

Target Problem: Education

Target Group: kids aged 6 to 8.

Project title: Alwadi Orphanage

Goals:

1) To make them learn alphabet

2) Able to say alphabet and basic words at the end of the year.

3) Able to color pictures easily.

4) Be able to answer yes or no questions or communicate better at the end of the year.

Challenges and Obstacles

1) Communication

2) Attention

3) Coming up with new teaching plan for each week.

4) Memorizing things they learned last week.

Tasks

1) Reviewing what they learned last week

2) Starting with coloring pictures

3) High fives them whenever they done something good.

4) Having different work sheets for each week.

5) End the class with playing with them outside.

Blindness

Chanho Park

Identify

Blindness is the inability to see. The leading causes of chronic blindness include cataract, glaucoma, age-related macular degeneration, corneal opacities, diabetic retinopathy, trachoma, and eye conditions in children (e.g. caused by vitamin A deficiency). Age-related blindness is increasing throughout the world, as is blindness due to uncontrolled diabetes. On the other hand, blindness caused by infection is decreasing, as a result of public health action. Three-quarters of all blindness can be prevented or treated.

Symptoms

Associated symptoms, such a discomfort in the eyes, awareness of the eyes, foreign body sensation, and pain in the eyes or discharge from the eyes may be present or absent, depending on the underlying cause of the blindness. A blind person may have no visible signs of any abnormalities when sitting in a chair and resting. When blindness is a result of infection of the cornea (the dome in front of the eye), the normally transparent cornea may become white. This opaque cornea can make it difficult to view the colored part of the eye. In blindness from cataract, the normally black pupil may appear white. Depending on the degree of blindness, the affected individual will exhibit signs of visual loss when attempting to ambulate. Some blind people have learned to look directly at a source of conversation.

Treatment

The treatment of blindness depends on the cause of blindness. In third-world nations where there are many people who have poor vision as a result of a refractive error, merely prescribing and giving glasses will solve the problem. Nutritional causes of blindness can be addressed by dietary changes. There are hundreds of thousands of people who are blind from cataracts. In these patients, cataract surgery would, in most cases, restore their sight. Inflammatory and infectious causes of blindness can be treated with medication in the form of drops or pills.

Special Need

Some people’s blindness can’t be treated. They often have dogs that are trained to do lead blind people to go wherever they want and lead safely. And many blindness people carry a stick to know what things are in front of them while they are walking. Now day’s world had become modern that when blindness people cross the road they often hear the beeps that make them free to cross the road.

**Reflective Essay**

**Chanho Park**

I have learned a lot of things during this year in service learning. First of all, I learned how to serve people and how to interact with them. Past 8 months I have developed to person who can understand others problems and how to take care of them. My friends and I did the project in Orphanage in Alwadi. It was full of kids that were abandoned by their parents. I also was the part of the member for Center of Love where we go to garbage city to help poor people who can’t go to school. It was some kind of school for them that they went and studied for 7 hours and go home after they are done.

I developed as time passed. For each visits to orphanage I spent about 4 hours. Even though, my friends and I got tired as time passed we actually enjoyed playing with kids. When we first came to orphanage we hesitated in front of the main gate. We were wondering if we actually could do this right like we did last year. When we met our kids I was so relieved. Kids welcomed us warmly and we got along well again. As time passed we were actually tired of playing with the kids. I felt it was really hard to teach and serve people with kindness. However, when we stay in orphanage for 4hours during that time we tried to serve them well, which we did well on it. During the project I felt kids only liked my other friends. Last year, when we first visited the site we couldn’t communicate with any of them because first of all, the language. I was still learning Arabic, due to that; we tried to communicate with our body language. Thus, as time passed I tried to serve them better and I tried to talk to them more often.

I learned lot of things during my project in Alwadi orphanage. I felt really odd when I saw these kids at first time. They were a bit annoying and were hard to get attentions from. Also when they like one of us, they try to stick with him or her for all the time. I thought that because they didn’t have anyone to love him or her. My mother once told me that I should be kind to them and try to love them much as I can. I also learned that they did not have any proper teaching. They cannot color the pictures properly. They scribble the pictures, and sometimes, they would just ask us to make paper airplane with the worksheet. When they didn't listen to us we just took their color pencils or things they really like however, that method was not very effective because they would start to cry and hit us. Add to that, if they behave so badly we made them stand outside for about 10 minutes, which also didn't work so well.

I began to appreciate what I have and I also think how I am fortune to be raised in such a good family. For other project we went to the Garbage City to help the poor. When we got there we found out they weren’t studying in a good condition. The trashes and dirty buildings surrounded the center where people lived. We began to think what would be best for the center kids. We brought hand sanitizers for kid’s health. We brought it because we thought; they are living in the Garbage city where many bacteria and germs would live in. We divided our group in to 4 and helped specific kids at the center. After helping them for an hour we met with our group and discussed further plans. What we did afterward was that we practiced our music for the performance we are going to do at our service site some day in this month. This project helped me aware how I am fortuned to live in such a good family with nice house.

I strongly believe that we will continue this project for the rest of our school years. We need to find other way of teaching them; we can’t do the same things every time we visit. So we are going to plan something before we go. Such as, teaching what and what. And we should have a test after we finish the lesson. That would be a good way to teach them and see if they learned. We made a lot of differences from the beginning of our project until now. At first kids didn't know any letters in English or can't even count numbers in English. Now they know how to count and when we visit they always say “hello Chanho” to me. Now that they know how to count and alphabets in English we are so proud of them. I can feel that they really like our visit and love to play with us. After the lesson we always give them half an hour to play. During that time we play soccer or tag game, I like my project and we hope it could still go on until our rest of the school years.

I learned lot of things in my project. I learned that orphans needed someone to love. I felt really bad and hoped they can find their parents. I also learned that they weren’t taught properly that they didn't even know how to color the simple pictures. We tried our best to teach them some English and tried to have fun with them. I think this project helped me to interact with people filled with hurts. It also made me develop into person that thinks about the others and how to treat people with hurts.

**Journals**

Journal 1 September 25, 2011

Today was the first day we visited Alwadi orphanage. My friends and I were so nervous before we went in. We hesitated in front of the main gate about 20 minutes. We weren’t too sure on what to do with kids we were going to teach again. After 20 minutes of hesitation we went in and met the organizer of the orphanage. She sent us to the same kids from the last years that were aged from 6 to 7. They were so surprised to see us again in the orphanage. I was amused to see them and I was also amused when they welcomed us so warmly by hugging each one of us. That made us feels much better than before. We were so worried if they forgot us. We didn’t plan anything much but to see them again. After about half an hour we went outside to play soccer and tag. Boys loved the game but, girls were different. They wanted us to hug them somehow. We couldn’t do anything other than hug them. We really needed more preparation for the next time we visit. I really enjoyed my visit to orphanage again and I am looking forward for the next visit. Also I am going to give them a candy one day when they behave well.

Journal 2 December 10, 2011

Today is our maybe 7th visit to the orphanage. As usual we went to classroom and reviewed what we taught. I can hear them memorized what we taught and were able to follow up what I was trying to say. They would start hitting us if we didn’t give attention to them. Although, I was offended at the beginning I loved seeing them smile so I just let them hit me. It was very fascinating to see how these kids learnt alphabet so quickly. They just needed our little attentions and smiles. It seems like kids wanted to learn alphabet. When we finished out little quiz on alphabet, we played football. Not only had that, our excitement and sportsmanship, let us play more despite the bad weather condition. We plated hide and seek too. Although the place was so small, our kids had so much fun. I learnt how it must have been felt for my mom to raise me. Surprisingly, it was their first time playing hide and seeks. I could not believe in this disparity. I was appalled. I felt so guilty that there are people who don’t have same opportunities as we do. I will never forget this experience.

Journal 3 January 8 2012

I bet this day is like the best day of my service-learning project. When we entered the orphanage kids ran toward us and said our names. I couldn’t believe my ears; they were actually saying our names!!! We were so surprised that we just couldn’t stop laughing. After the great excitement we let them play with the clay. We gave each kid fist size clays. Some gave their clays to us and told us to make anything for them. So my friends made cars, humans, and airplanes, after that, more kids came to use asking us to make something for them. Even though, it was hard work, we made each of them airplanes. It was also the first time they didn’t actually hit us with their feet or things such as wood sticks. I don’t know what is wrong with them today. After making clays as usual we played we them, well a really great day and I hot they do the same things next time too.

Journal 4 April 25 2012

During my visit to the service-learning site I found out it was located in the middle of Garbage city. Our purpose of the visit was to play with the disable kids and communicate with them. But, most of them were able to work by themselves and were able to talk freely with us. Firstly, what we did was dividing our group in to four and teaching specific kids. What my group got were the boys at the age of 14- 16. They had mental disabilities that they couldn’t do the simple tasks by themselves. We had to help each one of them to complete the task. After helping them for an hour we met with our group and discussed further plans. What we did afterward was that we practiced our music for the performance we are going to do at our service site some day in this month.

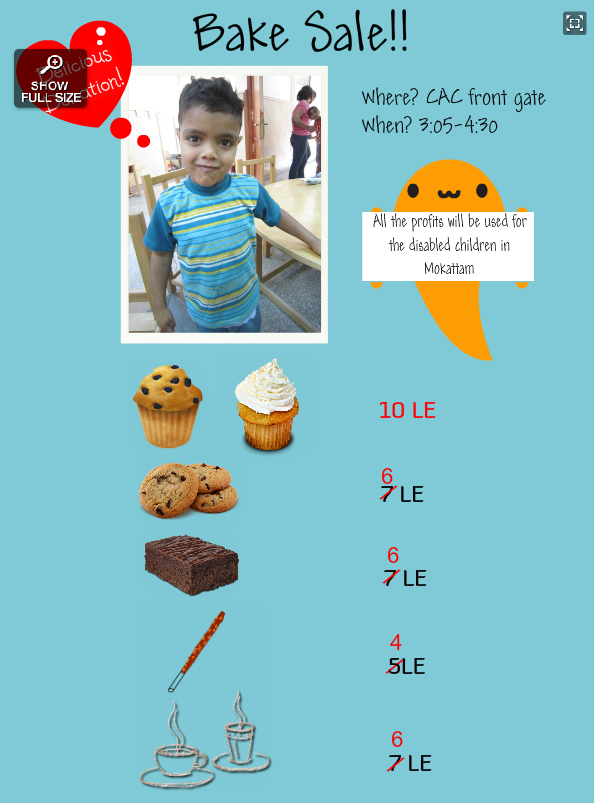
**Pictures**











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