

Tamara Bollo

I had been researching various organizations as I wanted to get involved in children's education, specifically doing what I could for children in underprivileged communities. Wordworks appealed to me the most. Its' focus on younger children and the programme working to solidify foundation phase concepts made the most sense to me.

The children are definitely what motivates me to stay involved: their happy, smiling faces when we arrive at their classrooms and the progress we see them making from week to week.

Things that I have learnt: Firstly, teachers are amazing! The teachers we work with at Observatory Girls have classes with 40 plus learners, yet they are patient and dedicated to their girls. Secondly, the girls learn and progress at their own pace. Some require more time and effort while others have learning difficulties and need specialized help which we cannot give them. Thirdly, the importance of teamwork. We have a wonderful group of ladies (and a few gentlemen) who volunteer with the Wordworks Ready Steady Read Write Programme. If one of us can't be at a lesson there will always be other volunteers to take over so the girls don't miss their lessons.

