

TIME (Together in My Education) At home programme for Grade R and Grade 1 Report to the WCED @ Home meeting: 21 September 2021

1. PROGRAMME MATERIALS

Another big distribution process has once again been managed by the Wordworks Office team who

packed 40 000 TIME sets - per language per class per school per district! This has ensured nearly 40 000 Term 3 TIME packs have reached schools, with the packs for the 100 Schools Project soon to be delivered.



We project that close to 50 000 packs will go out to homes in Term 3.



2. PROGRAMME SUPPORT WORKSHOPS FOR EDUCATORS

In **August and September**, **over 1000** teachers, HoDs and Advisors attended online workshops:

- 7 sessions were run for teachers who wanted to arrange support sessions with **parents**.
- 9 onboarding sessions, run for the **100 Schools Project** in each District in English and isiXhosa.
- 15-minute inputs on TIME to 3 ECD PLCs organised by District East.

3. COMMUNITY AND CIVIL SOCIETY INVOLVEMENT

The following **TWELVE organisations** continue their vital support for TIME in the Western Cape.

- Wordworks facilitates mentor groups for teachers at the 160 schools where it has sponsored TIME materials, involving the Gr R and Gr 1 teachers, the Foundation Phase Department Head as well as the Learning Support Teacher. Wordworks also distributes cell phone programme support messages and online onboarding, and workshops for all registered TIME participants.
- **2. Shine Literacy** supports teachers to make sure the materials are distributed and used effectively at the **45 schools** that it has sponsored with TIME.
- **3.** The Principal's Academy Teacher Specialist Support Programme provides mentoring support to the Foundation Phase teachers at the **21 schools** that it has sponsored with TIME. Mentors support teachers to run parent workshops and help keep parents on track with weekly TIME activities. Thank you also to the Principals Academy for recording two TIME read aloud stories in English, Afrikaans and isiXhosa as part of TIME Term 3 support messages for both Grade R and Grade 1.

Below is an extract from PAT's 2020/2021 Impact Report on the TIME programme:

Together in My Education (TIME)

It became clear that any intervention to assist with schooling during the lockdown periods would need to encourage involvement from the parents/caregivers at home. The Wordworks TIME programme, in collaboration with various NGOs, including PAT, addressed this need.

This home learning programme now offers daily activities to build Language, Maths and Life Skills for Grade R and Grade 1 children. The resources have been endorsed by the WCED, and are available in Afrikaans, English and isiXhosa.

In Term 1 of 2021, TIME packs were distributed to 45 000 homes and 232 schools and centres. Twenty of those are PAT schools, with the cost of the resources covered from our funds.

All teachers and parents of partner schools have been encouraged to download the Moya app (android phones only) as a means to get instructions regarding every week's activities. PAT's TSP team has held workshops at schools with parents to emphasise the importance of home-based support and talk through TIME.



PAT's Bonita Engelbrecht leading a TIME parents' workshop.



A learner using the TIME pack at home.



TIME packs being collected by parents.



TIME packs carefully prepared for pick-up.



- 4. YearBeyond WCED @HomeLearning partnership programme works in eight hubs linked to 32 schools supported by five partner organisations in the Winelands and West Coast. The NGO partners are Hope Through Action (working with SCORE), Khula Development Group, Love to Give, Bonnievale 418 and MathMoms. Using TIME and other materials, the YeBoneers work with learners at school, in the community, and in home visits.
- 5. The Bitou 10 Foundation works in Plettenberg Bay in four schools supplied with the TIME materials.

While the Bitou 10 Foundation continues to supply TIME materials to these four schools, there has been little feedback from the schools. The foundation has offered to run TIME parent workshops , and has run one introductory section with a few parents from one school. The programme manager has decided to target one of the schools to offer parent workshops in the third term again. They are starting to think about how differently they could sponsor TIME materials and support in 2022. The hope is to establish more effective partnership agreements between the organisations and the schools around TIME Programme.

- **6. Capespan** incorporates TIME into their Storybox sessions as an intervention at The Valley Primary, a farm school. The volunteers send the activities home with the children to consolidate at home.
- **7. Project Playground** has included TIME in their after school educational programme in Langa.
- 8. The Breede Centre uses TIME with Grade R's at their after school programme in McGregor. From Term 2, The Breede Centre decided to give the materials to the parents as some of the children did not come regularly enough to the centre to really benefit from it. They have contacted the parents of the children and received positive feedback that their children enjoy doing the activities, that the instructions are easy to follow and that the children are eager to show their work to the youth leaders at the centre.Katleen Verschoore from the centre is excited that two fathers are taking on the task as it is rare in their village that the men involve themselves with the education of the children: "I do feel that the parents genuinely appreciate the materials and found them valuable. They are invested in their children as they have already sent them to our ECD programme in the previous years".
- 9. Mosaic Community Developments use TIME in their after school programme in Mbekweni.
- **10. The Foundation for Community Work** has provided TIME materials to their home visitors who see each family once a week when they explain how to use the materials until the next visit.



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Home visitors were not in the field for two months and could not support families with the Term 2 materials. They resumed their home visits from 30 Aug (waiting update).

11. The Darling Outreach Foundation uses the TIME in their after-school programme. They have run training sessions with parents to help them use the materials.

The materials go home and the children bring it back to the after-school programme where tutors go over stories and activities again- great consolidation!

They've also taken the materials to a few farms and gathered parents to train them how to use the materials with their children.

12. The Knysna Education Trust supports preschools in Knysna, Plettenberg Bay and Sedgefield.

From Term 3 they have included five more schools to receive TIME materials. They visit the centres weekly and use the opportunity to check in with teachers how the TIME materials are being used. At the beginning of each term they mediate the packs with the teachers.

Schools have used opportunities at scheduled school meetings to orientate parents to the TIME resources. In three schools, some children bring their materials to the aftercare as well. Teachers use the materials to support these children who are not getting the support at home.









4. WHAT ARE TEACHERS AND PARENTS SAYING?

Before the mid year vacation we conducted **interviews** with educators and have reported on these findings in previous Forum meetings. We used these findings to design a **questionnaire** and have sent out google forms to all the teachers and partners on our TIME d-base. We will present our analysis of this data to upcoming meetings. Appreciation to the WCED for sending out a supportive memo.

Dear Principal/Teacher

Wordworks is one of our key partners to assist in quality teaching and learning. During this time of Covid, Wordworks also assisted with TIME materials for Grade R & 1 learners to assist with @home learning. Your school also received these TIME materials. We now need to get feedback from teachers and parents on these materials so that the data can guide us in the way forward.

Wordworks have put together the following form to get feedback from Grade R and One teachers using the Resource Pack with their parents. You can find the form at this link: <u>TIME Teacher questionnaire</u>.

Wordworks will create similar forms in future to get feedback and will create a form for parents to complete at some point. This is part of their commitment in the @ home forum to solicit feedback and to test out M & E tools for this purpose.

We would appreciate it if you could send the link out to the Grade R/1 teachers and parents at your school, so that we can get relevant feedback on the project. Once sent, Word Works will follow up directly to encourage and support teachers to complete the form.

It would be appreciated if all feedback can be done by 30 September. Your cooperation in this regard is much appreciated



5. ACTIVITY RECORDS - STAR CHARTS!



6. VIDEOS OF TIME AT HOME

- <u>St Mary's</u> Bianca discussing at the beach poster with her Mom
- <u>St Michael's Primary</u> Practising counting while baby brother demands ice cream from the poster!
- Grade R Lucas Bagley doing card game with his mom Lots of affirmation and lessons in fair play



7. PHOTOGRAPHS OF TIME AT HOME



