

India Goa

At the start of the summer I began my volunteering trip to Goa which I can now appreciate to be one of the most fulfilling experiences I have partaken in.

The project life enabled me to create lesson plans as in the morning I was able to teach English and basic maths to primary school children between the ages of 4-6. Through this teaching experience I was able to develop my confidence massively through having to deliver simple but coherent and enriching lesson plans to young kids with little English understanding. It also gave me first hand awareness of life for lower-class Indian children which is vastly contradictory of life in the UK.

However, the main bulk of my project was a Women's empowerment project which was run in the afternoon. Every day we would teach them a different subject whilst also educating them on the roles of western women. Since being subject to little or no education this programme provided many of them with a strong sense of purpose and invaluable skills which would provide them a much more employable background. With some of the women being virtually my age and already married through arranged marriages, I felt a special connection with many of them. I thoroughly enjoyed getting to know them, teaching them, making them aware of their rights as a woman and also creating such memorable friendships.

My experience in India has provided me with a whole host of new skills which only a trip like this could have given. My personal development throughout the three weeks has been immense with my confidence massively improving since having to take on such responsibility of educating not only young children but also vulnerable women too.

Thank you very much for the Adventure Trust for Girls whose funding helped me get to India along with my other fund-raising efforts and I really appreciate how my trip has helped me mature and develop throughout.

If you need any more information or would like to hear about any other aspects of my trip I would be more than happy to write more!