

## **ESC volunteering at Kindergruppe Butterbrot**

### **What is the Kindergruppe Butterbrot?**

It is a kindergarten with 14 children between the age of three and six, and 3 educators. The kindergarten is run by parents. We are located in the 9<sup>th</sup> Viennese district. Our educators come from Chile, Spain and Germany, so our main languages are German and Spanish.

We, the parents meet regularly and share our functions in the kindergarten (e.g. cooking). Our aim is to create a protective area for the children to convey joy of life, courage and self-assurance to them. Our pedagogy follows alternative educational ideas. It is anti-authoritarian, which means that children stand in a democratic contact with the educators – they decide what and how to play. Because of our two Spanish speaking educators, children also learn Spanish.

### **Proposed activities**

The Kindergruppe Butterbrot is opened from Monday till Thursday from 8:00 to 16:30 and Friday from 8:00 to 15:00. A typical day could look like this:

#### **8:00**

The kindergarten opens, the children start playing. One educator is present. At 9:30 The second educator starts working.

#### **10:00**

Breakfast. Then the children do handcrafts, play or go to the playground with the educators.

#### **12:00**

Lunch time. After lunch the children will repose or sleep. Some are picked up by their parents.

#### **14:00**

One of the educators finishes work. In the afternoon children will by playing, reading books or doing handicrafts. At 15:00 there is a little meal, between 15:30 and 16:30 the parents come to pick up the children.

As a volunteer, you will learn:

- ✓ how to interact with 14 noisy children without getting authoritarian, rude or impatient;

- ✓ to watch and not to direct the children's play;
- ✓ how to motivate a group of children without commanding them,
- ✓ how to help them solving their problems in a discussing, non-violent way;
- ✓ learn about the ways of democratic communication and planning by a non-profit organisation

We want to cultivate an international look into the world and are interested in the culture of the volunteer. As measured by your interests and knowledge, you can work relatively self-contained in the kindergarten. Some of your activities could be:

- do handicrafts with the children, paint, play, sing or read
- plan own activities (with the support of the team)
- prepare meals
- go for excursions or to the playground (together with the educators)

We offer three meals a day where you will eat together with the children. During your volunteering, you will work about 30 hours a week.

### **Volunteer profile and recruitment process**

In general, you should be motivated to work with children as well as to learn German. We are looking for responsible, loving and caring young men and women who are active, stress-resistant, team-oriented and open-minded (especially for alternative educational ideas).

The ESC in Vienna is coordinated by Grenzenlos within the MELANGE program. If you are interested, you fill in the Melange application form and send it together with your CV (curriculum vitae) and the details of your supporting organisation to Grenzenlos: [application@melange.at](mailto:application@melange.at)

They will forward your documents to us, the hosting project, where the selection will be made.

All available placements of Grenzenlos ESC projects are open to everyone (fulfilling the general ESC criteria). However, in the selection procedure a preference is shown for candidates with fewer opportunities. You will be informed about the outcome of recruitment process after the application deadlines. For more information, please visit [www.melange.at](http://www.melange.at)