

WORDS ON WHEELS (HO CHI MINH CITY, VIETNAM)

About Words on Wheels project



Words on Wheels (WOW) in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, is a mobile library project initiated and managed by the Singapore International Foundation (SIF). It is implemented in partnership with General Sciences Library (GSL) and supported by Keppel Land Limited and its joint venture companies in Vietnam, Tien Phuoc Company and Tan Truong Company.

Operating five days a week, WOW will visit 5 schools and 3 cultural centres 4 times a month, providing free usage of library, Internet and multimedia facilities.

GSL staff and Singapore International Volunteers (SIV) will travel to schools that the mobile library visits to conduct educational workshops such as English language and basic IT skills to enhance the WOW experience.

The partnership with GSL will enhance its mission to develop a culture of public reading and being a core resource centre for information, culture, recreation and education for Ho Chi Minh City residents. WOW Ho Chi Minh City also builds on SIF's current commitment to improving the capabilities of Ho Chi Minh City officials, key government ministries, and local communities to enhance the quality of education.

The objectives of WOW Ho Chi Minh City are to:

- Provide students and local communities in Ho Chi Minh City suburban district with access to educational materials, IT resources and learning facilities

- Inculcate reading and self-learning habits among participating schools and cultural centres to encourage life-long learning
- Improve ability and confidence in communication and learning skills among children and youths to enable connection with the world
- Build enduring relationships between Singapore and Vietnamese communities

How volunteers can contribute

SIF is now looking for individuals, corporations or institutions to form groups of 4 - 8 to spend two days volunteering for the project in Ho Chi Minh City. Volunteers will develop lesson plans based on the guidelines set by SIF and conduct the lessons which help to improve the students' pronunciation, listening and speaking skills, as well as organizing games and other activities within the classroom.

Depending on the trip schedule, volunteers may be involved in either the English Language or IT Literacy lessons.

DIMENSION	COMPONENT	ACTIVITIES
Education	English Language	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct SIF-developed English language programme • Interactive activities (quizzes, storytelling, drama, skits etc.) • Communication skills (e.g. public speaking)
	IT Literacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basic desktop/ laptop usage • IT literacy • Multimedia learning activities

Volunteer criteria

The following volunteer traits are essential for a meaningful volunteering stint:

- Adaptable and willing to serve, motivated to change
 - Places that we visit might be out of your comfort zone, in terms of cleanliness and convenience. Thus, being adaptable to different working environments and situations is vital.
 - Demonstrate patience, flexibility, and sensitivity to the needs and abilities of children
- Demonstrate cultural sensitivity
 - Having an open mind and interest in learning about different cultures
 - Be mindful of cultural differences and ability to articulate personal convictions respectfully.

- Uphold a humble spirit of service
 - To approach the project with a sense of humility and friendliness, with the desire to serve the local community.
- Team work
 - To be able to gain trust and build good rapport with fellow volunteers, local partners and community leaders, in order to work efficiently together to achieve the objectives of the project.

To conduct the lessons effectively, volunteers are asked to meet the following criteria to be eligible for participation:

- Be able to read, write and speak English language well enough to communicate clearly both orally and in written form.
- Basic understanding of IT skills for IT literacy classes (please refer to the trip schedule).

The SIF volunteer experience

Volunteering with the SIF is a meaningful and rewarding experience!

The SIF will conduct a pre-departure briefing and relevant volunteer training to equip and better prepare volunteers for the volunteer programme. An SIF staff or SIF appointed project team leader will also provide on-site assistance during the volunteer trip.

A team coordinator will be appointed for every volunteer group to liaise with an SIF staff to coordinate the volunteer trip. The team coordinator is also responsible for ensuring the required forms are duly completed and submitted, as well as coordinating the travel plans and logistics for the team. An SIF staff will be available throughout for consultation.

Cost estimate

Each volunteer is expected to pay ***S\$920 for a single room** or ***S\$860 for a twin-sharing room**. This amount includes the following items:

1. Pre-trip assistance
2. Return air tickets to Ho Chi Minh City (via SQ)
3. Hotel accommodation
4. Ground transport
5. 2-way airport group transfer
6. Local logistics and on-site assistance

7. 2 lunches
8. Travel insurance and emergency evacuation

*rates subject to hotel and flight costs

SIF will make the necessary trip arrangements for you. The above is an estimated cost based on a 4D 3N programme. Please let us know if you wish to extend your trip before making payment as the cost increases accordingly to the duration of your stay. Once payment has been made, you will not be able to make any further changes.

By having volunteers cover their personal costs, SIF can then channel the resources to disadvantaged communities and directly addressing their immediate concerns.

Cancellation refund policy

Airfare	5 weeks prior to trip departure or upon issuance of tickets, whichever comes first: No refund
Land cost <i>(Hotel accommodation, travel insurance, ISOS emergency evacuation, ground transport, local logistics and on-site assistance)</i>	15 days or more prior to trip departure: 50% refund 14 days or less prior to trip departure: No refund

A typical 4D 3N volunteer programme *(subject to changes without prior notice).*

Prior to the trip, you will be having discussions with your volunteer group to develop the lesson plans and individual roles and responsibilities.

Time (hrs)	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
0630	Schedule varies based on flight arrivals in Ho Chi Minh City Hotel check-in Briefing Dinner	Breakfast at hotel		Schedule varies based on flight departures from Ho Chi Minh City
0730		Depart for school		
0830		Conduct Lessons		
1130		Lunch break		
1300		Conduct Lessons		
1600		Depart for hotel		
1730		Free and easy		

Contact us

Please contact us to register your interest and/ or for more information:

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Sample Lesson Plan

Level: Upper Primary

Class Size: 45

Lesson Duration: 125 minutes

Lesson Objectives:

At the end of the lessons, the students should be able to:

1. Pronounce and spell at least ten new words relating to the topic;
2. Listen and respond to basic questions;
3. Relate and apply different words to each noun;
4. Demonstrate ability to work in a team.

Lesson Procedure:

Timing (mins)	Activities	Resources/ Equipment
1. Introduction and Ice Breaker (35 mins)		
15	1.1. Self and team introduction <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Verbally introduce self and team, including the translator• Students to form a circle and introduce themselves	
15	1.2. Warm Up Exercise <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Students will be playing some simple warm up exercise, and get to learn simple new vocab throughout the exercise:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Simon Says○ Banana Cut	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Chicken Dance https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4xmV5uHWNag

Timing (mins)	Activities	Resources/ Equipment
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Hunter Squirrel (if space permit) ○ Chicken Dance (back up) 	
5	Break	
2 Vocabulary (50 mins)		
20	2.1 Learn about Animal – Part 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 12 types of animals will be introduced to students; flash card to be pasted on blackboard ● The sounds that made by the animals will be introduced to students ● The music with animal sounds will be played in class 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Animal Flash Card (A3 size) ● Marker pen ● Blue tack ● Music – Old MacDonald Has A Farm ● Speaker ● Mic
10	2.2 Charade Game – Part 2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● One student will be invited to stage, and be blindfolded, required to guess the name of animal indicated on the card. The rest of the students are not allowed to mention the animal's name, but can make the sound and let him/her guess. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Charade Game Card
15	2.3 Bingo Game – Part 3 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Bingo sheet with animals picture will be given out to students, and students who manage to form the straight line are the winners 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Bingo Sheet ● Gifts for winners
5	Break	
3 Story Telling (20 mins)		
20	3.1 Story – Give Up Gecko <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Dramatization with Story by volunteers to students ● Reinforce theme of animals with story and drama 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Story book (pictorial) ● Mic ● Relevant props (if there is any)
4 Sing Along & Wrap Up – (20 mins)		
20	4.1 Sing along – (Song title is yet to be finalized, but it is a children song which has both Vietnamese and English version) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Lyrics will be displayed on the blackboard ● Students are to read and sing along; the 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Lyrics ● Speaker ● Mic ● Musical percussions (shackles & tambourines)

Timing (mins)	Activities	Resources/ Equipment
	<p>meaning of the lyrics will be explained</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students are invited to sing along & perform the songs 	

Advanced/Backup Activities:

Timing (mins)	Activities	Resources/ Equipment
5 Advance Learning		
10	<p>5.1 Drawing Exercise:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students are to draw their favourite animal and write its name 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blank paper (A5)
