

Reflection on Project Mingde Summer Camp 2017 (11th – 15th June, 2017)

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During this trip, I was responsible for conducting English lessons for P1 – P4 classes. As students in Da Pin Primary School had almost no exposure to English, we tried to incorporate Art into our English lessons to make the lessons more motivating and enjoyable for the students. We designed the lesson on two themes of colours and animals. We initiated the lesson by first demonstrating how to draw a rainbow on a piece of A2 paper while teaching and drilling the names of the colours. We then expanded the drawing by adding some animals of students' choice by creating a "Rainbow Farm." Then the students had a go of drawing their own "Rainbow Farm" and labelling the colours and the animals in English as a final outcome of what they have learnt. I enjoyed teaching the students of Da Pin Primary School as they display a high level of motivation and willingness to learn. I sincerely hope that more resources and teaching opportunities can be provided at Da Pin Primary School as the students there have the great potential to be empowered, but are constrained by their lack of economic power. As a prospective teacher, this trip was also meaningful in a sense that it provided me with a first-hand experience of working with students from rural area and deepened my understanding of their needs.

To provide some recommendations on how the trip can be further improved in terms of administration, I would recommend stating the first orientation as a compulsory attendance on the registration form. As not all members were present in the first meeting due to their own circumstances, there was a delay in organizing ourselves into different teaching groups and planning the activities. Moreover, more information about the school and the area we were staying (e.g. temperate at night, sanitary and sleeping conditions, etc.) during the orientation would definitely have been helpful in making the right expectations about the trip and planning accordingly.

Finally, I would like to thank the faculty of Engineering for organizing this unique experience for students from different disciplines to come together to utilize their talents and knowledge for the empowerment of the children in Da Pin Primary School.