**Sport and health oriented Kindergarten**

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

We are currently searching for 1 European volunteer for our Kindergarten “Zauberstein” project in Potsdam. The project will start on 02.09.2019 and will last for 12 months.

Kindergarten “Zauberstein”

<http://www.lsb-sportservice.de/einrichtungen/kita-zauberstein.html>

The Kindergarten “Zauberstein” is a child care institution opened in Potsdam in 2011. The kindergarten is situated in the part of Potsdam called "Berlin suburb" near to the historical Old City center and has the capacity of 145 children aged between 1-6 years, who in their development are accompanied by the proffessional team of 20 people consisting of educators/teachers and other support persons like trainees and volunteers. The kindergarten has activity rooms on 3 floors that are occupied based on the age categories of children, 2 large sports halls, Kneipp room with sauna and ca 1800 qm big playground and garden for outdoor activities.

The Kindergarten is supervised by LSB SportService Brandenburg gGmbH, that was set up in August 2004 as a 100% subsidiary of the Brandenburgische Sportjugend im Landessportbund Brandenburg e.V. (Sports Youth Brandenburg within the Sports Federation Brandenburg). Organization's tasks are the acquisition of kindergartens and after school care centers and providing them a profile of an exercise and movement oriented institution.

The kindergarten implements the concept of the "sport and health oriented kndergarten", which was developed by the Brandenburgische Sportjugend in co-operation with the Potsdam University. A new concept plans to fight motorial and development deficits at early child stage. Sport, movement and healthy lifestyle are the key words in the daily work at the kindergarten. For this reason, the "on the move" education has the highest priority as a pedagogical basic principle and the slogan of the Kindergarten is ‘Always on the move’. The concept nowadays is considered to be an example of best practice in the Federal State of Brandenburg.

The Kindergarten as the receiving organisation will closely cooperate with the Brandenburgische Sportjugend (<http://sportjugend-bb.de/>), who is going to act as the coordinator in this project.

**ACTIVITIES**

The project foresees that through the daily work in the Kindergarten the volunteer gains indepth knowledge about the sport and health oriented Kindergarten concept, which was developed by the Brandenburgische Sportjugend in co-operation with the Potsdam University. A new concept plans to fight motorial and development deficits at early child stage. "On the move" education has the highest priority as a pedagogical basic principle and therefore the slogan of the Kindergarten is ‘Always on the move’. The concept nowadays is considered to be an example of best practice in the Federal State of Brandenburg.

Through the daily engagement volunteer will be integrated in the "on the move and health orientated" program of the Kindergarten. Volunteer will support the staff/pedagogues in the Kindergarten during their service, making games, sports, various workshops and fun parts of the daily occupations of children. Movement activities will help the children to activate the reduced actions to move their body, as well as, help opposing their impoverished actions during leisure time activities. In addition, the volunteers should communicate to the children that doing sports and being active is fun. In this way this approach will lead the children to a better consciousness for health.

The volunteer should be of assistance to all kinds of activities and help the pedagogues in their daily work. Movement and health themes are only one part of activities offered in the kindergarten. The daily offers of kindergarten are characterized by the connection of the movement with the other fields of **mathematics, natural sciences, social coexistence, music and presentation**. The Kindergarten offers for children activities, workshops and projects in the **direction of handicrafts, music, environmental awareness, geography etc.**

Also, the volunteer will have opportunity after agreement with the Receiving organisation to organize his/her own projects, e.g. about himself/herself, his/her own country, culture, traditions, language and food. The volunteer can bring in own songs, dances and games.

Kindergarten can offer the following work and learning opportunities to the volunteer:

- to learn and reflect about on movement- and health orientated lifestyle in Kindergarten

- to learn and reflect about the work and educational activities in the Kindergarten

- to learn about sport structure and organizations in Germany

- learn about the educational and pedagogic methods

- to plan and implement the festivities and celebrations

- teamwork

- to learn German language

- to receive the knowledge about German culture

- to develop values

- develop social competencies, personality and creativity

**Background and profile of participant:**

- interested in work with young children

- interested in sport orientated work in the Kindergarten

- interested in the organisattion and implementation of sport orientated events and projects

with children

- dedicated commitment and creativity (for example skills in music, sport and games, dance or in general be on familiar terms with children)

- awareness of being the role model for children

- sociable, friendly, patient and open-minded

- willing to learn new skills

- curious and be interested in German culture and language

- body hygiene