**Meet DAPHNE**

In DAPHNE, the nonprofit organization, we work on protection of Slovak nature. We carrry out applied research, influence Slovak environmental policy and teach children about the nature. We publish educational materials for kindergartens, elementary and high schools. Thanks to a lot of experience with education we built unique educational system called Živá učebnica (Living textbook), where students learn about natural sciences in context and by using experience. Various innovative elementary schools around Europe (for example Primaria in Switzerland, Solvik in Sweden) serve as our inspiration.

Headquarters of our organization is in Bratislava, Slovakia and we have also branch office in Banska Stiavnica, Slovakia. In our team there is 14 people and despite the fact we came from different work fields, interest in quality education, respect for people and nature and inner need to develop young people is what connects us.

**What should you expect?**

In our project we want to work together with volunteers on better future educational system for children (primary in nature science). We believe schools should focus more on learning through relationship with teacher and linking subjects, not on a large amount of school work. Project aims to create a system of educational programmes for children, focused on supporting natural curiosity, passion for discovering and true comprehension.

Incoming volunteer can choose between office in Bratislava (looking for 1 volunteer) or in Banska Stiavnica (place for 2 people), where they will join our community work and work for this project. During the stay he/she will:

* gain experiences in the field of nature protection, innovative and environmental education and running a nonprofit organization
* set up personal and team goals based on personal preferences
* pass pedagogical training and learn our methods of work with children and in applied research
* participate in the creation and implementation of educational programmes in English for kindergarten, primary and secondary schools

**Who are we looking for?**

Young people, who are interested in innovative and environmental education and nature protection. Our volunteer should:

* be open to new experiences
* enjoy working with our target groups (children from kindergartens, elementary and high schools
* be ready to take responsibility for achieving goals
* work with feedback
* have an interest to work alone and also in a team

In return, we offer safe and helping environment and place for learning. Volunteers should spend their time working in DAPHNE by developing their abilities in domains they like. We offer possibilities to enhance their skills in different roles, for example: to become a leaders of the work team, teacher assistents, creative artists of our educational materials, financial analysts (mainly project costs), marketing specialists (helping with promotion) or data processors.

**What is the differece between Bratislava and Banská Štiavnica office?**

In both workplaces volunteers will collaborate on creating educational programmes, assist teachers and teach students foreign languages and environmental subjects, help with creating educational materials and with environmental research, rehabilitate protected areas, experience every day life in a nonprofit organization. In both workplaces we also support volunteers to create their own mini projects based on their own interests.

**Bratislava office**

Work here is more focused on research, leading current educational programmes and creating new ones. Most of the teaching takes place in bilingual schools. Development of new educational programmes can be based on your own interests and for the age groups you are most comfortable working with. The goal of the environmental education at Daphne is to engage children with nature so they can develop their own understanding.

Beyond the teaching part of the role you will be expected to contribute to some of Daphne’s office-based work. This can involve proofreading, drafting of communications or report sections and also desk-based research for the development of new projects.

**Banská Štiavnica office**

Office in Stiavnica has specialization in innovative education and teaching in context. We run our unique project, Living textbook (Živá učebnica) here. It’s (mainly) one week stay for students from elementary schools. During this period children learn natural science in context and by using their own experience.

We also create shorter one day programmes in english for city visitor’s children or students of language schools.

Our volunteers here also participate in teaching children in innovative elementary school in the city and collaborate on running the office.