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Does Pebbles Project really make a difference?

Pebbles Project ended 2011 with a picturesque Christmas party that had each and every child wrapped in a blanket of love and care. We kicked off the 2012 activities with an exercise to determine the value added to the lives of the children aided by Pebbles Project.

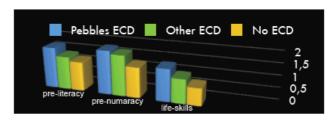
Three various tests were done amongst three different groups of children in Early Childhood Development Centres (ECD's). We conducted pre-numeracy, preliteracy as well as a life skill test and the results were a welcomed sight.

These development areas were tested by means of a standardized questionnaire. The answers to each question were scored either as "weak" (0 points), "average" (1 point) or "good" (2 points). The average score per child per skill was then

calculated. (After all the empirical work was done)

The graph below indicates that the average score in all 3 developmental areas, were much higher for Pebbles pupils than those of the pupils from other ECD centers or pupils who had never been to an ECD Centre before.

Anne Frank once quoted that paper is patient.. Statistics may well confirm that the work Pebbles does will contribute significantly to stimulating the academic lives of the children we have the honour of working with. However the real challenge still remains to ensure that we aid every unique (little) individual to not only perform well academically, but to become a vibrant and thriving young person in his or her own right. Does Pebbles Project really make a difference? I dare to say yes. And I dare you to become involved in the little bit of magic we get to create every day.



Pebbles Project ECD programme feedback from local schools



"Over the past years we have been able to discern between learners who attend the Pebbles ECD centres and those who do not.

When we orientate the Grade R learners during the first two weeks of the first school term, we observe that the Pebbles learners already know certain colours, shapes and numbers. They have good fine and gross motor skills. They have the confidence to respond to questions and also to answer it well. They even have the ability to retell stories and do picture reading.

well. They even have the ability to retell stories and do picture reading.

Thank you for the role that you play in Early Childhood
Development." - Mrs Alfestus and Erasmus, Grade R educators, Bottelary
Primary

Flenterskloof Early Development Centre (Photographer: Anna Lusty)

Special Thank You



How can You get involved?

Pebbles Project has many opportunities for our donors to support us. From Sponsor-a-Child to volunteering your itime, it is thanks to you our donors that Pebbles is so successful.

As our aim is to make a real positive impact on the lives of the disadvantaged children in the Cape Winelands, we are continually looking to increase the number of supporters we have. Therefore, we have listed just a couple of ways in which you can get involved in helping Pebbles.

1. Volunteer Time

Pebbles love when people volunteer to work. It costs a lot of money to keep a non-profit organisation running, so volunteers play a big part in the process. Whether it be for one hour a month or several hours per week, it all makes a difference.

2. Woolworths My Village

Pebbles Project is registered as a MyVillage programme beneficiary. The MyVillage programme has been launched as an extension of the MySchool programme, and focuses on community upliftment projects.

You can make a financial contribution to our work for FREE by applying for a MyVillage card at Woolworths. Every time you swipe your MyVillage card a small percentage of your total spend will be donated to Pebbles Project. There is no cost to you!

3. Sponsor a child

Sponsorship is an integral part to what we do as an organization and ensures that we not only work in terms of providing generic services (such as setting up crèches, after school clubs, staff training and providing educational resources) to the children and their families but also focus on the specific needs of each and every child. This may include anything from eye tests, social work support for the whole family, through to transport to school every day. Sponsorship is an amazing gift so please sign up today and make that difference to another child's life. A donation of R150 / £15 per month is all it takes.

4. Sponsor a school pack

Pebbles would like to provide a school pack for every child leaving one of the Pebbles supported crèches for primary school. Each bag will contain: a basic school uniform, school shoes, pencil case, pencils and pens. This is a wonderful gift for a child starting his or her school days. You can sponsor a school bag for just R200

5. Restaurant Fundraising Packages

Pebbles is asking restaurants to join our new fundraising initiative, whereby diners are invited to make a donation by means of a donation envelope included in the bill folder.

All donations raised through the initiative will be used for Early Childhood Development and After School Club programmes provided by Pebbles for over 640 children.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the following donors who have supported Pebbles over the past year:

R70 000 was donated by Distell toward our Lifeskills programme

Ramsay Media have sponsored R8000 toward the development of our Sports programme

R150 000 was donated by CJP Chemicals toward our Toy Library

HCI Foundations have donated R150 000 toward the Pebbles Project ECD Programme

The Nederburg Auction raised R30 000 in aid of our Lifeskills programme

R85 000 was donated by JF Hillebrand who will be the official sponsor of our Tank Party in September.

R35 000 from KWV for our After-School Cub Sports programme

Overture restaurant has donated an amazing Auction Dinner for 40 people worth R40000 to be held on 30th May.

One of the Pebbles trustees Keith Prothero is constantly hosting Charity Dinners in aid of Pebbles.

Thank you 96 Winery Road, Terroir, Manuka, Oude Wellington, Seasons, The Stone Kitchen, Juno cafe and The Black Rose cafe for getting involved with this fantastic new project.

Contact Information

If you would like to get involved in any of the above mentioned projects or if you would like some more information please visit our website at <u>www.pebblesproject.co.za</u> or contact Laura a t sponsorachild@pebblesproject.co.za

Registered Educational Trust IT4088/2004 NPO (Non Profit Organisation) 049-950-NPO PBO (Public Benefit Organisation) 930017224

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