

My 5 months of volunteering for Giacche Verdi Bronte

Personal Info

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In last 5 months I took part in a project Boschi per la Biosfera determined to environmental education of children in elementary schools in Sicily, concretely in the area of Etna.

I personally took part in the educational part but at the same time I was responsible (with participation of other volunteers) for photo and video documentation, administration of the website www.terrebiosfera.org and creation of content on the [Facebook page](#) of Giacche Verdi Bronte.

Occasionally I also worked manually, the most visible result of this work is the Bio Parco Blue Garden which was built with help of all volunteer and GV staff in the Mascali (you can see the [written](#) and [photo](#) report on the web terrebiosfera.org).

First part of the educational cycle was organized in the classes and the main educational tool was presentation prepared by volunteers. In combination with great speakers I perceive it as very successfull. Here I want to highlight Daniela Cataldo, biology expert from the University of Catania, who is professionally, educationally and also personally very interested person.

The two following parts of education were organised as outdoor excursions and the program was planned with the goal to teach children about local nature. Again, I think we all worked with a great effort and the only thing I would like to change is the fact, that due to the rainy weather some of the excursions had to be realized inside the schools. fortunately we were prepared for everything.

Speaking about the relation among volunteers and stuff of GV Bronte, I think they did a lot for us and in fact they are not at all just our colleagues from work but also friends. Especially I would like to thank Andrea Aidala who was responsible for us, volunteers. Only thing which should be in my opinion improved is organisation of the

work. On the other hand, in this sense, I can already see a positive difference when compared with the beginning of the project.

This whole foreign country volunteering is of course not just about work. The very fact, that I lived in a foreign country, with volunteers from diverse cultural environment, learning new language, made the whole experience very unique. I learnt a lot about Sicilians, I very admire their positive life attitude and friendliness.

I met a new friend, learnt a new language, saw a unique nature of Sicily, I hope I taught something to the local children.

I would like to thank to all those who made my stay here possible.

Grazie mille.

Jakub Dymáček, Bronte 23.2.2018