



LEARNING THROUGH NATURE

10 Saddlers Park, 32A Umgeni Avenue, Howick 3290
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www.learningthroughnature.co.za

NEWSLETTER - July 2016

Greetings,

The first half of 2016 has started well with **LEARNING THROUGH NATURE** venturing back into the field of Early Childhood Development (ECD) and significantly more moderation of Portfolios of Evidence for various training providers.

MIDLANDS COMMUNITY COLLEGE At the end of February the College urgently required an Early Childhood Development facilitator. On the recommendation of a previous colleague I was appointed to facilitate and assess the last three modules of the Level 4 course. These modules are Communication, Mathematical Literacy and How to Conduct a Structured Meeting. The 19 students from Mphophomeni and Bergville have been determined to complete the course, have been pleasure to work with and we have had many funny moments along the way. The support from Rebecca Wakeford, Programme Manager, and the friendly staff at the College has been wonderful.



Some of the ECD students from Mphophomeni

EUREKA VARSITY, based in Johannesburg, required moderation of a group of ECD Portfolios of Evidence at the beginning of the year and another group in July. Provision of relevant documentation and efficiency with regard administrative requirements from Sancha Hein, Project Manager and Programme Administrator, has been a huge help.

LEARNING THROUGH NATURE - is committed to developing learners of every age with a sense of wonder, joy, fun, inspiration and creativity. We encourage learning through practical activities in natural and cultural settings.



ECD students from Bergville
(Photo: Midlands Community College)

Jeanette Stewart
Environmental Education Specialist



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MIDLANDS MEANDER EDUCATION PROJECT (MMEP)

The first AGM of the MMEP took place in April for the purpose of accepting members and approval of the constitution as a new NPO with PBO status. The committee was elected and Jeanette Stewart from **LEARNING THROUGH NATURE** is privileged to be the vice-chairperson of this project. The MMEP educators, fondly known as the Bugs, are a dynamic and enthusiastic group of people working at twenty schools in the KZN Midlands with Jessica Dreamtime at the helm. At the schools the Bugs focus on technology, art, environmental education, permaculture, life skills, water education and literacy. The MMEP also consists of various groups with specific objectives. The Mpophmeni Eco Club works on learning about and improving the environment. Lisakhanya an internship programme supports school leavers by addressing educational gaps which exist between school and the workplace and preparing young people to enter places of work. The Super Bugs, Super Buddies Clubs and Sisonke run by social workers who work with vulnerable children in Mpophmeni. To find out more go the website www.mmep.co.za



The MMEP at the mid-year evaluation meeting
(Photo MMEP)

UNISA - LEARNING THROUGH NATURE continued marking assignments and exam scripts during the first semester. Face-to-face tutorials were, once again, offered on a Saturday morning at the Pietermaritzburg campus but, disappointingly, no students attended classes.

On a brighter note - **LEARNING THROUGH NATURE'S** mentoring of Mrs. Rehenza le Roux's Workplace Integrated Learning in Nature Conservation through UNISA has come to a successful end. Well done for all your hard work Rehenza and good luck with your new life with your husband in Zambia.



Rehenza - happiness is being in the bush (photo G. Shaw)

WILDLIFE AND ENVIRONMENT SOCIETY OF SOUTH AFRICA (WESSA) - LEARNING THROUGH NATURE

continues assessing Portfolios of Evidence in Environmental Education, Environmental Practices and Environmental Education Training and Development Practices. WESSA are planning many more of these courses through the year. Should you be interested in learning more about environment education please contact Claire Herbst on 0114625663 to find out when such a course is being held in your area.

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LEARNING THROUGH NATURE has entered into associate agreements with **GREEN SKILLS ACADEMY** and **INKWAZI LEARNING NETWORK** as an assessor and moderator.

MAZASA MANAGEMENT CONSULTING is based in Matatiele. **LEARNING THROUGH NATURE** assessed 59 Portfolios of Evidence in Environmental Practices – 6 modules in Waste Management – Level 2.

MAHAYI HRD SERVICES CC, based in Tzaneen, ran an Environmental Practices (Level 2) course for Tzaneen Rural Waste. **LEARNING THROUGH NATURE** was assigned to moderate Portfolios of Evidence for this group.

BUSINESS PROFILE – should you wish to receive **LEARNING THROUGH NATURE's** Business Profile in which you will find comprehensive information on the qualifications accredited to be assessed and moderated please send an e-mail and it will be sent to you.

Best wishes to all clients and friends of **LEARNING THROUGH NATURE** and thank you for your continued support.

Kind regards,
Jeanette



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Jeanette Stewart
Environmental Education Specialist