



Reports

Edu-peg



Education Through Action

Gauteng 3rd Quarter 2011



**let's make
learning
fun!**

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The Sactwu Edupeg Project (Association incorporated under Section 21)

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Education Through Action

Dowling Primary

Third Term 2011

STATISTICS

Number of schools	1
Number of pupils	1 184
Numbers of teachers and principals	30

What is very evident at this school is that many of the educators are professional and committed teachers and that teaching and learning is prioritized. The principal and deputy principal are aware of the Edupeg programme and give positive support and encouragement to the use of these educational materials in the grades.

Good structure and organization are very evident in this large school. This extends beyond the attractive administration block, to the daily systematic preparation and serving of school meals. The garden and physical aspects of the school obviously receive regular attention. Many of the classrooms, particularly in the Foundation Phase, have been personalized by the obviously very dedicated and committed educators. These classrooms are neat, attractive, and exciting places of learning.

In the Third Quarter, Jen has focussed on the Foundation Phase. She created a timetable whereby she conducted weekly demonstration lessons in a grade, followed the next week by observation lessons in a grade. This system appears to have worked very well and, to consolidate, the Foundation Phase will again be the focus in Term Four.

All children in the Foundation Phase are seated in groups, and differentiated tasks are assigned to the children, according to their level of ability. It is very obvious that the pupils have been supported and trained to work independently, and that daily written



tasks are the norm. What is also very positive is that all Foundation Phase classrooms have a teaching mat and that this is actively utilized.

There is a vast range of abilities amongst the children in the various classes, and it is encouraging to note that children are receiving support in their ability groups. Tasks to promote perceptual development, concentration, and critical thinking skills are evident in the set activities.

Utilizing Edupeg activities as resources in lessons, as required by the new CAPS documentation, perhaps needs to be more formalized in the lesson plans of teachers, as these are not always evident.

A very positive observation is that the use of Edupeg across a grade has encouraged and fostered co-operation and team work amongst educators, which can only be to the benefit of the less experienced or less capable educators. The sharing of ideas, teaching methods, and techniques creates a positive and supportive teaching environment which helps to promote improved confidence and self esteem in the educators.

In all classes, the children have utilized the Edupeg resources with enthusiasm and enjoyment, and at times have not wanted to cease their activities.

The educators have become more confident in their own usage of the resources, and a positive relationship has been established between Jen and the educators, as they have realized that she is present in a support capacity, and has a wealth of advice and knowledge to share.

This year, the Grade 2 educators have mentioned that the engagement that the 2010 Grade 1 children had with Edupeg has definitely impacted positively on the mathematics ability of the children.

I am well pleased with the progress that we have made at Dowling Primary, and we thank our donors for the generous funding which has made this initiative possible.

Principal Comments

- Mrs Ryder has visited our school regularly and has demonstrated lessons to the Foundation Phase staff and they have benefitted from these demonstrations. They feel more confident in the use of the Edu-Peg material. (Mr Sandows - Dowling Primary)
- I know that the programme is being used in the classrooms for enrichment as well as for remediation. (Mrs Kaye (Deputy Principal) - Dowling Primary)

Teacher Comments

Foundation Phase

- Mrs Ryder demonstrated how the pegboard can be used to check the childrens' work. The children and I really enjoyed it. Thank you Jen, you are a star! (Mrs C. Davids - Dowling Primary)
- The learners did well when Mrs Ryder worked with them. This was the first time that they used the material. I am excited to use it again. (Mrs V. Abrahams - Dowling Primary)
- The children enjoyed doing something new and it was informative for me to see Mrs Ryder's demonstration. (Mrs Florence - Dowling Primary)
- The Grade 2 teachers have benefitted from the demonstrations by Mrs. Ryder. They feel more confident in the use of the material. My class is always asking to use the Edu-Peg books. They are now very confident about using the pegboard. (Mrs C. Abrahams - Dowling Primary)
- Mrs Ryder demonstrated the use of the pegboard as a way of checking the answers and the children really enjoyed the lesson. I now feel confident to use the Edu-Peg material. (Mrs H.S. Ramudzuli - Dowling Primary)
- Mrs Ryder demonstrated the lesson well and the children enjoyed using the Edu-Peg books and especially the peg-board. (Mrs K.E. Moabelo - Dowling Primary)

"Education, like the mass of our age's inventions, is after all, only a tool; everything depends upon the workman who uses it."

The Simple Life

- As promised last term, Mrs Ryder demonstrated the use of the Edu-Peg books and the pegboard. The learners were actively involved and enjoyed themselves. (Mrs Mekoe - Dowling Primary)
- The learners enjoyed the activity demonstrated by Mrs Ryder and it motivated them a great deal. (Mrs Vundla - Dowling Primary)
- The learners and I enjoyed the demonstration lesson by Mrs Ryder. It was interesting and I believe that this material will benefit the weak learners. The learners were able to correct their mistakes immediately when using the pegboard. (Mrs Wittaker - Dowling Primary)
- The learners were very excited to work with the Edu-Peg material and the pegboard. The programme will work well. Thank you. (Mrs Smith - Dowling Primary)

