



VOLUNTEER – FIELD DATA COLLECTION - ARTSPARKS FOUNDATION

ArtSparks Foundation is an educational not-for-profit organization that works to support the development of 21st century learning and life skills in children, particularly children from under-served communities. ArtSparks also supports the professional development of teachers/facilitators, encouraging them to reflect on their teaching practice, and explore new ways to enrich their students' learning.

What We Do?

At ArtSparks, we believe that a great education should equip children with skills to handle life's complexities — skills such as problem solving, flexible thinking, creative risk-taking, perseverance, collaboration, communication, and so much more. We believe that creativity is a critically important skill for the future with far reaching benefits. And, that visual art & design provide rich and diverse opportunities to help foster meaningful learning. Through our programs, we create vibrant opportunities for learning, through the arts, that help develop essential 21st century learning and life skills in children, Grades 1-8, and, we help build the capacity of teachers/facilitators to create more enriched learning environments for their students.

Why 21st Century Learning & Life Skills?

"21st century learning skills are increasingly being recognized as the skills that separate students who are prepared for increasingly complex life and work environments in the 21st century, and those who are not" (Partnership for 21st Century Learning). In an age where change is the only constant, understanding and applying 21st century learning skills allows children to be adaptive and innovative in responding to new demands and changing circumstances. Life skills on the other hand form the core of children's social and emotional wellbeing. And, the extent to which children are able to apply them can determine how well they adjust and respond to life's myriad experiences. These skills must be nurtured within students.

Why Creativity?

Creativity is recognized as one of the most important skills for the next generation. Its value reaches well beyond the arts to affect every discipline and numerous industries. The ability to dream, take chances, and create the things we imagine. These are the skills of entrepreneurs, innovators, and changemakers. Children are born with these exceptional abilities, but research shows that over time they begin to lose them. We must offer rich opportunities that keep children's natural creativity alive.

Why Visual Art & Design?

Research indicates that robust art & design education contributes to the development of valuable thinking skills and attitudes whose benefits extend well beyond the art room (Harvard University; Wallace Foundation). The ability to pose questions, test ideas, take creative risks, solve problems, think flexibly, deal with ambiguity, collaborate effectively, are just some of the many skills and attitudes that are developed and strengthened through engagements with art. Involvement in the arts is also associated with gains in critical thinking and communication skills. Beyond this arts learning helps improve motivation, concentration, confidence, and teamwork. In fact, studies show that students with high involvement in the arts, particularly those from low-income communities, stay longer and perform better in schools in comparison to those that receive no arts education.



ArtSparks Foundation presently runs its school-based programs primarily within Govt. schools across Bangalore and beyond. In the 2019-20 school year, ArtSparks has served approximately 4000 students. And, since our inception, ArtSparks has worked with over 400 teachers.

To learn more about ArtSparks, please visit: www.art-sparks.org | facebook.com/artsparksfoundation/

JOB DESCRIPTION

Role: Volunteer Field Data Collection

Minimum Time and Month Commitment: Six hours per week and three months

Purpose: The primary purpose of this role is to gather field data using the tools (interview protocols et al) provided by ArtSparks Foundation in support of the defined ArtSparks research study. The data collection process involves liaising with individuals in the field for interviews/focus group discussions, hence requiring local language proficiency and proficiency in accurate transcription of the data collected.

Data Collection Methodologies - Mixed Method which includes literature reviews, interviews (In-depth/semi-structured), questionnaires, surveys, Focus Group Discussion(s).

Key Responsibilities:

(Included but not limited to)

- Compile, conduct, transcribe/translate and record interviews/questionnaires
- Adhere to highest level of confidentiality and ethical principles in research
- Conduct all activities in adherence to established quality protocols, procedures, documentation standards and policies with includes meticulous attention to details
- Present/share findings to the team (raw data)
- Liaise with the ArtSparks program team and research participants

Education and Experience:

- Graduate or postgraduate or pursuing masters/doctorate (Education, Development Studies, Sociology, Anthropology, Psychology or Social Work Preferred)
- Should have prior experience in collecting and transcribing data related to sociology/policy research/art education/anthropology/consumer research/behavioural science/cognitive science/use research/psychology/design research/visual communication design preferred
- Hands-on experience in documenting field observations in at least one of the following languages - Hindi, Kannada, English
- Experience in Translation/Transcription of the interviews and questionnaires
- Proficient in Google Apps and other free basic software tools for documentation/data analysis
- An added advantage if you have demonstrated experience in using digital data collection platforms

Competencies:

- Be able to speak fluently and understand at least two of the following languages (Kannada, Telugu, Tamil, Hindi)



- Extremely meticulous in approach to work
- Fluent in English with strong communication skills and able to succinctly communicate complex information to a variety of audiences both orally and in writing
- Be able to hold space and be sensitive to the needs of the stakeholders/interviewees
- Possess a deep sense of integrity as well as personal responsibility and commitment towards your work as a researcher in bringing about positive change in education
- Be self-motivated and proactive in taking initiative
- Be resilient with a can-do attitude, possessing the ability to adapt and innovate in challenging situations
- Possess excellent attention to detail, and be skilled at following up
- Possess an energetic and sunny personality with a genuine interest in this role

Location:

This role involves data collection on the field(face-to-face/virtual) with key stakeholders based in Bangalore.

Application:

We're looking for dynamic and passionate individuals to support research at ArtSparks Foundation. If this is you, and this role excites you and aligns with your long-term goals and vision then this is the place for you. We believe that great people with shared enthusiasm, commitment, and hard work, can achieve wonderful things.

To apply please fill out the [Field Data Collection Volunteer Application Form](#). Please submit the following along with the application form.

- Relevant writing samples (professional publications/sample of your best previous research work/articles/portfolio/interview transcript/analytical work)
- Resume