



Open World Cause Nepal 2019  
Final Individual Team members reports  
Dates in country: July 2nd - July 15th

**Name:** Natalie Chabot

**Position in OWC:** Director of Foreign Language Acquisition

**Position in country:** Professional Development Facilitator, Teacher Evaluator

**Professional position:** Teacher

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## General Impressions of Tri Ka

TriKa is a school for children beginning in playgroup through grade 1. In all levels except grade 1, students sit on the floor during class. Many of the classes lacked electricity, had bugs in the carpet, fans that didn't work, and lacked manipulatives for the children to use. Students generally seemed excited to work and participated enthusiastically. Teachers had a great rapport with their students and it was clear that students felt comfortable with the teachers. Students would generally start to tire by the afternoon because they were not drinking enough water. Students also would have benefitted from more unstructured play time and some land on which they could play. Teachers were incredibly open to suggestions and enthusiastically participated in professional development.

### Initiative(s) overviews:

**Interviews:** I only filmed one teacher interview while in Nepal and it was with Anjali. She was nervous to participate in an interview and agreed to do one after I said I would conduct the interview. She wanted to hear the interview questions first because she was nervous about how her English would sound and wanted a chance to quickly practice. During the interview, I asked her a series of questions including what her thoughts were on the iPads as well as Open World Cause.

**Professional Development:** I created and facilitated many different sessions while in Nepal. The teachers were excited to learn about each topic--their favorite being the iPads. The OWC team members generally sat with the teachers to be able to give them more individualized attention as well as clarify questions.



While it was great to see them excited and participating, there needs to be a long-term plan put in place so that the skills they learned continue being used.

Days for Girls: This initiative was wildly successful in my opinion. We originally only had one session scheduled, but due to demand, ran a second session in the afternoon. There were women of all ages from the community who attended.

Observations: Between the entire team, we were able to observe most classrooms multiple times both formally and informally. Through the observations from our first day on the ground, we were able to design professional development that would be useful and meaningful to the educators at TriKa.

**Initiative(s) recommendations** (be as specific as possible. List form)

Professional development

- Continued PD via virtual format
- Folder teachers would have access to with different strategies that they could read up on
- Access to videos taken of the PD while we were in Nepal

Days for girls

- More communication out to the community prior to the sessions being run

Observations

- Pre-training of all members traveling on behalf of OWC on note taking and observations during in country work to ensure a more systematic process during reporting.

**Feasibility of Recommendation(s) (list form aligned to recommendations)**

Professional Development

- I do believe these tasks to be feasible for OWC to accomplish and for the teachers to participate in. The teachers seemed enthusiastic about PD moving forward. I would suggest a teacher or administrator being put in charge to ensure participation

Days for girls

- If this is a program we do moving forward, we have the potential to have more communication go out prior to a session because of more awareness of the OWC in the community from our work during the summer of 2019 and the success of the first program.

Observations

- This is something that can be done moving forward and is something that would need to be lead by the designated leader of the trip. Meetings would need to occur in the weeks leading up to the trip.

**Recommendation(s) for OWC involvement at Tri Ka - Generalized**

My recommendation for OWC is to continue involvement with TriKa. There does need to be clearer communication both from OWC and TriKa to ensure that there is no confusion moving forward in the nuances of what each party is requesting, but it seems very doable.

**Other information in relation to Tri ka:** (This is within the scope of formal reporting. Information you feel should be taken into consideration for all aspects of evaluations/recommendations/general school structure)

- Teachers and students seemed unsure of us. It would have been nice to have been introduced a bit more prior to going into classrooms
- Afternoons vastly lacked structure. Students would be picked up by parents or the school van in rounds.

**Other information in relation OWC Nepal 2019 trip.**

- Established chain of command on the trip was lacking when members were working off-site.
  - I would recommend a clear reporting process when the leader of the trip is unavailable for future trips
- In trips moving forward, there should be an appointed representative from the community (such as OWC member Sarita Timalina or Saruj Kafle) or someone with at least 5 years of experience with the community appointed as a cultural mediator.
  - If established pre-trip this could allow for time to be spent more efficiently in the country as opposed to running into cultural misunderstandings or language barriers that could prevent effective documentation and delay implementation of initiatives.

## Pre-travel

Initiative(s) worked on prior to travel	Role	Tasks completed	Comments
Teaching Strategies form.	Creator		-May 26-Created blank document -June 24-Melissa wants to have conversation with Govinda and Sudha before June 27 OWC call to establish what the teachers would like to learn
Professional Development Form	Creator		-Began June 4

Teacher Evaluation Form	Creator		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Began June 9</li> <li>- June 10-Melissa Collum made edit suggestions to form.</li> <li>-June 16-finished edits that Melissa made</li> <li>-June 17-Conversation with Melissa asking to include Danielson rubric on form</li> <li>-June 17-Edited Teacher Evaluation Form</li> <li>-June 24-Made edits to Teacher Evaluation Form</li> <li>-June 25-Melissa added suggestions and edits. Suggested including the Danielson Rubric in a modified way as well as changing the formatting.</li> <li>-June 27-Worked to finalize Teacher Evaluation Form by moving Danielson Rubric and fixing formatting. Created a google form version.</li> </ul>
Trip Planning	Group participant and note taker		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-June 17-Group Call</li> <li>-June 27-Edited OWC Expedition Form 2019</li> <li>-June 27-Took notes during OWC call</li> </ul>
iPads		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Looked up apps to use</li> <li>-Did initial set up all the iPads</li> <li>-Downloaded apps on iPads</li> <li>-Tested apps with and without internet access</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-June 27</li> </ul>
Day for Girls	Kit Maker	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Put together kits</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-June 29</li> </ul>
English Language Proficiency Tests	Creator		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-June 27-Created Teacher English Proficiency Form</li> <li>-June 27-Melissa made suggestions to Teacher English Proficiency Form</li> <li>-June 27-Created Playgroup/Nursery Standardization Form</li> <li>-June 28-Created Lower Kindergarten Standardization Form</li> <li>-June 28-Created Upper Kindergarten</li> </ul>

			Standardization Form -June 29-Turned all above forms into a Google form format as well.
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**In country:**

Initiative(s) worked on in country	Role	Tasks completed	Comments
Interviews	Interviewer	Interviewed Anjali Acharya	July 11 after Nepali wedding ceremony.
Professional Development	Facilitator	iPad Basics iPad Apps Best Practices “Nat Boards”/formative assessment	Took place over a variety of days
Days for Girls	Kit maker/Documentor	Helped put together all of the kits to hand out Took Video of one session Took pictures during another session	High engagement. Initially we were only scheduled for 1 session, but ended up having a second due to high demand.
Observations	Documentor	Observed: Teachers, lesson plans, classroom setup, student engagement	Took place over a series of dates.

**Daily log of work in Nepal (2019):**

Date	Initiative/project/assignment	Role	Comments
4 July	Teacher and classroom evaluations.	Evaluator	Sketched out classroom layouts,

			took notes on materials on walls, student participation, student water consumption, downtime, and lessons.
4 July	Technology PD day 1 set-up	Co-Creator	Worked with Ben to create a document on the basics of using the iPads. Worked with iPad apps to determine which could be used without internet access
5 July	Teacher and classroom evaluations (UKG)	Evaluator	Sketched out classroom layouts, took notes on materials on walls, student participation, student water consumption, downtime, and lessons.
5 July	Professional Development	Facilitator	Ben and I demonstrated how to use the iPads at an introductory level. We also demonstrated formative assessments using mini-whiteboards.
5 July	Days for Girls	Assisting	Assembling kits that Melissa and Morgan brought in country. Set aside kits for Melissa to bring to India. Organized the kits by underwear size.
6 July	Parent Meeting 1 and 2	Team member, videographer, photographer	All parents and grandparents who showed up were women. Govinda

			translated for us. We all introduced ourselves and what our roles and specialties are.
6 July	Days for Girls 1 and 2	Photographer and Videographer	High engagement and enthusiasm among women. Had to get more kits from Melissa's pile that she was planning on bringing to India.
7 July	Teacher and classroom evaluations (LKG and G1)	Evaluator	Sketched out classroom layouts, took notes on materials on walls, student participation, student water consumption, downtime, and lessons.
7 July	Phonics PD	Assisting	Sat by the teachers. Practiced making phonics sounds with them. Modeled mouth shapes and tongue placement for different sounds.
8 July	PD Preparatory Work	Creator	At the request of Melissa, worked on PD preparation for: iPad use, app instructions, best practices, and classroom activities.
8 July	Classroom Work	Creator	At the request of Melissa, worked on classroom posters, flyswat boards, and free-draw paper for

			students.
8 July	Language Assessments	Creator	Redid the Teacher English Language Proficiency assessments at the request of Melissa.
8 July	Professional Development	Facilitator	Co-ran PD with Ben on the apps Chatterpix, Math Flashcards, math run, and Sky View. Teachers stayed 45 minutes after the end of the PD to continue playing with the apps.
9 July	Classroom work	Creator	Made posters about blooms, parts of animals, days of the week, shapes and numbers. Scraped old posters off of the classroom walls.
9 July	Professional Development	Editor	Melissa and I worked for 2 hours revising the materials I created on July 8 to make things more clear for teacher understanding.
9 July	Professional Development	Assistant	Showed teachers Bloom's taxonomy and went through classrooms with teachers to see where they wanted new posters on their walls. Began putting posters on walls.
10 July	Posters	Assistant	Re-applied posters to



			walls with different adhesives
10 July	Lesson	Assistant	Ben and I assistant the UKG teacher in delivering a math lesson using the flashcards app on the iPads.
11 July	Exploring	Videographer	Rode the school van with the children to see how they get to and from school.
11 July	Professional Development	co-writer	Demonstrated games for teachers to use in the classroom to minimize waste time.

#### **Daily Log of significant events and Other duties/activities participated in country**

Date	Event	Role	Comments
2 July	Nepal Arrival	NA	All of our luggage made it in country. Melissa and Govinda greeted us at the airport and brought us to the hotel. Melissa insisted we take a nap to help with jet lag after lunch.
3 July	Travel day in Van	Passenger	Learned that horns are used to communicate if you can pass or not on mountain roads. Drivers have an assistant who taps while driving as a communication tool to the driver. Had lunch at a type of “rest stop” that served food, but it was also the family’s living quarters.
3 July	TriKa arrival	Guest	We were greeted and welcomed by the family and one of the teachers, Anjali. We received marigolds.

4 July	Temple Walk		Govinda brought us for a walk through the community to a temple. We passed by houses and families working, visited both a Buddhist and Hindu temple, and learned about the caste system from Govinda.
5 July	School van breaks down	Student entertainer	The van that drives the children home broke down. I helped push it a bit. John helped work on it. Everyone on the OWC team took turns entertaining the children.
5 July	Haley's birthday		TriKa held a birthday party for Haley during the morning assembly.
6 July	Shopping	Shopper	Sudha called the owners of a shop and got the shop opened for us despite it being their holy day so we could shop for Nepali outfits.
7 July	Bugs		Identified that the carpets at TriKa have bugs inside of them. Found out that John's spray to get rid of bugs was confiscated by TSA.
9 July	Sari fitting		Sudha fit me for the sari that I will be wearing for the Nepali wedding ceremony.
9 July	Family meal		Sudha's niece and sister invited me in to eat chapati and mango with them.
10 July	Henna		Sudha pulled me mid morning to go on the roof to have henna done by a women from the town to prepare me for the Nepali wedding ceremony. The henna process lasted approximately 4 hours.
11 July	Nepali Wedding	Bride	Many women from the community came to help me get ready. They helped me with makeup, nails,

			jewelry, and getting dressed. Traditional Tharu dancers came for the ceremony.
12 July	14 hour van ride	passenger	Road conditions were less than ideal and we were held up many times due to flooding and accidents.
13 July	Nagarkot	Visitor	Ben, John, Govinda, and I all rode a series of buses to Nagarkot. We got to see a view of the valley as the fog lifted.
14 July	Kathmandu	Visitor	Met up with a tour guide named Raj who brought us to shops to find souvenirs and saw many different temples, including the fertility temple and the monkey temple.

#### Documentation submission

Date	Documentation Submitted	Comments	Date: Submitted in country - Date	Date Loaded to Melissa's computer in country	Date Uploaded to Google docs
	Nat Running Notes				
	OWCNepalField Notes2019				
	Best Practices				
	Gameification of the language classroom				
	Technology-PD#3				
	Technology-PD #5				
	Lower				

	Kindergarten Standardized Test				
	Play group/nursery standardized test				
	Upper Kindergarten Standardized Test				
	Teacher Eval Danielson Rubric				
	Teacher English Proficiency				

Respectfully submitted by,  
Natalie Chabot