



SOAPkidz

ANNUAL REPORT

MARCH 2010- FEBRUARY 2011



Environmental Education Day in Mamelodi

“Because it’s pure magic when kids and nature meet”

Section 21 Registration No. 2006/008482/08
Not for Profit Organisation No. 054940
Public Benefit Organisation No. 930021192
Established: March 2006, Environmental Sector
Directors: Karen Hauptfleisch
Phillip van der Merwe



Telephone: +27 (0)83 975 2700
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209 Amos Street, Colbyn
P.O. Box 12486, Queenswood, Pretoria, 0121
www.soapkidz.org

Our Vision: SOAPkidz believes that the future of Africa lies in our children and so aims to create a better Africa by positively impacting on the lives of vulnerable children and the fragile environments they live in.

Our Purpose: “We empower the vulnerable children of Africa by connecting them to nature where they learn to experience love and personal growth.”

Detail:

- Non-Profit Organisation Nr. 054-940-NPO
- Public Benefit Organization Nr. 930021192

Contact Details:

- Postal Address:

P.O. Box 12486
Queenswood
Pretoria
0121

- Physical Address:

209 Amos Street
Colbyn
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0083



On our way to the Dome Pools

- Website: www.soapkidz.org
- Contact persons:

Karen Hauptfleisch
(Founder and Director)
Cell: 083 975 2700
E-mail:
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Phillip Van Der Merwe
(Director)
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E-mail:
noeksie@soapkidz.org



Rock Climbing - Wow, this is high

Banking Details:

- Account holder : SOAPKIDZ
- Bank : Standard bank
- Branch : Hatfield (01 15 45)
- Account Number : 06 117 059 3

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Committee:

- Chairperson : Phillip van der Merwe
- Vice Chairperson : Glennita Anastasia Ford
- Secretary : Minette Whelan
- Treasurer : Karen Hauptfleisch
- Additional Members : Theo Coetzee
: Cynthia Pillay
: Tamzin Gennisen
: Sharron Marie Reynolds



The Volunteers, having fun

Meetings and Reports:

- The AGM was held on the 27th of March 2010.
- Monthly meetings were held.
- Event reports were sent to the volunteers and main donors after every event.

Media:

- An article about SOAPkidz appeared in the Shape Magazine and we also featured on the TV show, SPIRIT SUNDAE, which is a light-hearted infotainment Sunday magazine show broadcast to the nation's largest television audience, SABC 1 (Mzansi Fo Sho on Sunday mornings at 11am.)

Types of Events:

The children are introduced to nature through various kinds of events, which included:

- **Adventure Camps:** These camps are mainly targeted at teenagers from children's homes. By taking these children out of their normal environment and comfort zones they learn more about themselves and how they interact with others. Environmental activities are always incorporated into the camps.
- **Environmental Educational Days:** These days include various types of activities e.g alien plant eradication, tree planting, water testing, picking up litter, re-using litter
- **Orienteering events:** SOAPkidz usually partners with RACO orienteering events. The children are divided into different teams and taught basic navigation skills and there is always an extra prize for the team that collects the most rubbish while doing the orienteering.
- **Nature Hikes:** On these hikes the children learn valuable skills such as: cooking in the wild, identifying animal tracks, navigation and stargazing.

Educational Aspect:

Through these events, the children learn about issues such as: sustainable living, preservation of the environment, finding their place in society, First Aid, HIV/AIDS etc.

Operations: During the past financial year, SOAPkidz has taken 705 children from previously disadvantaged backgrounds and introduced them to the environment on 16 different occasions. These children come from various places such as children's homes, places of safety, Aids orphanages and previously disadvantaged schools and ranged in age from 4 to 18 years old.

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Pictures of Events:



Environmental Education Day in Mamelodi



Environmental Education Day in Pretoria



Environmental Education Day in Johannesburg



Environmental Education Day in Mamelodi



SOAPkidz at the Pretoria Zoo



SOAPkidz Survival Camp

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List of events:

- 1 2010/03/20 Volunteer Weekend at Outer Lodge
- 2 2010/03/27 Earth Hour in Pretoria
- 3 2010/04/15 Barnyard Fundraiser in Pretoria
- 4 2010/04/16 Adventure Weekend at Stirrup Glen
- 5 2010/05/01 Champions Day at Turffontein Racecourse
- 6 2010/05/15 Geocaching Adventure at Faerie Glen Nature Reserve
- 7 2010/06/26 Climbing with the MCSA in Magaliesberg
- 8 2010/08/14 Hiking at the Pretoria Botanical Garden
- 9 2010/09/11 Environmental Education Day at Walter Sisulu Environmental Centre
- 10 2010/09/23 Planting Season
- 11 2010/09/25 Kidz in Nature Outing
- 12 2010/10/09 Environmental Weekend at the Pretoria Zoo
- 13 2010/10/30 Weekend Hike in Kranskloof
- 14 2010/11/13 Environmental Education Day at Trefoil Park
- 15 2010/12/04 SOAPkidz at the Green Market
- 16 2011/02/27 Eco Orienteering at the Pretoria Zoo



Volunteering can be tough!

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Message to the SOAPkidz volunteers from the founder:

Dear Volunteers

The past year saw many new challenges, faces and events. Once again, I cannot thank all the dedicated volunteers enough who shared their time, love and passion with the 705 children whose lives you touched.

On a personal level the past year was both inspiring and incredibly challenging. I embarked on a three month expedition to West Africa to climb the highest peak in sixteen countries and explore the possibilities of expanding SOAPkidz into the rest of Africa. A highlight was the cleaning of Ghana's Mount Afadjati with the help of cheerful volunteers from the village at the base of the mountains. The low point was seeing iron ore being mined in supposedly protected mountains and it broke my heart to hear the sound of chainsaws felling giant trees in pristine tropical rainforests. Despite crying many tears, I returned after travelling over 20 000 gruelling kilometres more determined than ever to bring the SOAPkidz message to all the children of Africa. The laughter, hospitality and infectious energy of the West African people; the days spent hiking in the beautiful mountain ranges and the birdsong and giant silk cotton trees in the forests made this a life changing experience.

As most of you are aware, we are working hard to place SOAPkidz on a sustainable level, and several strategy sessions were held in this regard. During the past year structures and processes were put in place to ensure that we maximise our impact on the children's lives and on the environment. With our renewed vision and purpose we look forward to making an even bigger contribution during the coming year. SOAPkidz is well placed with its wonderful volunteers, access to vulnerable children and the use of a number of "natural" facilities. We look forward to welcoming you to all the action and drama that we have planned for 2011/2012.

Besides our usual eco orienteering events, volunteer weekends, weekends in the mountains and day hikes, we have the following major events lined up:

- 6 March - SOAPKidz Mountain Challenge Event 1
- 12 March - SOAPkidz Mountain Challenge Event 2
- 26 March - Kidz in Nature with the Kruispaaie Outreach Group
- 26/27 March - SOAPkidz Mountain Challenge Event 3
- 22/26 April - SOAPkidz Mountain Challenge in the Drakensburg - Event 4
- 28 May - Kidz in Nature with the Kruispaaie Outreach Group
- 10 July - Eco Orienteering at Stirrup Glen
- 7 August - Eco Orienteering with RACO
- 17 September - Environmental Education Day
- 10 December - Green Gift Day - several events

Once again, thank you for giving your time and love.

Karen Hauptfleisch
Founder and Director SOAPkidz
www.soapkidz.org

Karen on top of Ghana's highest mountain with her volunteers. 15 Bags of litter was carried down Mt Afadjati



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Our Sponsors:

- Algorithm
- Brad White
- Craig Pilgrim
- EE Publishers
- Gert-Jan van Rijsewijk
- Ideaology
- IQ Business
- Metago Environmental Engineers
- Oranje Drukkery
- Otti Nesor
- Wendy Palm

Our Partners:

- Centre for Innovative Learning
- MCSA Magaliesberg
- RACO
- Braamfontein Spruit Trust
- Kruispaaie Outreach Group
- Walter Sisulu Environmental Education Centre
- Waterwise

The following organizations have kindly allowed SOAPkidz to use their facilities at no cost:

- Pretoria Zoo
- Mountain Club of South Africa

Message to the Sponsors

We are really fortunate to have such wonderful sponsors who have over the last year given of their time, money and facilities. SOAPkidz is an NGO that strives to keep its overheads low so that all funds donated go directly to the benefit of the children. SOAPkidz does not have offices, vehicles and paid staff. Karen Hauptfleisch the Founder and Director operates the organization from her home. Volunteers make use of their own vehicles, cell phones and do not get paid for their time.

Thank you for your support in 2010/11 and we look forward to our continued association in 2011/12.

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