Project Title: York Children’s University: Transport Yourself

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Describe the project in your own words:

The Transport Yourself module was designed to introduce and inspire primary school children in the various methods of transport, specifically on the trains. The children learnt the different occupations linked to transport, the hazards and health and safety of trains, and produced a collage and presented their work on what they learnt in front of the class, teachers and community partner. The module also included a trip on the trains to Leeds and Harrogate stations from York station, where the children could see first-hand the operations and people that worked on the trains.

What were the highlights of your project?

The highlights of this module were the trip, where all the children were engaged and excited, and the last lesson, as the children showed their understanding of what we had taught over the course of 5 weeks.

Were there any surprises?

There were many situations where you had to think on your feet and act professionally and appropriately, but these experiences only added to the experience of the module.

What did you gain from your project?

I gained significantly useful knowledge into lesson planning, trip planning, communication with a team, and reinforcement of confidence in a new teaching environment.

Did the project influence any future career plans?

I was set on being a teacher from the start, so the module only confirmed my aspirations for the future.

What advice would you give students considering taking part in a team volunteering project?

The first few weeks are the hardest, with everyone getting to know each other and starting to plan lessons from the bare minimum. After that, the planning gets easier, the people you work with get more comfortable to be around, and it turns into a really enjoyable experience. When the lessons start, all your hard work gets paid off instantly, and will continue to do until you finish.