

# Galapagos Newsletter



*Phoenicopterus ruber*

**Flamingos running to catch crabs in an artificial lagoon**



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**April 2013**

# News from Galapagos!!

Welcome to our newsletter for April. We have started our English community project for the year, and are also busy developing our new nursery in the Highlands. Once it is up and running, we hope to supply native plants and trees to the town. We have also started our conservation projects, monitoring iguanas, sea lions and giant tortoises, as well as providing volunteers for the Galapagos National Park. There is always something to do on San Cristobal Island to keep our community, fauna and flora safe. Our future custodians of the Galapagos, our children and teenagers, are more aware now than ever before of the importance of preserving our treasures. As you can see, work never stops in the Galapagos, and it is all thanks to our dedicated volunteers. Thank you, one and all. Without all of you, our work here would not be so successful.



William Puga  
Country Director

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# GALAPAGOS CONSERVATION PROJECT

Updated by Olivier Labelle

Canadian, one month, Conservation



My experience as a volunteer in the Galapagos Islands was amazing! I got the chance to learn a lot about endemic species and work with exotic animals. I believe that my favorite moment of volunteering in the Galapagos was working at the Galapaguera with the Turtles. The conservation project is great because you get the chance to work with the giant turtles, marine iguanas, birds and sea lions. You also get the chance to do a lot of physical work at the nursery garden whether it is cutting trees and maintaining the land with machetes, planting plants or mixing dirt for the plants. I believe that the Galapagos is a great destination to do a Conservation Project with Projects Abroad!



# MY EXPERIENCE OF TEACHING

Updated by Sylvie Allain

France, one month, teaching

I arrived on the 2nd of April in the Galápagos Islands. During my introduction day I have been told that it was the school holidays in the Galápagos Islands until May but that English courses are proposed in the premises of Projects Abroad as from 15 April. For two weeks we had to work on the teaching project without students.

During the first week Vanessa, Adina, Paulina and I worked on some entrance tests in order to be able to manage the groups of students according to their level. We also discussed the various ideas of courses that we can propose. We have decorated the classes to welcome the children and adults. In the afternoons we had the luxury of taking advantage of the beautiful island.

The second week all the students have passed the tests and we were busy all morning correcting them. We also made short interviews in English to evaluate the speaking level of the kids. We started to prepare future courses at the same time.

This week we begun the courses and we had so much fun, playing some easy games in English. We had a great time, students are highly motivated and we all enjoyed the first days of class!

In fact, the proposed courses are free classes for children and adults. As volunteers are coming throughout the year to teach English, it makes the project feasible. I think we have almost 100 students on the subscription list. For them, learning (and specially speaking English) is

really important. As many tourists visit the islands, the English language becomes a valuable tool. So, let's just continue to all have fun teaching English to drive the project always further.





# UPDATED PICTURES

## New Conservation Projects

