



Education Support in the amazon region

Volunteering Before and After the Pandemic



Returned Peace Corps Volunteer Paulina Prasad Story

My site was Puyo and I taught English at the 12 de Mayo high school. After my classes, I had an English club with my students, and another club at the local community center where we spoke about topics like health, healthy relationships and the importance of accomplishing your personal goals.

During my time in Puyo, I had the opportunity to understand various indigenous cultures and explore the Amazon.

Evacuation day was really emotional. None of the volunteers from my group were ready to leave, and we were all really sad. I never had the opportunity to say goodbye to my students or my school.

The time I've spent in Ecuador after evacuation has been one of the most important chapters of my life. Now I understand Ecuadorian culture really well and I feel like it is my second home.

I will always be grateful for the memories I have had here and the community I've created.

Thank you, Ecuador!



Sharing with the local community

Editor's Note:

*Paulina took advantage of the opportunity to continue to serve as a participant in the **Virtual Service Pilot Program** in 2021. In her own words: "Local teachers have improved their skills significantly during the 12 week program, I feel like I have created valuable connections with every teacher in my class".*



Paulina with some of her students before the evacuation