

Salem-Keizer Teachers Receive Warm Welcome in Kenya!

Over the past three years Ray of Hope has worked with Valley Inquiry School, an international baccalaureate charter school in Salem, Oregon on a sister school project. Valley Inquiry has been matched with Bware Primary School. Teachers Nina Bassett-Smith, Cristal Boyd and Melissa Colby travelled to Kenya in August to see the school, meet with the leadership to discuss the sister school relationship and offering enrichment activities for students.



The students greeted the visiting teachers each morning with songs and prayers at their assembly. The Salem teachers were thrilled to have the opportunity to work with each of the more than six hundred students, grades pre-k through 8. Though they had only planned to do projects with grades 4-6, they quickly revised their plans and made adjustments to their limited supplies so that each student could complete a project to take home.



Class 5 and 6 drew mandalas on bandanas.



On the last day, the Salem teachers shared American camp songs with the Kenyan students (they loved “Boom Chicka Boom”), and the Kenyan students performed songs and dances for the enjoyment of everyone.



Plans are underway for future visits. In the meantime Valley Inquiry and Bware Primary are building the relationship between students and teachers at both schools through their new pen pal program.. If you or someone you know are interested in starting a sister school program, please contact us at admin@rayofhope4all.org.