

# HISTORY ACCESS

The History Access second Community Event took place in conjunction with the Child Resource Centre on 17 April 2019 from 2-4pm at the Child Resource Centre in Athlone, Cape Town. The event was thoroughly inspiring and led primarily by the youth/members of the CRC with the assistance of History Access fellows as facilitators.

As the primary organizers (Zaynab, Luvuyo and myself) we would like to express gratitude to Nompilo and Sameshni who assisted as facilitators!! Special thanks to Zaynab and Luvuyo who made everything possible either through the organising of the event and/or coordination of the storytelling activities!

After a brief introduction of who we were as UCT students and History Access, we began the event with a few icebreakers, including an activity where everyone present in the room introduced their names and tried to learn the names of everyone present. Thereafter Luvuyo led the session and gave a brief example of the nature of oral story-telling and also the purpose and aspects of a story that are needed.

The session was attended by 16 pupils of a variety of age groups, and the second half of the session involved group work with two groups of 8. The groups were tasked with engaging and collectively putting together a story- with no paper or pens allowed! As History Access facilitators we were utterly amazed at the final stories, and the ease with which the groups put together full and engaging narratives in less than 20 minutes.

The final part of the session consisted of a feedback session on the nature of the stories. What was highlighted by the youth members was how much easier it felt to narrate their stories through voice and expression. The over-arching feeling was that the stories presented resonated in some way with every youth members' experience.

We would hope for similar events in the future and a chance to get the entire History Access team and indeed the History Department involved in these very important events and discussions- at the most appropriate times of course. The importance of youth voices was something highlighted by all History Access fellows in attendance.

Please find attached some media from today's session.

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