



What to Expect

On a Room to Read Project Visit

Thank you for taking the opportunity to see our work firsthand! The information below is meant to give you an idea of what to expect on a Room to Read project visit.

Itinerary

All visits to Room to Read projects include the following activities to ensure visitors have a balanced visit that provides access to our knowledgeable local staff and the communities where we work.

- Meet Room to Read staff for a brief orientation of what will happen during the visit and receive an overview of the Room to Read programs operating in the country you are visiting.
 - This meeting typically takes place at the Room to Read country office, your hotel, or in transit to the Room to Read project you are visiting.
- Greeting the school
 - When you arrive at a school, you will typically meet with the school principal, head teacher, and/or government officials. This can range from a very simple introduction to an elaborate welcome ceremony including members of the community.
 - Welcoming visitors is an important aspect of many of the local cultures where we work. Room to Read does not always have an advance warning of the type of welcome that will take place as it is the school's decision as to how it would like to greet its visitors.
- Participation in learning activities
 - Our local team works closely with schools to plan the schedule for your visit. Our aim is for you to see Room to Read's program in action and include interactive learning activities typical of what takes place during a normal school day.
 - Please note that many students are eager to show off what they have learned, which sometimes can lead to more performances and less interaction with the students.
- Farewell
 - At the end of the visit, you may be invited to say a few parting words to the school, thanking them for the visit and reinforcing the value of education.
 - You are encouraged to ask your Room to Read guide further questions after the visit about what you experienced and our work.

Transportation

- Room to Read typically organizes and covers the cost of transportation from the meeting point to the project and back. For larger groups, we may request that you make these arrangements for your group.
- We do our best to book relatively comfortable vehicles with functioning air conditioners whenever possible. However, transportation and road conditions in most of the countries where we work may be less comfortable than you might be accustomed to.

Communication

- Throughout your visit, our Room to Read team will be your guide and translate from the local language to English. Please keep in mind that English may be a second, third, or fourth language for many of our staff.



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Before your project visit, think of the different people you may have the opportunity to speak with, such as teachers, students, social mobilizers, and parents. Below are several questions to help guide your conversation.

Guiding Questions for Literacy Program visits

Questions for Students:

1. How do you feel when you visit the library? What's your favorite part?
2. What's your favorite subject and why?
3. Tell me about your favorite book. Why do you enjoy it?
4. Do you take books home? Do you read to your parents or siblings?

Questions for Parents:

1. Where did you grow up and what your childhood was like?
2. Did you attend school? How important was school to your family?
3. What were some of the challenges you experienced in sending your child to school?
4. Have you noticed a change in your child (or the school or community) since the library opened?
5. Have you attended a community meeting with Room to Read?
6. How has your perspective on education changed since you started attending the community meetings?
7. What do you hope for your child's future?

Questions for Teachers:

1. How long have you been teaching?
2. How has Room to Read's training and curriculum helped you as a teacher?
3. What do you think children/families struggle with most in this community?
4. Can you share a story about a student who has progressed this year? What helped them improve?
5. What do you hope for your students' futures?

Guiding Questions for Girls' Education Program visits

Questions for Students:

Girls may be shy and reserved when parents or other authority figures are present and may not feel comfortable answering some of your questions. If you can sense this happening, please change your question to a different topic or something less sensitive. It's best to start out with simple questions and then build up to more difficult or personal questions once the girls feel more comfortable with you and the situation.

To begin:

1. What grade are you in? How old are you?
2. How far is your school from your home? How do you commute to school?
3. What is your favorite subject? What subject do you find most difficult?
4. Do you like to study? Which subjects in particular?
5. Who helps you study? Do you study a lot?
6. Do you like to read? What is your favorite book or favorite type of book to read?
7. What do you enjoy doing when you're not in school or helping around the house?
8. Do you play any sports or do any extra-curricular activities at school?

To learn more about them:

1. What is your favorite part of the day? Least favorite part of the day?
2. Who do you live with? What do they do?

3. Do you have siblings? Are they older or younger? What do you like to do with them? Do you teach them what you have learned at school and in life skills classes?
4. What types of things are you learning in life skills class and from your social mobilizer?
5. How do you use your life skills in everyday life? Can you share an example?

To the older girls:

1. What do you want to do after completing your school education?
2. Who is your role model/inspiration? Did your parents go to school? For how long?
3. What difficulties has your social mobilizer helped you work through?
4. How has being a part of the Girls' Education program helped you?
5. Before you started the Girl's Education Program, what did you think your future would look like? What do you hope for your future now?

If you'd like to share, the girls may want to:

- Know about your family, what work you do, and what your favorite subjects in school are/were
- Hear some advice/knowledge that may inspire them
- Learn new vocabulary, English words, or simple sentences

Questions for Social Mobilizers:

1. What do you think children/families are struggling with most in this community?
2. Why do think most girls drop out of school?
3. How do life skills classes help? Can you share an example of a girl who applied these skills in her life?
4. How does the community feel about girls going to secondary school and university?
5. How do you encourage parents and elders to encourage young girls to pursue their education?
6. What do you enjoy most about being a social mobilizer?

Questions for Parents:

1. Where did you grow up and what your childhood was like?
2. Did you attend school? How important was education to your family?
3. What challenges did you experience when sending your daughter to school?
4. How have these life skills classes helped your daughter? Can you think of an example where you noticed her growth?
5. How has your perspective on education changed since your daughter started these classes?
6. What do you hope for your daughter's future?