



THE WALKING SCHOOL BUS

INDIA EXPEDITION ITINERARY

FEBRUARY 15TH – 24TH



GENERAL INFORMATION

Journey with The Walking School Bus across India where we will volunteer with 3 of our partner schools to improve access to education, in the scenic hills of Uttarakhand.

As a TWSB Expeditioner, your work will support the implementation of our approach through a hands-on experience in building infrastructure, collecting data, teaching and/or monitoring students, all while soaking in the culturally-rich life of the Himalayan landscape.

PURPOSE OF THE TRIP

This trip aims to mutually benefit our volunteers, partner-schools and communities by applying our holistic approach to educational access while also providing volunteers with a curated travel experience that explores the culturally rich life prevalent in Northern India.

We will work with our partner-schools in Uttarakhand to further its educational program by touching on our three research 'prongs':

Transportation

1. Continuing the quantitative and qualitative economic/transportation research initiated during our previous expedition in the implementation of a school-bus model in the Uttarakhand context.

Nutrition

2. Improve access to nutrition by implementing our nutritional program which includes a Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) program at Suyalgarh that the communities and schools will maintain



PURPOSE OF THE TRIP *cont.*

The CSA farms help our schools in two distinct ways: a) Incorporate agricultural as well as educational best practices into the classroom; b) Working off our existing Water catchment systems to provide a much-needed water source for the village. This allows them to maintain the garden and chicken coops, and source drinking water during the dry season.

Curriculum

3. Improve access to education and curriculum, through the continuation of a randomized control trial of the Simbi™ literacy application. This is to generate meaningful data by testing the progress of students using Simbi to systematically adapt their program to build upon individual and group literacy objectives. For this expedition, we will be working with more schools in the Uttarakhand area to increase our impact!

4. Explore the feasibility of our Solar Power Classroom as an energy generator that surpasses the needs of the Classroom, as a way to generate and provide power at low-cost to the community.

We are honoured to have **Shruti Chauhan** join us for the expedition to lead unique and impactful Art projects with HPS students.



Arrival – Thursday, February 14

Arrive in Delhi by 7 pm and meet the team at Stops Hostel, our first stop where the expedition team will meet together for the first time in New Delhi! We will get acquainted with one another and enjoy a delicious dinner through a Delhi food tour.

Early night in anticipation of an early and long day of travelling tomorrow!

Day 1 - Friday, February 15

Get up early and take a 6 am train to Kathgodam, a charming hillside town in Uttarakhand. We reach the Frozen Woods Guest House by 3PM. We then shop for utilities, expedition supplies (for projects), groceries and will provide the option to withdraw money for the rest of our stay.

Upon arrival, we get refreshed, prepare and outline our goals for the expedition, assign research teams, enjoy a quiet dinner and spend the evening with a special guest.

Day 2 - Saturday, February 16

The morning of, we wake up to a beautiful expansive hill view, eat a delicious Indian breakfast and review our goals for the day at Himalayan Public School (HPS)!

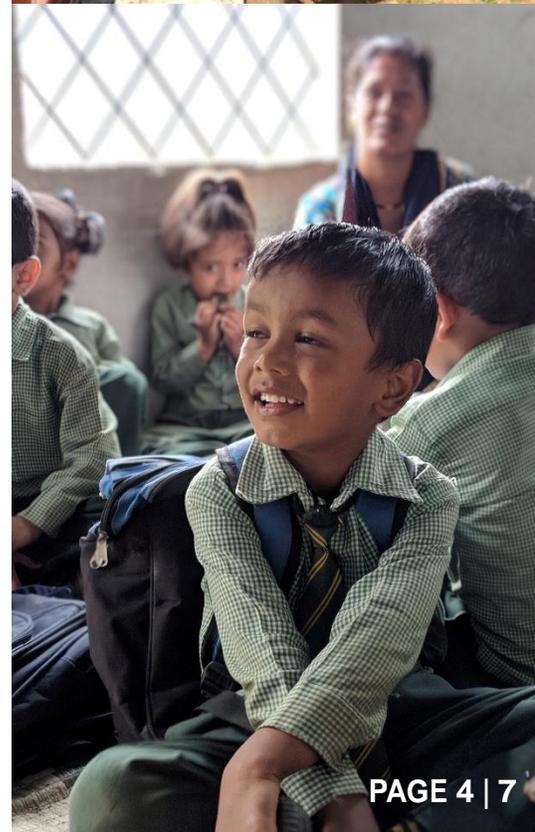
At 9:30 AM, leave for HPS where our team will meet teachers, students, and the community. At this point, we will monitor and evaluate the projects since our last expedition in July, split up into our research teams and begin our projects that include:

1. Book project with Shruti Chauhan
2. Data collection:
 - Collect literacy data
 - Collect transportation data
 - Collect nutrition data

Late Lunch at 'River View' - At 3pm, we leave HPS and enjoy a late lunch at 'The River View', a short drive from HPS. From there, we head back to our guest house to relax and indulge in some team-bonding games, while breathing in the fresh mountain air and enjoying the astounding landscape!

We leave for Pangot, a bird-watching sanctuary, to stay at the beautiful Hariyal Resort for the weekend.

7pm - Evening re-group: Evaluation of the day we spent together.





Day 3 – Sunday, February 17

We wake up in the beautiful Hariyal Resort in Pangot, a village in the Kosiyakutoli Tehsil of Nainital district in Uttarakhand, at a height of 6,300 feet.

We will spend the day bird watching in the unique Kilbury forest, filled with thick oak, pine, bamboo, cedar and rhododendron trees, and home to a unique wildlife ecosystem. We will take the day to refresh and explore, while enjoying the beautiful views unique to Uttarakhand. We drive home to Frozen Woods Resort in the evening in anticipation of a big day at HPS tomorrow!

End of day: Discuss our goals for tomorrow at HPS.

DAY 4 – Monday, February 18

Wake up early to enjoy the sunrise with a cup of traditional chai.

By 9.30 AM, leave for HPS. The day's agenda includes:

1. Classroom art project with Shruti.
2. Simbi benchmark training and testing.
3. Curriculum development and implementation.

In the afternoon, we visit Aarohi Bal Sansar Primary School, a new partner-school where we will engage teachers and students with our curriculum program.

Lunch at the awe-inspiring Dhokaney Waterfall and spending time exploring the neighbouring trails. Depart for the guest house by 5 PM

DAY 5 – Tuesday, February 19

Post breakfast, teams leave for HPS- Suyalgarh and Aarohi at 9:30 am.

Curriculum teams work on the following:

- Benchmarking and data collection with Simbi (HPS and Aarohi)
- Curriculum-to-syllabus alignment (HPS)

Nutrition team works on the following:

- Connect output of the Water Catchment system

Transportation team works on building off existing transportation research through qualitative interviews with relevant community members

Day 5 Continued on following page



DAY 5 cont. – Tuesday, February 19

Art teams work on the story book project

Lunch at Riverview and head back to guest house

6pm - Evening re-group: Discuss our day together and establish goals for our next day at HPS. End the day with dinner at the guest house.

DAY 6 – Wednesday, February 20

Leave at 9:30 am and continue where we left off our projects from Day 5!

Today we have three teams that visit (1) HPS Suyalgarh (2) a Small team travelling to HPS Chopra, a sister school to initiate a Simbi reading trial, and (3) finalize our curriculum program and activities at Aarohi.

Leave at 2pm for lunch, and then we head to Mukteshwar and visit the must-see Chauthi Ki Jaali. We will also make a pit stop at Café Channd Maati to enjoy a relaxed dinner, after yet another fun work day!

DAY 7 – Thursday, February 21

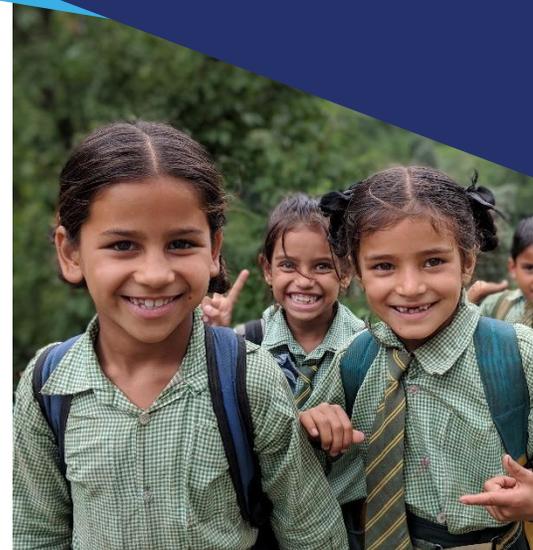
Our teams split into their groups and some head to HPS Suyalgargh and others to HPS Chopra to work on our respective projects. Today we make serious gains on the story book project!

Head back to the guest house and participate in a therapeutic yoga/ meditation session.

DAY 8 – Friday, February 22

Today is our last full day with HPS and we get ready for a power-packed day and complete our projects. Leave for HPS, Suyalgarh at 9:30 am and aim at completing the story book project, data collection on distance, and finalize data collection from the Simbi study.

We end the evening with a unique experiential storytelling session. Pack our bags after dinner.





Day 9 – Saturday, February 23

Wake up early to load bags in the bus and take in the beautiful views from Frozen Woods Guest House before we leave for HPS.

Spend the first half of the day completing any pending projects for HPS Suyalgarh. We spend good quality time with the teachers and students and say our thanks and farewells! Enjoy one last local lunch and depart for Naukuchiatal at 2 PM.

Post a lovely 2-hour hillside drive experience, reach Naukuchiatal, located at a height of 1370m above sea level, stay at a lakeside bungalow and have a fun evening with the team!

Reach a lakeside Bungalow for a special evening, celebrating a successful expedition!



DAY 10 – Sunday, February 24

Depart for Delhi from Naukuchiatal at 1 PM and board the train at 3:30PM. Depart and bid farewell!



Join us and Empower
Education worldwide!



To find out more about our Expeditions, please contact: sukriti@thewalkingschoolbus.com or, info@thewalkingschoolbus.com

Please visit thewalkingschoolbus.com/expeditions for more information about pricing, fundraising, vaccinations, and more for this trip!

[Learn more](#) about our research, work and impact.

THE WALKING SCHOOL BUS



INDIA TRIP ITINERARY

February 15-24, 2019

[Learn more and apply!](#)

