

Lutheran Bible Translators of Canada

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Oh Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder consider all the works thy hands hath made, I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder, Thy power throughout the universe displayed; Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee, How great Thou art! How great Thou art! (Carl Gustaf Boberg: How Great Thou Art)

Big News!

After much prayerful consideration, I have decided to stay in Cameroon with the Kuhns for the 2023-2024 school year as well! I am learning and growing so much here, and I am excited to lengthen my stay! Also, the continuity will be fantastic for the kids. We won't need to go through the big adjustment period at the start of the school year, so we'll be able to just dive right back into the routine.



- Thank the Lord for leading me to this decision, and for the blessing of continuity in the Kuhn kids' education
- Pray that I would raise the \$12,000 needed to keep me here next year

Daily Life

I follow a fairly regular routine. I head up to the Kuhn's house for breakfast early in the morning, then I spend a couple hours helping little Jubilee (3) with her "chores", toddler devotions, and "school". After that I rotate through teaching the older kids until mid-afternoon, at which point I head home to take a break. I'm back for supper, tidy time, and devotions before I head home for the night. Despite me leaving at the same time every day, after working 10 hours, Gloria (8) is always disappointed when I walk out the door! On weekends I do minimal childcare so I have time to prep school for the coming week, catch up on housework, and nap. Though by the time I prep for the week, catch up on sleep, and connect with family, I'm usually too exhausted to get to emailing and cleaning. I tend to give 120% of myself to the kids, without thought for myself.

Pray the I would learn to take time and store energy to care for myself

Thank God that my allergies have not been a struggle during dry season

School Update

Let's peek into the Science Classroom of Kuhn Homeschool! While we certainly study all school subjects, we're having an especially exciting year in regards to science.

I have been doing a unit study approach with Gloria (Grade 3). This semester we have been studying Marine Biology and



Anthropods. Gloria did a research project where she got to pick an Anthropod, research facts about it in books and online, and then write that information down and illustrate it into her own fact book.

The boys (Grade 6 & 7) have started a much more intensive science program this year. It covers modules on a variety of topics, such as the scientific method, the history of science, geology, paleontology, meteorology, biology, chemistry, and more. Each module includes readings, note taking, questions, experiments, lab reports, and a test. It took a few months, but the boys have really settled into the routine of the curriculum, writing lab reports with ease and scoring ridiculously high on their tests. I am the most proud of the way they constantly want to know more about a topic than what the textbook teaches–causing me to google the answers and find videos to explain areas beyond my expertise.

Not to be left out, Jubilee's favourite books right now are *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* and *Deep Blue Sea*. Science for a three-year-old–check!

- Praise the Lord for all that the children are learning!
- Pray the God would provide me with abundant wisdom and patience to teach these children





Meet Mr. Skink

The highlight of science has been obtaining our classroom pet "Mr. Skink". Our neighbors are also missionaries, and their older boy joins us for science. He showed up one morning with a small lizard in a jar! He had found it in his house, and all the kids begged to keep it. After some research, I was pretty sure it was an African 5-toed skink, native to the region and not poisonous in any way.

We dropped textbook science for the day, and instead turned to the internet to research skink habitats and diets. We used this knowledge to put together a rich habitat for Mr. Skink in the school room, which the kids care for and observe each day.

We had a little scare when "Skinky" disappeared for 24 hours, but Gideon eventually found him in the kitchen. We improved the walls of the habitat after that.



As we study the world, we find the fingerprints of our Creator all over his creation. Our omniscient heavenly father created the universe with unchanging laws that we can learn and know, just as he is unchanging, and knowable through Jesus Christ. In the words of scientist Robert Boyle: "Remember to give glory to the One who authored nature."

- Thank the Lord the I haven't struggled with homesickness
- Pray that we would finish our schoolwork by our goal end-date

More Exciting Learning

- Jubilee has learned all of her capital letters and colours, and is making fantastic progress on lowercase letters, letter sounds, shapes, and counting.
- Gloria's reading improved so much that she can read 2 chapter books in a day
- Gideon has an innate grasp of where commas are needed in sentences, even when he hasn't learned the proper grammar rules for why that is
- Tobias' time management and focusing skills have skyrocketed this year
- Thank God for how well I have meshed with the Kuhn family

Cultural Experience

I am still attending the African church choir "Gospel Singers" that I joined this fall. Most weeks it's a lot of fun! I'm pretty sure I'm pronouncing most of the words wrong when I sing, but thanks to my years of musical training I can pick up on the melody and rhythm fairly quickly, and match vowel sounds so my voice doesn't stick out. I especially love the weeks when we dance! I focus pretty hard on copying the people around me, but it's so awesome to move and groove along with everyone.



Some weeks I get frustrated from not understanding what is going on around me. Choir practice is conducted entirely in French, and I don't know enough to follow. I rely on copying the people around me for when to stand, sit, sing, or pray. By the end of rehearsal I'm completely exhausted–and then I still have to stand still and look like I'm paying attention during announcement time.

Nevertheless, it feels great to be a part of a group. A while back I got a cold and missed choir that week. A while later, a delegation of over 25 people from the choir came to greet me—which means crowding into the living room to sing and pray together. Cameroonians are so intentional about visiting each other in times of sickness and celebration!

- Pray that I would find the energy to devote more time to learning French as the school year winds down
- Thank God that there are people praising him all around the world

Other Things to Know

- I have updated the LBTC Youtube channel, and am working on creating more videos to post there! Search "Lutheran Bible Translators of Canada" on Youtube to check it out!
- I will be heading home to Canada for a few weeks this summer to see my family and stock up on things we can't buy here
- There are waterfalls in Africa! We went to visit stunning Tello falls here in Cameroon for a field trip (it's a lot taller than it looks)



Now may the God of peace guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus our Lord.