

WATER BRIGADES EDUCATION PROFILE: GUARICAYAN



EDUCATION SNAPSHOT	
# Schools	1- Primary (1 st -6 th grade)
Classroom Size	~14ft X 18ft
Educating Space	~6ft X 8ft
Outside Activity Space	Excellent
Chalkboard	Yes
# of Students	~20
Age Ranges	5-12
Electricity	No
Literacy Rate	80%

Education in Guaricayán

One teacher, named Walberto Varela Lizardo, staffs the primary school in Guaricayán. Because Guaricayán is a small community, there are usually only about 20 total students. In order for all children (grades 1st – 6th) to be educated in this one-room classroom with one teacher, they are all taught at the same time. Each grade sits at a different table and is addressed separately. The school day lasts from 7am – 1pm, Monday through Friday, and the school year begins in early February and ends in late November.

The school was built because students used to have to walk for over an hour to El Zarzal to get to their previous school, which was shared by multiple communities. Now there is a primary school conveniently located within Guaricayán. Primary school is free of charge; however, families must purchase school supplies and uniforms for their children to attend school. Middle and High School, however, are not available within Guaricayán. To attend Middle or High School, community members from Guaricayán must leave the community and pay for school, transportation, lodging, etc. This is not common for people in Guaricayán, where most people end their education after 6th grade.



The school room is approximately 14 ft x 18 ft. There is no electricity in the school and it is sparingly stocked with school supplies and books. There is a chalk board covering one wall of the room. There is an expansive and relatively flat open space outside the school for outdoor activities. However, there is very little shade in this space. The school will be connected to the water system and has two latrines.