



## Day of the Child makes a splash

Once per year, the Day of the Child focuses our attention on the needs of children all over the world. This year in Medellin Colombia, the children at Poder Joven Foundation focused their attention on fun! They were treated to their favourite activity – a day at the pool.



The anticipation was building for days before we set out. Record numbers of children turned up to the before and after school project during the week, to ensure their spot on the bus. Colombians aren't known for being on time but on this morning, every child was squeezed onto the bus, blue Poder Joven t-shirt clean and pressed and bags at their feet by 8.30am sharp.

The excitement was so great than on arrival, organising the children into their swimsuits turned out to be quite an adventure in itself. The other project of the foundation was close to the pool so the children walked over and met us there. Soon 80 odd children were mixing happily as they prepared for the day ahead.



After a brief pep-talk on the rules, all their energy was unleashed in the water where they jumped, splashed, swam, laughed and played all day. A brief intermission for lunch was the only thing that could keep them away from the water. Just a few balls floating around the pool was enough to keep them entertained and they needed little encouragement to enjoy every single moment.

There was little doubt that it was a spectacular day for these children and any reservations were quickly pushed aside when they all arrived chanting “Piscina! Piscina!” (pool) the following morning.

