

## CLASH LEARNERS ON ZOO OUTING

WINDHOEK ■ NAMPA

**Ten children from the CLaSH pre-school were treated to a visit to a petting zoo in the capital on Wednesday by the International Women's Association of Namibia (IWAN).**

The Haven Zoological Park is in Kleine Kuppe, and is the only zoo in Namibia.

The children from the Association for Children with Language, Speech and Hearing Impairments of Namibia (CLaSH) had a great time watching monkeys, meerkats, goats, turtles, rabbits,

baby ostriches and many other animals, IWAN press representative Rachel Schmidt told Nampa on Friday.

They also ate hotdogs and milkshakes with their IWAN friends.

The CLaSH pre-school opened in 1994, and was the first such programme to provide specialised education for pre-primary deaf children in Windhoek.

The programme follows an educational approach that combines elements of the Montessori education system with specific aspects of Early Deaf Education.

Montessori education and theory have been in existence for over 100 years, and focus on children's development. Many principles of Montessori methods of education are being proven with the technology of today.

The importance of children's first three years for their development is supported by numerous studies.

The pre-school also teaches the children effective communication skills, including Namibian Sign Language, and prepares them socially, emotionally and cognitively for their future schooling.

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