

REPORT: GRATITUDE GROUP

2019-2020

Gratitude group is a very active and energetic group of 13 children- 7 girls and 6 boys. They are around 10 years of age, which is a very impressionable age. They are eager learners, albeit not all of



them are academically oriented. Having said that, all of them try their best to do whatever they are doing to the best of their ability. They have multifaceted skills and personalities. They have combined classes of Science and Social Science with the 13 children of the Humility Group.

All the children of this group stay in the hostel and follow a time schedule. They wake up at 5:45 am and at 6:00 am, they go for yogasana. Shramdan starts at 7:00 am (Kitchen work, Gardening, Cleaning) and after this they go for breakfast. The School starts at 8:30 and they have their regular classes from 8:30 am to 12:30 pm. Hindi is from 8:30 am to 9:30 am; Social Science is from 9:30 am to 10:30 am; English from 10:30 am to and Science is from 11:30 am to 12:30 pm. In the afternoon, they have a math class. Games period is from 3:30 pm-4:30 pm. After dinner the children do the homework allotted to them. Every Monday, in the afternoon, they go back home and come back early next day. There is assembly on Mondays and Fridays and they chant and sing devotional songs.

ENGLISH:

Children find English easy and learn effortlessly. They attend the class with a lot of interest. It is one of their favourite subjects. The English syllabus includes library reading, comprehension, grammar, author reading, creative writing, language game and once a month a movie. They are happy in doing all the activities. The teachers give some guide lines to write the English reports. Some children find this interesting and finish on time whereas few of them do it unwillingly and so, take a long time to finish.

Reading: The reading level of children is now satisfactory. All the children get the books issued from the library and read on their own. They love to read Amar chitra katha. We have a class for group reading and for that, we select different authors according to their level of difficulty. During this



session we have read “Kunnu the Cub” , “Charlie and the Chocolate Factory” and “George’ s Marvellous Medicine” . While reading, the children are attentive and they listen to the story intently. They were able to comprehend and later retell in their own words. They are encouraged to find the meanings of difficult words from the dictionary in their leisure time.

Writing: They are able to write about any particular topic or chapter in their own words according to their understanding. The children can form full sentences. Their writing speed has increased. Some of them make less spelling mistakes while a few are still not focused. They have to work hard. Half of the children can write the big words by breaking them.

Comprehension: We are doing Path Ways-6 for comprehension. First, they read the chapter, discuss it in the group and then write the answers of given questions and exercises.

Grammar: They are doing Class 6 grammar. Now we are laying emphasis on Tenses. Some children find it difficult to understand the concepts as it is a vast topic. They find it difficult to remember the different forms of Tenses.

Speaking: To improve the verbal skills and spoken English of the children, we encourage them to perform small plays where they write their own scripts with the help of the teachers. They performed a small play on 'Chipko movement in the assembly. Sometimes the plays are based on mythology; like what they prepared on the occasion of Diwali. They did two comedy plays, "Three fools" and "Sin Chair" on Pranjal Bhaiya's birthday. They even made the required props themselves,



Before the Trip to Andaman, they were asked to research, collect information and make a chart on Andaman and Nicobar Island. They have also made a vocabulary chart which contains words from A-Z such as (Very able- Proficient, Very Boring- Tedious, Very Confused- Baffled etc). They have learnt two poems, "Who" and "Invitation" written by Sri Aurobindo. Though all of them are not at the same level of learning, but still they manage to learn together joyfully.

HINDI:

In the last six months, our focus has been on grammar. The children also showed a lot of interest in it. We gave the books to each student according to his level of understanding. We have covered the following concepts: antonyms, one-word substitution, homonyms, case,



adverb, preposition, conjunction, interjection, letter writing, essay writing. We encourage the children to use the dictionary for difficult words. Some children are doing grammar of Class 6 while Vikas is doing the book of Class 7.

They have done Drishti-5 and it covers these things:

Comprehension, questions and answers, vocabulary of given words, opposites, meanings of words, writing correct word, same meaning of the words. The children managed most of the work on their own with a token help of diya especially in making sentences of given idioms. We have given them books according to their levels. Presently these children are doing the text book of Class 6-Basant Bhag-1. After reading the chapter aloud we discuss the questions of that chapter orally. The children need explanations of the poems, so, the poems are explained fully.

Reading: All of them can read Hindi properly.

Writing: They can write well but the students tend to make some mistakes here and there.

SOCIAL SCIENCE

They have just started studying the text books of Class 6 of Ratna Sagar, NCERT.

We have almost finished with Geography. The children of both the groups; Gratitude and Humility really enjoyed the learning process and found it interesting to study about the earth and its features. The children did mapping, learnt about different countries and continents, latitude and longitude, heat zones etc. They also learnt about mountains and their formation and made charts about different landforms. Sometimes they watched some documentaries on forests, animals, planets, land forms, etc.



We have started History and they have shown a keen interest in learning about our past. The children are given questions to do after finishing a chapter. Some of the children do it very well while some of them lack concentration and focus. The students liked to study about the civilizations. We haven't finished Civics and have started the book of Class 7 in History because Mani di told the students, that they have to do some project work on Delhi Sultanate. And so, we have done only three chapters from this book: Medieval World, Regional Kingdoms and Delhi Sultanate. Information about different dynasties rule was discussed. The children were also shown "Bharat ki Khoj". When we were doing the chapter on regional kingdoms, we did an activity. The children were asked to find the difference between Nagar and Dravida style of architecture. Three groups were made and questions were asked from each other as a quiz.

They are really very brilliant children but most of them don't pay attention. They give their notebooks for checking on time. Mostly boys are more careless and have lesser concentration.

MATHEMATICS:



Many children like to do mathematics but we have to be careful and give them work according to their capabilities. The children have been divided into 3 groups according to their level of understanding. Most of the children are doing 5th grade math; some are going to start Class 6 book while one child

is doing the book of Class 7. We are following the books written by R S Aggarwal. They start doing the exercises after the group explanation but most of them need individual attention. Many of them were able to understand the concepts of factors, multiples, fractions and decimals. We use different types of objects to explain measurements. Although we have gone through all these topics, and



though the children are capable yet they end up making mistakes. We give them small sums on mental maths to enhance their thinking ability and to increase their speed of solving sums. All the children solve the practice books after they finish the main book.

SCIENCE:

Topics

The teachers give options to the children and they choose a topic.

After choosing their options the children are asked to write what they want to learn in that topic.

They are then taken to the library to collect more information through the books about the topic.

The children are taken out of the campus to show them their items of interest and engage in activities related to their area of interest.

They are divided into groups and asked to prepare chart papers on the activity they are doing. Then they try to memorize the topic they have written and then when they are done, they make the presentation to the other group.

In the end they are given a test to see how much they have understood the chapter.

The children did the following projects:

1. Flowers

- I. The children went to the ashram to look at different flowers.
- II. They chose two flowers each and wrote the names given by the Mother. They draw the picture of that flower.
- III. They write poems on the flower which they have chosen.



2. Body systems

- I. The children first read and understood the body system from the teachers.
- II. They took up each body systems (individual-partners) and made chart.

III. They made the presentation to the Humility Group.

3. Water

- I. The children went outside to see the sources of water near the campus
- II. They did many activities based on the chapter like-
 - a. Surface tension
 - b. Evaporation
 - c. Floating of a needle
 - d. Floating and sinking
 - e. Pressure due to water
 - f. Soluble and insoluble.

The children chose each activity and made a chart.

They presented the activities to the Humility Group.



4. Simple tools

- I. The children were asked to write information on the topic and we discussed the basic working of the tools
- II. The children were divided into three groups and asked to make tools according to the three types of simple tools.

5. Light

- I. The children were taken to the science lab and showed the different types of lenses and mirrors
- II. They were showed telescope, microscope, magnifying lens and kaleidoscope.

III. They were shown the image formation on a screen with the help of optical stand, a screen, a convex lens and a candle.



COMPUTERS:

Advance Paint and Typing Master, MS Word.

Paint: During this session, the Gratitude group learnt advance tools in Paint. They have learnt to Cut, Copy, and Paste. Making Selections, Transparent Selections and Free-form Selection was explained in the class. They have learnt how to capture Screenshot and edit in Paint.

ODIYA

Gratitude group has 13 different children. They are divided into two groups according to their learning capacity.

Group A - This group has 7 students. They have Dome Standard 3 book revision for developing their own confidence levels.

Group B – has 6 students studying in class 2. They are little weak in studies as they cannot focus. They are showing slight but sure improvement. The teachers are focusing on writing, reading and understanding of each child. They find difficulties in pronouncing some Odiya words.

Typing Master: Gratitude group has started learning Typing. They are currently practicing the Home Row. Sometimes they like to play typing games.

MS Word: They have typed many stories in the MS Word. They have learnt about some special keys such as Question Mark, Exclamation mark. They know how to save the document.

ART CLASS:

Most of the children are very interested in doing art. They like it because in every art class they are taught to make new art and crafts articles with many different kinds of materials. They work with materials like clay, paper, discs, cardboards, needle and thread, etc. They are taught how to use waste materials and make beautiful things



with them. During these six months they have done embroidery, wall hangings, collage, stencil cutting, colouring, roof hanging, paper folding and made wrist bands of different designs with colourful threads. They are always stimulated in the class. But since the mid of November they were busy doing their practice for the Sports Day. So we did not do much in art. We did some paper folding, object drawings and nature drawings like leaves. We also worked with some colours. Some were not regular for the class, mostly the boys.

MUSIC:

We started our music class with a Teentaal Nagma (Lehra) in slow beat (vilambit laya). We then gradually go to double speed (dugun laya) playing only the (Ta tin tin ta) with volume fading in and out. Then we gradually to triple speed (tigun laya) with (ta na na na) on the right (tabla).

For improving the flexibility of fingers, we are concentrating on Riyaz of these 2 particular tabla



phrases: "Dha
Terekete Taka
Terekete" and
"Terekete Taka
Taka Taka
Tereketaka" .

Learning:

Now they have started learning kayadas and their palte. They have been taught 2 kayadas.

1. Dha Tete

Dha Tuna Dha TeTe Dha Tuna DhaDha Tuna

2. Dha Terekete Tak Terekete, Dha Terekete Tak Terekete, Dha Dha Terekete

Some of the children are able to play them in Rhythm, some go out of beat.

Practical

They learnt Taal Dadra, 6 beats and 2 divisions. They learnt some variations in Dadra and performed on 15th August.

Games



In the Gratitude Group we have 13 children and each one of them is unique. They are always cheerful during games. They happily run towards the field.

They play many games on the field like football, basketball, volleyball, dodge ball, base-kickball and minor games. We have observed that boys and girls divide themselves in two groups. All the boys prefer playing football and all the girls like playing basketball. They don't fight with each other for their preference. They play very well with equanimity. They understand each other. Some of them like playing both football and basketball.

