

Group Report: Concentration

October to March, 2014



The children of the Concentration group are extremely energetic and put in all their energies for activities like making toys, swimming, boating, paper folding etc. They are a cheerful lot, and poignant too. All the children are able to play basket ball and have interests in other games. They are always open to learning new things, whether it is exercising, dancing or anything else. For our sports day, the group participated in pyramids, gymnastics, yogasan and cycling. While some children are flexible, strong and courageous and some need to develop strength, stamina and balance. All the children however, need to maintain punctuality.

Mental abilities: The group had recently visited Delhi and a few other places around Delhi for a trip. They enjoyed a ride in the metro in Delhi and the light and sound show in Jhansi. Before the trip, the children had collected some information about the northern states, especially about Delhi.

TOPIC WORK

1. **Ships:** The children chose this topic themselves and worked hard to understand the various things related to a ship. The aim was not only to understand the mechanism of a propelling ship but also to develop thinking and questioning ability. We started the topic by discussing the history of ships. Post the discussion, they made their own boats in different groups. Amongst the five groups, four groups made only sailing boats whereas the others made a propeller boat, propelled by batteries. The boats were eventually released in the river. They also read and learnt a poem on the history of ships in Hindi. A final presentation on the topic of ships was made on Children's day.



2. **Rivers:** This topic was selected by the *diyas* to develop reading and comprehension of the children. Sources & stages of a river, journey of a river and some important Indian rivers like Ganga, Brahmaputra, Narmada, Mahanadi etc.

SKILL WORK

Statues: To develop skill work and to create something for *Saraswati puja*, the children of the group learnt to make statues. There was a lot of excitement with *Saraswati Puja* fast approaching. Through this activity the children learnt to care for their material and also learnt a new skill of making statues using straw and clay.



Science toys: Through the making of toys, the children were made to understand and experiment with concepts of sound, air and water. This helped to arouse their curiosity, be organized with time and materials used and to learn



Mathematics

They are still struggling with four operations and place value by doing it repeatedly from different text books. Gradually their comprehension skill is developing and they are trying to solve more word problems. Though the entire



group is interested in maths, they need to be more focused. They are also enjoying playing mental games in the maths lab. Abacus and playing different card games on four operations has helped them to do mental calculations better.

Language

After concluding with our month-long trip around North India, the group rehearsed 'The Jungle Book'. Since most of the children are now quite fluent in English, the group worked a bit more on their comprehension and writing skills. They also worked on the use of different types of adjectives and use of articles. As part of reading in the group, the children are reading 'The Water Babies' - an amusing tale of a young boy who is turned into a water baby by fairies and who then explores the rivers and the seas. The children have also been learning how to use a dictionary and each of them has been given one.



We hope that all the children of the Concentration group continue to learn and explore unhindered.