

**New creation group**  
**Group Report**  
**April 2012 to Sep 2012**



New creation group consists of fourteen children who are creative and imaginative in their thinking. There is deep bonding among the children, and the resulting harmony contributes a great deal to their progress, both individual and collective. In the last six months, all of us, who have worked with them has grown and progressed towards our aspirations. It has been a step forward in the joyful journey of learning together.

**Centring activities**

Silence and meditation are essential to our work.

Each day, after breakfast, we settle down for prayers. Most of the children in New creation group are focused during prayer time, while some still struggle to control their energetic little bodies. The children participate in chanting and prayers, though some need a reminder to sing out aloud.

After music, we work on several activities to develop self awareness in the children and diya, through reflection. In the beginning, children voice their inner aspirations, to achieve something or to overcome some barrier. From time to time, they would revisit them and reflect on their progress. At times, we would discuss specific event and

children's inner responses. Through this, children became more conscious of their personality, actions, reactions, feelings, emotions, thoughts, and moods.

In New creation group, each individual is unique, yet there are strong similarities that bind us together. This harmony amidst diversity has helped the group to understand each other's ideas, share opinions freely, and accept contrary points of view. This climate of acceptance has nurtured the asking of questions, widening of thinking ability, creativity, and free



expression.

## **Project**

Our aim behind the project work was to develop children's power of attention, concentration and observation and also to enhance their mental faculties. The project work was designed to develop their language abilities in listening, understanding, speaking, reading and writing. The projects also helped them to grow more independent and resourceful. The projects taken up were as follows:

### **Story making and Illustration**

After a week of work on fine motor skills in the month of April, children moved on to, "story making and illustration", as their first topic. This project was taken to see children's love for drawing, listening to stories and reading various story books.

Aims and objectives of the project were to develop their creativity, imagination, original thinking and to develop their language skills like, writing, speaking, their drawing skills and learning the use of dictionary. A few processes were followed to start the topic. It was really a learning experience for us.

Each one wrote down five words on their own which they liked the most and each one chose one word among those five words, they like most. They created a chain with their end letter word and after writing more than fifty words, again each one chose five words they liked the most, and after it they started to create a story using those words.

Children created stories in English using those five words, in the beginning they expressed their thoughts in their writing but later they did copy writing and illustrated them skilfully. Each child presented his creation in the form of a story book. This topic helped them to come in touch with new words and their meanings. Some children were able to express their thoughts clearly in English and others took help in expression as well as in writing.

During this project we observed how the children were deeply engaged and happily involved with their creation.

### **Story telling with finger puppets**

Seeing the interest of the children in reading and sharing stories, we moved towards the next project 'story telling with finger puppets'. Our aim and objective was to develop their language skills like, reading, comprehension and to develop their confidence through telling stories to different groups and to become skilful in making and using finger puppet for telling stories.

Each one selected a story and started reading and comprehending it. Some children needed the help of diya's in everything and some worked quite independently. The word finger puppet was new for all of them, they became engrossed in making and learning new thing. Each one put their creativity in making puppets for his own stories. After finishing their puppets, they practiced among themselves. Diya's guided them





individually to bring quality in their expression while telling stories with the puppets. At the end each one presented their own story with the finger puppets in front the group.

To make them more independent and to build confidence in them, they went to different groups to present their stories. Each one took interest and enthusiastically participated in presenting their creations. This activity helped most of the children to become more open and confident.

### **Making Math Games**

After working on this topic, they showed curiosity to make such types of things and share with others. Sensing this we introduced some math games to give them more exposure of communications with others. Including this our other aims and objectives were to develop their mental faculties like, observation, understanding, reasoning and judgement and to develop their confidence and also to become stronger in mental calculation of addition and subtraction.

Children became engaged in solving different types of math games like, sudoku, make the number 15 in a square and triangle etc. At the beginning all the children felt difficult to understand but slowly all the children took interest in solving.

While solving the games few were very focused and centred but others were feeling difficult to solve and took more time. They liked to put those games for others to solve. Each one selected his game and started to make nicely on a paper. They put these games, in the math corner for others to play. It was a very joyful moment for them. Each one enjoyed a lot in this activity. In above works, all the children needed their help.

### **Changes in me and around me**

Observing the children's love for knowing and learning, we moved to our next project "changes in me and around me". Our main aim and objectives were to let them become self conscious of above changes in them and around them and also to develop their faculty of reasoning, observation and judgement. This project was based on self reflection and on experiment.



The project was started by observing their surroundings and finding out the changes they noticed on that day. At the beginning, it was difficult for them to relate but slowly most of the children could identify the changes in their surroundings and for others they needed a continuous support. After this they went through many reflections,

which helped them to get practical about the content. Some are below:



pure  
observation  
and  
experiments,  
knowledge  
mentioned



1. Changes I see today.
2. What will happen if things will not change?
3. What are the changes we see when a seed grows into a tree?
4. What are the changes you see now within yourself which were not before in you?
5. When do you feel god within you and when not?
6. Experiment with salt, sugar, sand and soil to know their properties and find out the changes.
7. Experiment with water to get the three stages of matter.
8. To experiment with bottle and stick to know the nature of gas.
9. To experiment with sugar to see the changes in him.
10. To experiment with surf water to know the surf can be reversible after dissolving in water.
11. The things come under physical changes and chemical changes.

Children enjoyed the whole process and all the above activities. They also wrote down about their observation on their project note book. Most of the children were very focused and independent while some needed individual support. Moreover, all these activities helped all of them to develop their curiosity to know everything in detail and also to develop their power of observation, concentration, reasoning and judgement.





## Me and my body

Sensing the children's curiosity to know about their body parts, we moved forward to work on the project 'Me and my body'. Our aims and objectives were to make them conscious about their own self, and to bring a self awareness through a scientific study about the functioning of their "Five senses" and other essential part "Teeth".

The project began with self introspection "how your 'Me' is different from other 'Me'".



This question helped them to differentiate from others and to see them individually. With this, many reflective activities were done such as, how your Me is equal with others Me, what are the good qualities in me and in my friends, etc. All the reflective works helped them to become self conscious.





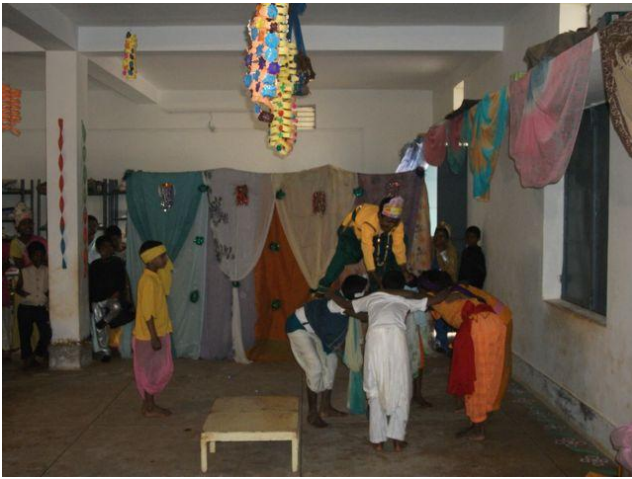


and clarity in their thoughts and others seek help of diyas. Working in a small group helped them to explore more deeply.

Curiosity among the children lead them to work on rest of the three senses (sight, hear, touch) like before. This time they were much independent in collecting the resources and making charts and games. They were so much creative this moment. Within a week, each group was ready to present their topics. Like before, they set up the exhibition of their topics in which they included topic presentation and games relating to senses and puzzles, card games and cross word etc.

Moreover this project me and my body helped them to become conscious about themselves, to become independent and to get more knowledge about the topic. Most of the children's, reading, writing, comprehension and expression skills were developed through this project.

### Language learning in the New creation group



Language learning plays an important role in a child's life as he grows to completeness. Language is an important key to understand the world, to communicate effectively with people, and to express one's innermost aspirations, those that give a deeper meaning to life.

Language learning and teaching in New creation group has been a joyous and enjoyable experience for all of us.



Most of the children in this group are keen, enthusiastic, receptive, hard working and sincere in whatever they do but the rest are needed a personal attention.

The year started on a playful note. A number of language games were played, whereby we got to know each other. Word games, word chain, guess the word, etc. were used to build **vocabulary** and develop interest in the language.

To enhance **communication** and **expression** skills a number of oral activities were done. Regular discussions on day to day activities,

puppet shows, story reading, story-making, story-telling, dramatisation, writing daily diary and sharing among the group and celebrations have helped the children in enhancing their communication skills.

To improve their **listening** and **comprehension** skills, stories were read out in the group. This was followed by intense discussions on the story, the characters and moral so on.

Children were encouraged to narrate short stories to improve their **spoken English**. Only a few in the group were able to narrate stories very fluently.

To develop their pronunciations skills a number of activities were done such as, reading stories aloud, play, word games, reciting poems, etc

From the beginning we equally emphasise on their **written skills**. Children were able to write meaningful sentences, short paragraphs, and describe characters. Few children were able to write short stories. The rest need regular practice to improve their writing skill.

## Hindi

Most children are comfortable with Hindi in their understanding and expression. They are capable of reading and writing freely in this language. The children read stories from books and wrote short paragraphs. For listening and writing skill they practised dictation, paragraph writing and story writing. They particularly enjoyed story books, which helped them in building up their reading skills.

## SANSKRIT

In Sanskrit language reading, writing and drama were introduced for the first time with this group. This time children learnt new song, chanting and they did a play "**kaka chatakayo katha**" in Sanskrit language and they presented it on **Rakshya bandan**. The play helped them to develop a love for learning a new language and also developed their confidence. Through this play they learnt many new words and also developed a sense of



understanding the language. At the beginning it was quite difficult for all them to become familiar with this language but slowly picked it up.

## Math

The group as a whole showed their great spirit in questioning, knowing and problem solving in **mathematics**. They are not only confident in solving mathematical problems but also very curious to explore alternate ways, because they are self motivated and eager learners. Their reasoning skills have improved by playing different brain



storming games, suduko and number games etc. in this period of six month children have covered so many areas of Math such as; multiplication with more than 2 numbers, division with any number of digit, measurement using scales and meter tapes, and finding out the area and the perimeter of different objects etc. They have also developed their skills in geometry, shapes, size and using different geometrical instruments confidently. children were go through various activities to clear the above concepts in mathematics such as during working on length and height in measurement children engaged in measuring the height and length of different objects inside the group and outside the group and measure their own height and friends heights and the length of the different body parts like, wrist, chest, waist, etc. and also Mango group children's height. For the area and perimeter, children used different objects inside the group to find out their objects. All these activities helped them to get a practical experience and to develop a love for Math. Each child gets here a special attention to moved with his own rhythm, so all are not in the same place. Some children are revising 4<sup>th</sup> standard Mathematics books and rest are practicing 3<sup>rd</sup> standard books.

### **Skill works**

Creativity is an essential tool for developing an artistic faculty. The children of this group are skilful in drawing, painting, model making and doing different kinds of craftwork. All of them are fully engrossed in whatever they are doing during art and craft sessions. This period children learnt some new art and craft works such as, leaf pasting, sponge printing, crossing paper drawing, shadow drawing and some new patterns in Rakhi making. All these helped them a lot to enhance their, span of concentration, creativity and fine motor skills.



### **Taking responsibility**

The children have been taking care of their materials and the

group materials. They keep their cupboards neat and clean. After using group materials like books, games, cloth, they keep them in their respective places. Some children still need to be reminded to wind up materials after completing their work, and keeping the group and their own room neat and clean. A regular effort by the diyas was to inculcate those healthy habits.





### **Speaking kindly and softly**

Our effort was to quiet the children's minds, seeking peace, encouraging them to think beautifully and to speak kindly and softly. From the day beginning, we emphasised on their above behaviour and constantly made them reflect on those and make them conscious about their actions and reactions. This is the area in which most of them needed a continuous support by the place. One outcome that we have observed is that children are little more sensitive towards each other and towards the environment.

**With love and good wishes,**

**New Creation diyas**