

ASPIRATION GROUP REPORT

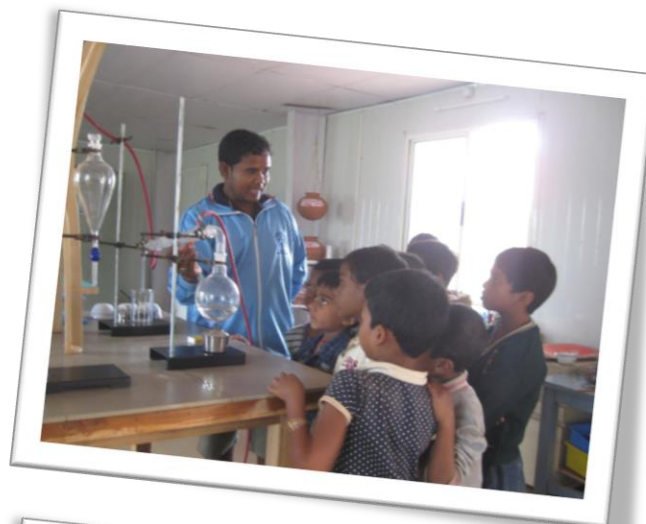
April - Sep 2014

This group consists of 11 children and they are between the age of 7 and 8, however the children feel that they have grown beyond their age and most of the time they tell “*didi aap hume bol do hame kaya karna hai or aap aapka padhai karo*”. If someone says something in the group, then they follow it. They tend to decide themselves as to what they will study for the day like one rainy day, they decided to do math the whole day and that’s exactly what happened.

LANGUAGE

They have started to write English. When they get time, they ask “*Didi hum ye story ko copy kar sakte hai kaya. Hum English likhenge hume note book do. Hum har roj eak page likhenge or aap check karenge. Hume lag lag ke likhna sikhao*”. They are interested in dictation of words. When they get new books to read they are excited and read it together. They create stories, songs and poems (rhyming).

In Hindi, they quickly finish the book and want more books. They say “*aap hamare liye har roj books lao or rakh dena hum padenge*”. They want to write one page of Hindi dictation every day.



MATH

Math is their favorite subject. If on any day they do not get time to do math then they scold the teacher by saying *“why you do not give us math work yesterday? Today we will do double math ok? You please don't tell us otherwise”*. They solve math of standard two and three.

HOSTEL

In the evenings, they are very prompt in arriving for class after their shower. Without telling the teacher, they go to the library at night and practice on improving their handwriting and some continue with Math. When they come to know that we have arranged an evening program for math class, they are very excited and ask, “didi, did you tell bhaiya that we want to do math during the evening?”. They clean their clothes themselves. If their dress is not clean, then they say, “See the dress is clean but is looking dirty. What should I do, mai to ghis ghis ke dhoya tha soap bhi finish ho gaya or ye dress saph nehi hua”.

A story written by the group

One day some villagers were going for a feast to another village. On the way, they met some grasshoppers. The grasshoppers said, “If you take my color then you will get many things.” The villagers agreed and then they touched the grasshoppers and suddenly everyone was looking pretty. Again, they started walking and on the way, they saw a riverbank and a sandcastle. When they touched that sand castle, it changed into a real castle and some poor people came and told the villagers, “Will you please come and become our king? We will be your subjects.” Thus, the villagers went and stayed with them in the castle forever.

PROJECTS

1. HAND WORKS

AIM: - Children want to do something creative themselves.

They make paper folding items likes two-three varieties of the lotus flower, room hanging items, fairies, dolls, varieties of cards in sand, flowers and other items with the help of glue and pastel colors. They also make Rangoli with both paper and also on the floor. They make some musical instruments with paper, matchbox, crown-caps and also like making vehicles and science toys. When they make any science related items then the end result seems magical to them more than science related. What they learn in the group they teach the other children at the Hostel.



2. FLOWER

AIM: - Identify the flower's name and their significations so that they can easily recognize more in future.

Through this project, they learnt why God made different flowers and their variety in different colors. They are very curious to know the flowers real meaning and get really excited when they identify the flowers parts name based on what they learnt and felt. They once said, "Didi, these 18, 16 or 15 parts that we got from different flowers, look like eggs, sweets, cakes, honey, houses, wings, sugar, bow and rings". When asked what The Mother had named each flower, they said their meanings and why The Mother had given it so. Now they know which flower blooms on which month or season. They know about rare flowers, seasonal flowers, creepers, trees, plants, medicinal plants, small and big flowers.

They had to find out which flower attracts more insects. What commodities are made with flowers like perfume, powder, skin door etc.? They wanted to try making the same but were successful in only few things like juice, dry petals for miscellaneous use and color for painting.

3. WATER

AIM: - Awareness of water and how much our body needs.

They know pros and cons of having too little or too much water for the body as well as for the every day surrounding. They are aware of things that float and sink in water, which fruit has more water and can identify water creatures and vehicles. They know what is pure water by purifying some in the lab. They now know where water comes from and how, how the water is safe on the earth. They made some songs and stories related to water. Through this project, they increased their knowledge about rivers. They told to teacher "dekho didi abhi hamara water ka project chal raha hai is liye aap hame nadi mai swimming ke liye loge".

4. RAIN

AIM: - Get information about what exactly is rain and how it's made.

They know the process of rain and water cycle. They did a practical in the lab, how the rain water is purified, how the water changes into water vapor and the idea of condensation. They know how rainwater can be used, why we do not drink rainwater, what will happen if it is not raining and the side effects of too much rain. They discuss about which fruit, flower, insect and vegetables bloom in the monsoons. Which dress we wear and which festivals celebrate. They told "didi abhi hamara rain ka project chal raha hai or abhi rain bhi ho rahi ha isliye aap hame rain mei khal ne ke liye chodo".



5. MY BODY

Aim: - To be aware of how to be clean and how to keep one's surroundings clean. How much water to drink and how to keep yourself and your dress clean? They also had to get information on the system they were working on.

Children first discussed about, why we need body parts, what is their function, what are name of the parts? If we lose that part then what happens. If someone losses a part of their body then how do they manage, e.g. blindness, lameness etc. They also learnt about externals and internals parts.

Through this project, they came to know what the system is and what is their function in the body. They did some practical works like how the heart pumps blood, how the blood flows thorough the circulatory system, the working of a nerve, how the sense organ works, skeleton system, muscular system, digestive system, respiratory system, excretory system, nervous system and reproductive system.

What they did in this project?

They made model of each system with clay, cardboard, sand and in drawings. After knowing how to be clean and clean one's surroundings, these children went to different rooms in the hostel, after dinner and told them "Every day drink lot of water, while eating food one should chew the food nicely, bath nicely and rub your body well with the towel. Every week you should clean your towels with hot water. You should go to the toilet everyday at least twice, once in the morning and then in the evening before bathing. After using the toilet, you should put lots of water because otherwise bacteria will grow and bad smells will start emitting." They took the teacher's help for encouraging the older children.

FESTIVALS

These children become very excited on festival days because that day everyone wears nice dresses and looks different and in general, everyone feels good. The teachers are running here and there for the children.

The whole school did a JUNGLE BOOK play where the aspiration group became wolf cubs and snakes, amidst other roles.

1. SCHOOL'S BIRTHDAY (5th JULY) – The children created a song and did actions. They sang "phoolo ka taro ka sab ka kehna hai eak hajaro me hamara school hai sari umar hame saath rehna hai" They did a play on the "The Brahmin And The Tiger".



2. SRI AUROBINDO'S BIRTHDAY (15th AUGUST) - The children did three programmes. They selected a song for Sri Aurobindo and in that song, half of the children played musical instruments and the other half sang the song. Everyone was very excited when they did the role of freedom fighters and walked with Mahatma Gandhi (Hari) and sang and enacted the song "Ae watan ae watan hum ko teri kasm teri raho mai jaan tak luta jayenge" Then they played soldiers of Subash Chandra Bosh and marched around and sang " kadam kadam badhaeja khushi ke geet gaye ja ye jindegı ha kom ki tu kom pe lutaye ja" Every one said a few lines about Sri Aurobindo.

3. CHACHAJI (Surendra Naath Jauhar's) BIRTHDAY - Children sang and did actions on "Hum balak hai khel rahe hai jiban ka yeha khel"

4. JANMASHTAMI - They created a long song in which they used all their names and did all the activities together. In the last moment, they decided to do a drama before the first day. The drama was about Krishna's birth. They chose the part from Krishna's birth till Kansa's death. They memorized their dialogues from what they saw on television and after the first day, they performed it quite confidently.

5. GANESH POOJA - The children performed a play titled "Kuber and Ganesh".

