

Rainbow Group Report

April 2013- March 2014

The Rainbow group as the name suggests is a group of bright, exuberant and colourful children- all of whom come from different villages. The children have an eventful 2 km walk from their village to the school. Very often the group *diyas* put in an extra effort to ensure that the at least 14-15 children are present on a regular basis, since the parents are indifferent to their wards coming to the school.



The Routine:

The day starts with breakfast and though initially they felt that the food was different from what they ate at home, they are beginning to enjoy it now. Post breakfast they

brush their teeth followed by a bath for those who haven't bathed in the morning .Some children also wash their clothes if they are dirty and the diyas are always present to guide or lend a helping hand.

Play Time :

The children like playing in the sand pit and like making various things out of sand. The group also loves any game that involves the ball –kicking it around, throwing it and then running after it, they enjoy it immensely.

In the Group :

Once in the group, the children begin all activities with chanting various *shlokas* . The children know about ten chants like '*Astoma jyotirgamaye*', *vakratunda*, *Namaste Mahamaye*' and many others. The children also know about 40 songs, most of them in Hindi, twelve in English, two in Sanskrit and a few in Oriya. Story- telling is something that this young group enjoys immensely. Stories are also an opportunity to talk, interact, ask questions as also to do picture reading or making puppets – all of which is thoroughly enjoyed by this young group.



Maths:

The children can count from 1-50. They have just learnt to add, and can recognize a few shapes. Concepts like bigger, smaller, taller & shorter etc has also been introduced within the group. They have also started adding small numbers.

Skill work :

All the children love drawing especially free-hand drawing, pasting, colouring. They also like stringing beads. Pasting is done with flowers, leaves and a few other things found in nature. The children also paint on a regular basis either with a brush or sometimes their fingers. The children also work a lot with clay making beads and horses. The children also love to make *rangoli* and designs on the floor.



Games: From 4 to 4.45, the children go and play games, both indoors and outdoors . Puzzles, lego and memory games, the children enjoy it all. They also play net and fish, fire in the mountain, change your place. Playing the ball is something that the children like very much.



Birthdays: Every child is gifted some clothes for his /her birthday, which the child wears on that day and then carries it back home. They also light a candle in the meditation hall and everyone sings for the child in the group and the child distributes cake and sweets to all his group mates. All the children make cards for their friends.

Celebrations and festivals:

The Rainbow group along with the rest of the school celebrated the foundation day of the school on the 5th of July. Sri Aurobindo's birthday, The Mother's birthday and Independence day were also celebrated with great devotion. The children made flags and presented a dance show. For *Rakshabandhan* they also made rakhis.



Our prayer for the children of the Rainbow group is that they continue to be as cheerful and as delightful as they are now.