

COURAGE GROUP

Report for 2023-24 (Second Term)



Introduction:

The Courage Group comprises 17 children aged between 7 and 12 years old. These children are predominantly boarders at the school, with only three of them going home after school hours. Most of them demonstrate regular attendance and maintain a

tidy appearance, reflecting their ability to care for themselves.

Projects:

Over the past six months, the project class has focused on four main topics: food, occupations, transportation, and the solar system.



Topic: Food: The primary objective of this project was to familiarise the children with the fundamental aspects of nutrition. We initiated discussions on the significance of food, which the children readily related to their daily lives. Subsequently, we explored various sources of food, different food types, and encouraged good dietary habits.

The children learnt about plant-based and animal-based foods, categorised into energy-giving, body-building, protective, fat, and fibre food groups.

Engaging activities included drawing pictures and creating charts related to food. Additionally, the children had the opportunity to participate in cooking activities in the kitchen, where they learned to prepare items such as chapatis, French fries, and lentils. This hands-on experience enhanced their awareness and understanding of food.



Topic: Occupations: Our aim in this topic was to acquaint the children with the concept of occupations and their role in society. We commenced with an introduction to what constitutes an occupation, followed by discussions on the various types of occupations, including those in rural and urban settings, as well as hobbies. The children expressed their understanding through drawings and individual presentations on different occupations during assembly sessions. This approach provided them with insights into the diverse range of occupations prevalent in society.



Topic: Transportation:

The objective here was to foster awareness about transportation methods. We initiated discussions on how individuals travel from one place to another, drawing on the children's personal experiences. Topics covered included the invention of the wheel, different modes of transportation, road safety measures, and various types of

vehicles. The children actively participated, demonstrating a solid understanding of the subject matter. They also learned about road signals and traffic rules, further enriching their knowledge on transportation systems.



Topic: Solar System

This topic aimed to educate the children about the solar system and celestial phenomena. Discussions centred on the composition of the solar system, including planets, moons, satellites, and the sun.

Children explored topics such as the formation of the universe, the Earth's role as a habitable planet, and the exploration of space. Engaging activities included storytelling sessions featuring notable figures in space exploration, as well as creating charts and presentations. Through interactive media and creative exercises, the children gained a deeper understanding of the solar system and its significance.



English:

During the past six months, significant progress has been observed in the children's English proficiency. They have shown enthusiasm in learning the language, demonstrating

improved fluency and confidence in spoken English. Basic literacy skills, such as recognition and writing of alphabets, have been developed, with children now proficient in writing both upper- and lower-case letters. Additionally, they have begun spelling words independently and have been exposed to dictation exercises to further enhance their language skills. Reading comprehension has improved through the use of phonics books and other reading materials, fostering a love for reading and storytelling. The children have also exhibited creativity by crafting their own stories and poems in English. Listening skills have been honed through storytelling sessions, enhancing overall language comprehension.



Hindi: During these past few months, the children have covered a wide range of topics, showcasing remarkable progress in their studies. Each child has demonstrated exceptional dedication and diligence in their academic pursuits. Following the



acquisition of fundamental skills such as alphabets, sounds, and matras, the children embarked on the task of writing alphabets, including matras. They completed this task efficiently and with great enthusiasm within a few days, displaying a notable level of interest and commitment. The children diligently engage in their work and readily seek assistance when needed.

Presently, the children have transitioned to writing words without matras, indicating a significant advancement in their learning journey. Many of them exhibit commendable perseverance and strive to complete their assignments diligently. Occasionally, additional homework is assigned to further enhance their handwriting skills, which the children eagerly undertake. Group reading sessions are conducted regularly, during which the children demonstrate attentive reading skills, with many readings fluently up to a full stop. While some children may require additional time to read, they consistently demonstrate their best efforts.

Furthermore, the children are encouraged to engage in storytelling and artistic expression. They enthusiastically create and share stories within the group, accompanied by corresponding drawings. Additionally, the children participate in small theatrical performances, enhancing their communication skills and vocabulary. They have also learnt the names of months and weeks in Hindi with remarkable speed and are currently mastering Hindi counting up to 50. In celebration of the mother's birthday, the children crafted various types of flowers, each meticulously designed and coloured with patience. Following the completion of their drawings, the significance of each flower was explained, and their artwork was compiled into a beautiful book.

Maths:

Mathematics plays a crucial role in a child's life, and we ensure that our activities are connected to real-life situations to engage them effectively. Children keenly observe these activities, enabling them to learn easily and fostering their curiosity and interest in further learning.



During this period, the children have been actively engaged in learning the concept of multiplication. They understand that multiplication represents the repeated addition of one number with respect to another. They have

independently written multiplication tables up to 12 and spend 10 minutes every day memorizing these tables to facilitate easier multiplication with larger numbers. Through games with their peers and self-assessment, they gauge their progress in learning multiplication. Additionally, they have learned two methods of multiplication: carryover and breaking down two-digit numbers into two digits in written form. To enhance their critical thinking skills, they practice mental calculation by breaking down two-digit numbers with one-digit numbers. They have also been introduced to the term's multiplicand, multiplier, and product.

Many children demonstrate excellent comprehension in solving word problems involving addition, subtraction, and multiplication. Some children exhibit the ability to interpret and formulate questions effectively. Furthermore, the children have begun learning the basics of geometry. Using geometry kits, they have had ample opportunities to manipulate shapes and create designs of their choice. This hands-on activity helps them identify the differences between shapes and learn their names. Additionally, they gain practical understanding through activities with Jodo straws. After identifying shapes, they apply their knowledge by recognizing shapes in objects around them.

Moreover, they have become familiar with the number of sides and various types of 2D shapes, including lines and curves. This holistic approach to learning mathematics fosters a deep understanding of mathematical concepts and their applications in everyday life.



Singing and drama:

The students of the Courage Group have enthusiastically engaged in learning various songs, with most of them quickly memorising lyrics. While some children required additional time to learn, overall participation has been commendable. The repertoire of songs learned includes "Bhutram Ji", "Tell Me Why", "I'm in the Lord's Army", "Mai Kya Gau Ma", "A Long Time Ago", "Make Your Children", alphabet sound songs, "Rakhi Ki Dor", "Lehra Do", and "Aa Mere Pyare Watan". Singing sessions have been enjoyable for all participants.



Arts:

The children in the art class exhibit a keen interest, particularly when engaging in extra activities such as paper folding and cut-and-paste projects. Proficiency in drawing and colouring has markedly improved among all the children, reflecting their growing skills and creativity. Their imaginative abilities are evident in the diverse themes explored in their artwork, ranging from nature scenes to birthday cards and depictions of sports events.



Occasionally, some children may become distracted during drawing and colouring sessions. To maintain engagement and foster a lively atmosphere, alternative activities like paper folding and collage-making are introduced. These activities not only capture the children's interest but also encourage teamwork and creativity. Notably, during the creation of a wall hanging, the entire group enthusiastically participated, demonstrating their collaborative spirit and commitment to the task.

Puzzles: In this group there are seventeen children, they all come for the class before the time. Courage group participates in puzzle-solving activities twice a week, on Wednesdays and Saturdays. They look forward for these two days as they like to solve puzzles. The children of courage can fix puzzles up to 200 to 250 and 300 puzzles in group of four. They are excited and really gets happy to solve puzzles. Sometimes children don't feel like solving the puzzles and laze around. A few children find it challenging to stay focused until the end and may become restless. Children love solving the puzzles of:

- Snow white and the seven dwarf
- Barbie
- Giant Panda bear
- Doremon
- Noddy
- Spider man
- Racing car
- Avengers



Games: Every evening from 4 to 5, the Courage Group children eagerly participate in various games to unwind and engage in physical activity. They delight in a diverse array of games such as football, dodgeball, kickball, kho-kho, kabaddi, and more. Football particularly holds a special appeal for many of the children, as they exhibit proficiency in kicking the ball. Prior to commencing the games, the children engage in exercises, ensuring they are physically prepared and energized for the activities ahead. This routine fosters not only physical health but also camaraderie and teamwork among the children.

Movies: The group's interest in English extended to watching movies. Children watch movies related to the topic based and sometime different animated movies. They enjoyed watching the movie of "Spirit". This time watched the movies of animals. They found the following movies particularly engaging:

- "Ice age"
- "Kungfu Panda"
- "Spirit-Stallion of the Cimarron"
- "The Lion King"
- "Madagascar"
- "Dumbo"

Dance: The children of the Courage group attend dance class once a week, with many showing interest, particularly the girls who exhibit high levels of enthusiasm. Previously, they focused on learning folk dances and have now expanded their repertoire to include an Assamese dance to the song "Akhana Kajal Aao." While some boys may find the class less engaging, others actively participate and demonstrate varying levels of skill and commitment.



Celebrations:

Throughout the year, the Courage Group actively participated in various celebrations, adding vibrancy and enthusiasm to the school community. On November 29th, the children captivated the audience with a performance of the play "The Stone Soup," showcasing their dramatic talents and teamwork.



During the festive season of Christmas, the children filled the air with joyous melodies by singing "Long Time Ago in Bethlehem," spreading cheer and warmth among their peers and teachers.



Sports Day proved to be an exciting occasion for the Courage Group as they embarked on a new cultural experience. With great enthusiasm, they learnt the intricate steps of the bamboo dance, a first-time event at the school. Their rapid mastery of the dance steps reflected their eagerness to embrace new challenges. Assisted by their teachers, the children also crafted their own headgear, adding a creative touch to their performance.

On the Mother's birthday, the Courage Group expressed their affection through song, serenading mothers with the heartfelt melody "Mai Kya Gau Maa," celebrating the special bond between mother and child.



During Saraswati Puja, the group paid homage to the goddess of knowledge and learning with a soulful rendition of the song "Maa Saraswati Shared," demonstrating their reverence for education and culture. These celebrations not only showcased the children's talents but also fostered a sense of community and togetherness within the Courage Group.



SENSE DEVELOPMENT:

The children in this group exhibit remarkable enthusiasm when engaging in new activities during our sense class. They eagerly explore all five senses in detail. Sense class occurs once a week, specifically on Thursdays.

In the initial two weeks, the children delved into the intricacies of the sense of sight. They learnt about the benefits of the eyes and participated in various engaging games, including mirror walk, object rearrangement,



and leader-leader change the action. These activities were designed to assess their concentration levels and observation. Additionally, they engaged in paper folding exercises to create various objects, such as fish, and demonstrated meticulousness in their craftsmanship. They were also provided with drawings to colour, and they displayed careful attention to detail to ensure the colours remained within the lines.

Furthermore, the children were encouraged to spend 15 minutes observing nature, after which they were tasked with accurately drawing what they had seen. Remarkably, all the children demonstrated excellent drawing skills and attention to detail. Their keen observation skills were evident throughout the exercise.

The children approach these activities with great enthusiasm and eagerness to learn. Their active participation and dedication to exploring new activities are commendable.