

# COURAGE GROUP

## Report for 2023-24 (First Term)

### Projects:

#### Topic: Clothes



The topic of clothes was introduced with the aim of helping children understand why we wear clothes and the different types of clothing suitable for various seasons. Throughout this topic, the children engaged in a variety of activities and learned about:



1. **History of Clothes:** Children delved into the history of clothing, exploring how clothing has evolved over time.

2. **Importance of Clothing:** They learned why clothing is essential and its significance in human life.

3. **Cloth Making:** The children discovered how clothes are made and the various materials used in their production.
4. **Types of Fabrics:** They were introduced to different fabrics and their characteristics.
5. **Weaving and Knitting:** Children learned about weaving and knitting techniques.
6. **Types of Collars:** They explored the various collar styles in clothing.
7. **Seasonal Clothing:** The children were taught about wearing different clothes in various seasons.
8. **Invention of Silk:** They explored the history of silk and how it spread to different parts of the country.



The children actively participated in related activities, such as creating colourful paper clothes through paper folding and crafts. They worked together to display their work, with various types of clothes hanging from the ceiling and adorned display boards.



The children showed interest in learning about early humans' clothing and were curious about the history of silk. They watched videos related to the topic to gain a better understanding. They also learnt the importance of clothing and the process of making them, which included weaving. Some children excelled in weaving, while others kept trying and received help from their peers.



Despite having just started speaking in English, the children managed to answer questions in the language. They even learnt practical skills like attaching buttons to shirts and folding clothes, although this required some time and practice.

Overall, the children were enthusiastic, active, and engaged in their learning, and they enjoyed exploring the topic of clothes.

### Topic: Plants and Leaves



The primary goal of this project was to introduce various types of vegetation and their characteristics to the children. The topic began on July 7<sup>th</sup> and continued for three weeks. The first day was dedicated to discussing the importance of trees and plants. While most children were able to speak about this, some took their time to think. Afterward, the classification and distinctions of plants into shrubs, trees, and climbers were discussed. To

facilitate better understanding, the children were taken to the garden to observe the plants. This hands-on experience helped them easily distinguish between these types of plants. The children were then divided into four groups, each working on trees, herbs, shrubs, and climbers, respectively.

The next step involved recognizing various types of leaves. A sensory development activity was conducted where the teachers collected a variety of leaves, and the children were asked to identify



them. This activity was further extended by blindfolding some children who were required to recognize leaves by touch, smell, and sometimes taste. Many children excelled in this activity.

All the children learnt about the various parts of plants, leaves, and flowers. They memorized the names of these parts and could easily answer questions related to them. The teachers practically demonstrated these parts and also showed videos illustrating the different plant components. The children were then introduced to the products that come from plants. They were educated about the various products we get from plants, and many of them already knew about these. The topic concluded by discussing food products such as cereals, pulses, spices, and oilseeds that we obtain from plants. The teachers collected these products from the kitchen and showed them to the children. The children could distinguish between different spices, cereals, oilseeds, and pulses, and they memorized the names. The topic





concluded with questions related to the subject, and most of the children could answer them. They also learnt some new words like stigma, pollen, ovary, filament, anther, sepal, and style. To make the topic engaging, the teachers created charts and drawings.

basantg,courage**Topic: Water**



The aim of this topic was to familiarize the children with water. It started with a discussion about the uses of water, where the children were asked to draw pictures

illustrating water's usage. The topic covered various aspects of water, including its sources, the water cycle, different forms of water, experiments, solubility, insolubility, floating, sinking, water pollution, fresh water, and water filtration. Charts were created to



aid understanding in areas like water usage, water sources, the water cycle, forms of water, and water pollution.

The children gained a comprehensive understanding of the topic. They learnt about water's usage, its sources, the different forms of water, the difference between salty and clean water, water pollution, how to save water, and concepts like floating and sinking. The teachers conducted experiments to demonstrate solubility and insolubility, floating and sinking, and even took the children to the kitchen to show how evaporation occurs. The children were enthusiastic about these experiments. The topic concluded with questions, and almost all the children could answer them.

### Topic: Air



The aim of this topic was to acquaint the children with the concept of air. It began with a simple discussion about air, where children spoke about what they knew. They were made conscious of air through an activity related to breathing. The children then discussed the importance of air and its various uses, like flying kites. The topic progressed to understand the differences between air, breeze, wind, and the mixture of gases. To comprehend the properties of air, a series of experiments were carried out:

1. Air has weight.
2. Air occupies space.
3. Air has pressure.

The children understood these properties and could explain them in their own words. They were able to answer questions at different levels, from level 1 to 3. The topic was reinforced with many drawings and charts, focusing on air pollution, properties of air, and the importance of air. The topic was deeply studied, and although the children had not yet started writing, they remembered most of what was taught. The topic was covered through drawings, explanations, experiments, and questions. It concluded with a quiz-style test where almost everyone provided correct answers. The children enjoyed this topic due to the many experiments involved.





## Topic: Body Parts



The aim of this topic was to educate the children about the human body and its various parts. The children were introduced to the topic by naming their own body parts. They learnt about different names for body organs, including internal and external organs, parts of the eyes, parts of the teeth, parts of the ears, the five senses, and briefly about the bones and organ systems (nervous system, skeletal system, digestive system, etc.). The children learnt the names and functions of these body parts. To make the topic engaging, the teachers organized various activities,

and the children created drawings related to body parts, beautifully coloring them. Charts and drawings were made by the teachers to aid understanding. The group's surroundings were decorated with drawings and charts related to body parts. When questions were asked about body parts, almost all the children could answer them.



## English:



The children in the Courage Group have shown significant improvement in their English language skills over the past six months. They have demonstrated a better ability to speak and understand English and actively try to communicate in English during class.

Most of the children can now tell stories in English, although a few are still working on this skill. To enhance their spoken English, the children have been involved in short plays, including adaptations of classic stories such as:

1. "The Enormous Turnip"
2. "Gingerbread Man"
3. "Three Little Pigs"
4. "The Ugly Duckling"

The children have made remarkable progress in these plays. When questions related to the stories are asked, they make an effort to respond in English.





To enrich their vocabulary, the children were exposed to picture books, and many stories were narrated to improve their listening and comprehension skills. They can now identify opposites like "big" and "small."

The children have learnt the names of the twelve months and days of the week. They can even sing a song about the twelve months.

In terms of alphabets, the children have mastered all 26 English letters, their sounds, and a song related to the alphabet sounds. They can differentiate between capital and lowercase letters. Worksheets have been provided



for matching capital letters with their lowercase counterparts, and almost all of them could complete this task.



The children have created drawings based on alphabets and sounds. For instance, if the letter is "A," the child draws an apple. They've played games involving capital and lowercase letters.

The children have started reading two-letter words, three-letter words, four-letter words, and simple sentences. They can break words into their component sounds and read them. They can also write their names in English.

In addition to language skills, the children have been taught English songs such as:

1. "Ants Go Marching One by One"
2. "There Are Twelve Months in a Year"
3. "Alphabet Song"

## Hindi:

The children in this class are incredibly curious and eager to learn. They actively engage in the learning process, whether they are being introduced to new concepts or enjoying stories. They have not only mastered the alphabet but also the sounds



each letter makes. To facilitate their learning, we use flashcards and visual aids to ensure the children can clearly identify and understand each letter.



To further enhance their understanding, the children work together in groups to solve puzzles related to the alphabet. We also teach them short songs associated with each letter, which helps reinforce their recognition of the letters without the need for pictures. Additionally, the children have had the opportunity to hear numerous short stories from their teachers and have even begun

to tell stories themselves. This storytelling experience has enriched their vocabulary and improved their speaking abilities.

As part of their creative activities, the children have created drawings inspired by the stories they've heard. They then dictate the story to their teachers, who transcribe it underneath their drawings. The children have also drawn a variety of trees and added vibrant colours to their artwork. They approached these activities with great enthusiasm and executed them skilfully. Following the drawing exercises, we explained the importance and uses of trees, which deepened their understanding of nature.



We have also guided the children in drawing and naming different body parts, discussing each part's function. Furthermore, we introduced the concept of the five senses by engaging the children in fun activities such as "Chinese whisper," "leader-leader," and sensory experiments. They were blindfolded and asked to identify objects by touch and smell, as well as to taste various items and identify them. These interactive games were met with great excitement and enthusiasm.

In addition to these educational activities, the children have learnt two songs, one for July 15<sup>th</sup> and another for *Raksha Bandhan*, as well as a poem titled "*Yaha Kadam ka ped*." They quickly grasped the songs, "*Lehra do*" for July 15<sup>th</sup> and



"Meri Rakhi ki dor" for Raksha Bandhan, within just 3-4 days, showcasing their enthusiasm for music and learning.



## Maths:



The children in the Courage Group are making excellent progress in Mathematics. They are taught collectively, which has proven to be a highly effective way for them to engage in activities and foster meaningful learning experiences.

Their achievements encompass several key areas:

In **Measurement**, the group has been actively involved in measurement activities using non-standard units. This hands-on approach has allowed them to gain a practical understanding of measurement concepts.

They have also made significant strides in **Addition and Subtraction**, working on both mental calculations and

the written forms of these operations. These skills now extend to two-digit numbers and have even introduced more advanced concepts such as carryover addition and borrowing subtraction in written form.

Additionally, their **Number Writing** capabilities have expanded to include numbers up to 1000. The use of flashcards has contributed to their proficiency in this area.



The group's primary objective was to develop **Estimation Skills**, which they've achieved through various physical attributes such as hands, feet, palm, arm, and fingers. This hands-on approach has helped them gain a practical understanding of the concept of estimation.



They've also gained a grasp of **Weight Measurement**, understanding the concepts of heavy and light through the use of a weighing scale, enhancing their comprehension of weight and mass.

Volume is another area of achievement. The group has learnt about volume through practical activities involving cups, glasses, buckets, and mugs. This has enabled them to determine the capacity of different containers and identify the most suitable capacities for various objects.

In mathematics, they've been working on mental calculations involving two-digit addition and subtraction. This skill is particularly commendable for some children who have put in significant effort to grasp these concepts thoroughly.

Their **Number Sequencing** skills are noteworthy. The group has shown their ability to create numbers using three digits and arrange them in both ascending and descending order. They also comprehend expanded and short forms of numbers and are proficient in writing them clearly. Moreover, they proactively seek clarification for any difficulties from their group teachers.





Their understanding of mathematics is further demonstrated by their ability to solve **Word Problems** related to addition and subtraction, showcasing the practical application of their mathematical knowledge to real-world situations.

The Courage Group has just embarked on their journey into the world of **Multiplication**, signalling the start of more advanced mathematical concepts.

### **Singing and drama:**

The students of the Courage Group have demonstrated remarkable progress in their singing and drama classes over the past few months. They have shown a remarkable ability to learn new songs and enthusiastically engage in the learning process. Their dedication is evident as they diligently sing and practise their songs. In addition to singing, they have explored the world of drama, creating their narratives and sharing them with their peers.



The students have been divided into smaller groups to craft their own stories. They have enacted stories, such as helping a tree, the adventures of jumping socks, the three trusted friends, and the misadventures of a naughty rat. They exhibit commendable storytelling skills and confidently present their tales to the entire class. Each member of the Courage Group has embraced solo singing with gusto, showcasing their individuality and confidence.



One notable aspect of their class activities is their deep affection for stories and their ability to re-enact these tales by drawing inspiration from accompanying visuals. The songs they have learnt thus far include a diverse range of themes and cultures, such as "Sing, Sing a Song," "Make Your Children Battle Ready," "Wakeup the Night Has Gone," "Ka-Ka Shrieks the Crows," "Neem Peepul Banyan," "Imagine There Is No Heaven," "Ae Mere Pyare Watan," "Aa Chalke Tujhe," "Una Paloma," "Ganga Yamuna Krishna," "Thandi Thandi Hawa Khane," and "What a Wonderful World." They also take delight in reciting poems like trees, God, Krishna, and seasons. Their singing often incorporates lively actions, enhancing their overall engagement in the class.



## Arts:



The students of the Courage Group participate in art class twice a week, specifically on Thursdays and Mondays. In these classes, they engage in a wide variety of creative activities, including drawing, paper folding, crafting, painting, and more. Their enthusiasm for art class is evident as they eagerly embrace these artistic endeavours. One of the highlights of their art class is paper folding, where the students have demonstrated their creativity by





crafting various items such as dogs, bears, windmills, fans, and more. Their commitment to mastering this skill is commendable, reflecting their dedication to the creative process. Among the different activities, drawing seems to



be the favourite among the students. This particular form of artistic expression resonates with them, and they approach it with great enthusiasm. Notably, their drawings reflect a commitment to precision and tidiness. When given assignments, they execute them meticulously, ensuring that their work is clean and neatly presented. Furthermore, their attention to detail extends to the colouring aspect of their art. When it comes to adding colours to their creations, the students exhibit a keen eye for aesthetics. They consistently produce beautifully coloured pictures, demonstrating their appreciation for the visual appeal of their work.

## **Puzzles:**

The Courage Group participates in puzzle-solving activities twice a week, on Wednesdays and Saturdays. These young learners are quite enthusiastic about solving puzzles, especially those with 100, 200, and 300 pieces. While most of the children engage with great concentration to complete these puzzles, a few find it challenging to stay focused until the end and may become restless. They often collaborate as a group to successfully tackle larger puzzles.



## Games:

The Courage Group has shifted its game time from the morning to the evening. During these sessions, the children enjoy a variety of games, including football, as well as games like basketball, dodgeball, kho-kho, kabaddi, and more. The children eagerly participate in all of these games.

## Movies:

Once a week, the children have the opportunity to watch movies as a means to enhance their language skills, both in English and Hindi, and improve their overall understanding. They often watch the same movies repeatedly, which has enabled them to comprehend the dialogues and storyline better. Some of the movies they have watched include "The Lion King," "Ganesha 2 and 3," "Red Shoes," "Ice Age," "Little Krishna," and "Ghatotkach."



## Dance:

The Courage Group's dance enthusiasts have been actively participating in various dance forms, displaying their enthusiasm and dedication. They begin their dance sessions with invigorating Zumba routines, including favorite like "Follow the Leader," "La Marca," and

"Freeze Dance," which serve as fantastic warm-up exercises. Additionally, they take pleasure in engaging in aerobics activities.



Notably, the group dedicated their time to learn and perform a dance for the joyous occasion of Ganesh Chaturthi, impressing the audience with their rendition of "Jay Dev Jay Dev." Their performance reflected their hard work and commitment. They also prepared and performed a dance for 15<sup>th</sup> August, delivering a captivating performance to the patriotic tune "Chak De India."



Furthermore, the group explores the rich diversity of regional dances, including Sambalpuri, Assamese, and Pahadi dances. These cultural expressions provide immense enjoyment for all group members, fostering a sense of unity and shared enthusiasm. The Courage Group continues to dance with passion, celebrating the joy of movement and the beauty of various dance forms.

## **Celebrations:**

The Courage Group actively participates in various celebrations. On July 5<sup>th</sup>, they performed two English plays, namely "The Three Little Pigs" and "The Gingerbread Man."

During these performances, the children acted on a play and sang songs on - '*Kechla ka jungle*' independently. On August 15<sup>th</sup>, they sang the patriotic song "*Lehra Do*" in celebration of India's Independence Day. They also took part in a school-wide performance for the same occasion. On Raksha Bandhan, the Courage Group sang a special Rakhi song. During Janmashtami, they presented an action poem Krishna by Sri Aurobindo. Their celebrations continued with a play and dance performance during Ganesh Chaturthi with their performance of the play Mahotkat and dancing on a Ganesha song.

