

A Letter to Teachers

Dear teachers,

Greetings from Shriram Foundation.

September is an important month. It is a special month for schools. It is the month in which we celebrate Teachers' Day. September 5 is your day. We do not celebrate Engineers' Day or Pilots' Day but we do celebrate Teachers' Day. Because teachers are special: they make the future. As a great teacher proudly said, "I touch the future. I teach." You could say that too, with your head held high.

To commemorate Teachers' Day, we run a special section with quotations on education from some of the greatest educationists and thinkers ever from India. There is also an anecdote from the life of Dr. S. Radhakrishnan, India's second President, whose birthday is celebrated as Teachers' Day, and an inspirational episode from the life of Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar, one of our earliest social and educational reformers.

We look forward to hearing from you. Please do write in to us at m100. shriramfdn@gmail.com with your suggestions, comments and feedback.

Warm regards
Editor



Remembering Dr. S. Radhakrishnan

Teachers' Day Special

*Some of his friends and students once approached **Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan** and requested permission to celebrate his birthday, which falls on September 5. He is believed to have told them, "Instead of celebrating my birthday separately, it would be my proud privilege if September 5th is observed as Teachers' Day". This shows how much he valued the teaching profession. Since the year 1967, 5th September is celebrated by students across the country as Teachers' Day.*



A Story from the life of A Great Educationist

Teachers' Day Special



Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar was one of India's greatest social reformers. He worked hard to eradicate evil social practices like sati. He was responsible for introducing widow remarriage and stopping the practice of child marriage. He encouraged girls to go to school and also established schools, colleges and wrote textbooks for children. Here is an inspiring story from his life.

Vidyasagar and his friends were collecting donations to start a college in Bengal during the later part of the nineteenth century.

One day Vidyasagar told his friends that he would visit the local prince for a donation. His friends tried to stop him. The prince was a rude and arrogant man and also known to be a miser. "He will not give you anything. Worse still, he may insult you," they warned. But Vidyasagar did not listen. He went to the Prince and explained the purpose of the visit. Without a word, the Prince removed one of the shoes he was wearing and dropped it in Vidyasagar's donation bag. Vidyasagar did not react. He thanked the Prince and left the court.

Next day he organized an auction of the Prince's shoe in front of his palace. It caused excitement. Many ministers, courtiers, merchants and traders gathered. After a lot of heated bidding, the shoe was sold – for Rs. 1000. That was a big sum in those days. The Prince heard of it. He was impressed. He also felt guilty about the way he had treated Vidyasagar. He called him in and gave him a matching donation of Rs. 1000.

All this was made possible because Vidyasagar kept calm when insulted. He did not get angry, feel humiliated or seek revenge. He did not allow his ego and pride to come in the way. He kept the focus on his objective and used even an insult to his advantage! His commitment to education and his lack of ego are lessons for us.

Read and Reflect

Teachers' Day Special

The teacher is the corner stone of the arch of education.

-Dr. S. Radhakrishnan

On the title page of the life-book of a teacher, what is written is not knowledge but the subject of love

-Dr. Zakir Hussain

By education I mean an all-round drawing out of the best in the child and man—body, mind and spirit.

-Mahatma Gandhi

Education is the manifestation of perfection already in man.

-Swami Vivekananda

The fundamental purpose of education is not merely to enrich ourselves through the fullness of knowledge, but also to establish the bond of love and friendship between man and man.

-Rabindranath Tagore

A good school is a national asset of the highest value at any place or at any time. Schools are the laboratories which produce the future citizens of a State. The quality of the State therefore depends upon the quality of such laboratories.

-Maulana Abul Kalam Azad

Jiddu Krishnamurthy in a talk to students

"In teaching, what is important is not the subject, but the relationship between you and the teacher. If there is right relationship between you and the teacher, then what he teaches has a much deeper, non-mechanical meaning..... right relationship means I care for you."

RIDDLE

Who Am I?

Riddles and jokes – kids love them! They'll love to test them out on their friends and family. They help your students practice critical thinking as well. So, get them giggling with these great riddles!

- 1. I start with the letter 'P', end with the letter 'E' and I have thousands of letters in me. Who am I?*
- 2. I am a month. I have 28 days. Which month am I?*
- 3. I am the biggest alphabet because I contain the most water in the world. Who am I?*
- 4. I will die if you give me water. Who am I?*
- 5. I have rivers, but they don't have water. I have dense forests, but they don't have trees and animals. I have cities and villages, but no people live there. Who am I?*

Theme for the Month

Alzheimer's Month

Thematic tasks and celebrations are exciting and fun for the whole school. They also provide opportunities for learning outside the textbook framework. Every class can undertake one or more of the tasks given here

Did you know that September 2016 is the fifth global World Alzheimer's Month? World Alzheimer's Day, September 21st of every year, is a day on which Alzheimer's organizations put their efforts on raising awareness about Alzheimer's and Dementia all around the world.

1. Share the information below about the disease with the children and then conclude by unscrambling the words in a small activity.

"Alzheimer's disease affects the brain. People who have the disease have difficulty in remembering, thinking, talking and taking care of themselves. Scientists don't know the reason why people get Alzheimer's disease, but they are working hard to find the cause so they can prevent it. It doesn't mean that just because someone in your family has Alzheimer's disease, you will also get it.

People who have Alzheimer's disease may forget your name, get lost, see or hear things that are not there, have trouble in sleeping or do or say the same things over and over. This can make them confused, nervous, scared, or angry with you for no reason. It is important to know that they do not mean to treat you badly."

- NABIR - Alzheimer's disease affects the _____. Ans.(BRAIN)
- FGOERT - People with Alzheimer's disease often _____. Ans. (FORGET)
- UASCE - Scientists are working hard to find the _____ of Alzheimer's disease. Ans. (CAUSE)
- GUHS - _____ are things you can give a person with Alzheimer's disease. Ans. (HUGS)
- RTETA - They never mean to _____ you badly. Ans.(TREAT)

2. Encourage your students to make a Memory box. The box may be filled with things related to their favourite memories or memories of their dear ones. Let them tell the class about any one of the things from their box.



CREATIVE CORNER

Rainbow Jar

Things needed:

- Old Newspapers
- Coloured chalks/ Rangoli powder
- Common salt
- Transparent glass jar with lid
- Funnel (Optional)

- Pour salt on a piece of paper, enough to make a layer about 1/4" thick in your jar
- Take a coloured chalk and rub it back and forth on the salt until you get the preferred dark or light colour.
- Allow them to dry.
- Carefully, pour a layer of coloured salt through a corner of the paper into the jar. You can also use a funnel for the same.
- Use a new piece of the paper for a new colour.
- Pour layers at different angles and thicknesses around the jar to get interesting patterns. You can also rotate the jar while pouring to get this.
- Repeat process with new colours until jar is completely full. Take care not to shake the jar while pouring as the layers will mix up.
- Close the jar with the lid. Voila! Your rainbow salt jar is ready.



Letter to School Leaders

By V.S. Anuradha

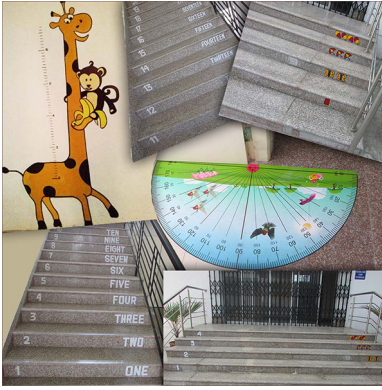
ఇది “పాఠశాల” అనే ఒక చిన్న పేర్లటూరి బడి కథ

ఈ బడి కొంతకాలం బాగా నడిచింది, కాని ప్రక్కనే ఒక కొత్త బడి ప్రారంభించిన వెంటనే, పిల్లలు రావడం తగ్గిపోయింది. కొత్త బడిలో బోధనా రుసుము (ఫీజు) కూడా ఎక్కువే. “పాఠశాల” సంచాలకులకు, ఉపాధ్యాయులకు, తల్లిదండ్రులు ఎందుకు ఎక్కువ బోధనా రుసుము చెల్లిస్తారో అర్థం కాలేదు.

మీరు తల్లిదండ్రులతో మాట్లాడగా కొత్త బడిలో Compound wall, ప్రవేశ ద్వారం ఉండుట చేత, సురక్షితముగా ఉంటుందని, అక్కడ ఆటస్థలం, గ్రంథాలయం, Laboratory ఉన్నాయని, అందుకే కొత్త బడిలో వాళ్ళ పిల్లలని చేర్చించారని తెలిసింది. ఉపాధ్యాయులు, సంచాలకులు, “పాఠశాల”లో ఉన్న కొద్ది నిధులతో ఏం చేయగలిగితే అది చేద్దామని నిశ్చయించారు. ఆ సమయములో ఒక ఉపాధ్యాయునికి “BALA” - Building As Learning Aid గురించి తెలిసింది.

- ❖ ప్రతి బడిలో ఆటస్థలం, గ్రంథాలయం, Laboratory, బోధనా పరికరములు ఉండటము అవసరమా?
- ❖ ఆటలాడుతూ నేర్చుకోవడం సాధ్యం కాదా?
- ❖ “BALA” అంటే అందుబాటులో ఉన్న తరగతి గదులు, కిటికీలు, వరండాలు, గోడలు, ఖాళీ జాగాలు అన్నింటినీ బోధనా పరికరాలు వాడు కోవడమే.

ఇది సాధించడానికి చిన్న చిన్న ఆలోచనలు, చ్చి ఉపాయములు కావాలి. ఇలా చేస్తే పిల్లలు అన్నింటినీ స్మరించి, వాడుకొని ఆడుకోవడానికి వీలవుతుంది. దీనిని మరమ్మత్తు చేయడం కూడా తేలికే.



“పాఠశాల” సంచాలకులు, ఉపాధ్యాయులు, తల్లిదండ్రులు, పిల్లలు తమేలా తామే ఈ విధంగా ప్రేరేపించుకున్నారు

- ❖ మన బడి ఆవరణను మనం బాగా వాడుకుంటున్నామా? లేదు. బడి ఆవరణలో చిన్న చిన్న మార్పులు చేయడం వలన “Activity Based Learning” సులభమై, బడి ఆవరణ బోధనా మరియు నేర్పుకొనే ఉపకరణం అయ్యింది.
- ❖ బడి ఆవరణ పిల్లలకు సురక్షితమైన, అందమైన, ఆహ్లాదకరమైన ప్రదేశం. ఖాళీ జాగాని ఉపయోగించుకొని, Compound Wall నిర్మించుకోవడం ఏమంత కష్టం కాదు.
- ❖ పిల్లలు, వారున్న ప్రదేశాన్ని అందంగా, సురక్షితంగా ఉంచుకోవడంలో తోడ్పడటం చేయాలి.
- ❖ పిల్లలు వారి చుట్టూ ఉన్న ప్రదేశాన్ని, గ్రంథాలయంలోని పుస్తకాలనూ భయం లేకుండా వాడుకోగలగాలి. దీనివలన ఖర్చు కూడా తగ్గుతుంది.

తలుపులను, కోణాలు నేర్పుకొనేందుకు, కిటికీలను వివిధ ఆకారములను నేర్పుకొనేందుకు, ఉపయోగించవచ్చు. తరగతి గదిలో పిల్లలు క్రింద కూర్చోనే విధంగా చాపలు వాడితే, స్థలం కలిసివచ్చి, ఒక మూల చదువుకొనేందుకు స్థలం దొరుకుతుంది. ఈ విధంగా తరగతి గదిలో ఇంకేమైనా మార్పులు చేయగలమా? అలోచించండి.

“పాఠశాల” ఆవరణలో ఉండే, రెండు పెద్ద చెట్ల మధ్యలో సిమెంట్ బెంచ్, నల్లబల్ల అమరిస్తే Open Class Room అవుతుంది. వాతావరణం చల్లగా ఉన్నప్పుడు దీనిని వాడుకోవచ్చు. “పాఠశాల” చుట్టూ ఊరి ప్రజల సహకారంతో దడి కట్టి, దాని ప్రక్కగా మొక్కలు నాటడం వలన Compound Wall ఏర్పడుతుంది. పిల్లలు మొక్కలు నాటడం చేసారు. ప్రధాన ద్వారం వద్ద రెండు పెద్ద చెట్లు నాటి, ఒక తలుపు అమర్చి దానికి రంగులు వేసారు.

ఈ విధమైన చిన్న చిన్న మార్పుల వలన పిల్లలు తిరిగి “పాఠశాల”కి రావడం మొదలైంది. ఈ “పాఠశాల” కొన్ని నెలల తరువాత ఎలా ఉంటుందో చూద్దాం !!!!!

Answer - Riddle

- | | |
|--|-------------------------|
| 1. Post Office | 3. The letter 'C' (Sea) |
| 2. Sorry! Not February. All months in a year have atleast 28 days. | 4. Fire |
| | 5. Map |