





A day to celebrate Early Childhood Care and Education!

Did you know how a school in Puducherry helped its parents in understanding the education that their preschoolers received? GPS Veerapattinam recently celebrated Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) Day!

GPS Veerampattinam recently hosted the ECCE Day, along with the Azim Premji Foundation. The aim of the event was to provide parents of preschoolers with an insight into their child's education and development. During the event, parents got an overview of what their children are learning and why they are learning it. They were also provided with ideas on how to engage their children in outside classroom activities, which would further enhance their learning and development.

Being an alternative to regular parents meeting and discussions, the event allowed parents to actively play along with their child! Parents and children alike were fully immersed in various exciting and engaging activities, such as clay-based games, cups, water jumping, hopping games, puzzle games, round chair games, throwing a ball at a target, and left-hand painting. The event allowed parents to see firsthand how their children were growing and learning. It also gave them the opportunity to engage and bond with their children in a fun and educational setting.





Pictures from the ECCE day from GPS Veerampattinam: Parents engaging with their students in activities.



"I have only heard of events like these happening in private schools. It is heartwarming to experience being a part of something like this." said the mother of UKG student.



By recognizing the importance of engaging parents and teachers in ECCE, the Department of Education is taking a proactive approach to ensuring that young children receive the best possible start in life covering the following aspects as mentioned in National education policy 2020.

This Ecce day engagement with parents in one step progress covering aspects mentioned below :









Orienting PRASHAST APP to Special Educators

Imagine a world where any teacher, regardless of their specialization, can identify disabilities in their students and connect parents to relevant resources. Thanks to the Prashast app, this dream is now a reality!

Introducing Prashast - the new pre-assessment screening tool that's making waves in the world of education! This innovative tool is designed to screen and shortlist children who may have tentative disability conditions at the school level. By allowing teachers to do a first round of screening based on their experiences of engaging with the students, Prashast makes it easier for educators to identify areas for improvement and create tailored learning plans for each student.

Recently, The Directorate of School Education, Puducherry conducted an orientation of the application for 22 Special Educators.

The State Project Director delivered an engaging keynote address, emphasising the significance of collecting screening data of children, and shared the plan for utilising the collected data. The meeting was attended by a host of professionals, including the Assistant District Project Coordinator and State Coordinators of Samagra Shiksha, Associate Professor from Central Institute of Educational Technology (CIET), NCERT, special educators from Sathya School and Aurobindo Society, and civil society organisations.

So, if you're looking for a tool to help you create tailored learning plans for your students and improve their overall learning outcomes, Prashast is the way to go!



Why PRASHAST?

Helps teachers understand different students and be sensitive to their needs

Early measures can be taken to address students' disabilities.

Prevents unscientific diagnosis and labelling of students.

The unified structure of the PRASHAST application highlights how it can serve as a powerful tool for data collection.

-Dr. Bharati Koushik, Associate Professor at CIET, NCERT







PRASHAST Training inaugrated and facilitated by the Samagra Shiksha, Puducherry







Best practice from Puducherry: Exploring new ways of teaching learning

Does appreciation create an impression? Meet this teacher from GPS Vennila Nagar, who uses stamps to appreciate her students.

Ms. Ezhilarasi who teaches math for Grade 2, has her own way to keep her students motivated in her class. To keep her students engaged, she uses three types of stamps, that say "Well Done", "Neat", and "Excellent", to reflect their progress at the end of the class. This practice of providing feedback and encouragement helped create a positive learning environment. This was reflected when students strived to get their desired stamp in their notebook.

Additionally, providing visual and tangible feedback through stamps has made students feel accomplished and recognised for their efforts. Regular use of this practice has shown higher student involvement in classroom activities. Seeing this improvement, other teachers in the school adopted this practice in their classrooms.

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Stamps of encouragement given to students for their performance





Stamps used by the teacher to appreciate the student

What are the different ways I can appreciate a student

1.Appreciate your students' efforts by acknowledging their hard work.

"The roots of all goodness lie in the soil of appreciation for goodness." - Dalai Lama



2.Recognize each student's unique strengths and accomplishments.

3.Share positive feedback with the whole class to motivate and encourage others.

4.Use a variety of methods to show appreciation, such as verbal praise, written feedback, or small rewards.

5.Show appreciation in a timely manner to reinforce good behavior and habits.

This quote emphasize the power of appreciation in fostering positive relationships, promoting gratitude, and recognizing the goodness in others. They highlight the importance of expressing appreciation to those around us, as it can have a profound impact on our lives and the lives of those we appreciate.







Unlocking Potential with Waste: Supporting Students through Sustainable Learning - Best Practices from India

Meet Ms. Tharani, a primary school teacher in Panchayat Union Primary School (PUPS), Anakaputhur, Tamil Nadu, who has an innovative solution for every challenge she faces in her classes. One such innovation came into existence when she noted that some of her students found it difficult to complete her homework. When she tried to understand the concern, she realised that the students did not have access to resources that would help them finish it.



The teacher, then, gave them homework that would involve them to use waste materials like invitation cards, used book covers, and waste papers. This approach not only provided her students with the resources they need to complete their homework but also taught them about the importance of reusing and recycling waste materials. Thus, empowering students to become more environmentally conscious while improving their academic performance.

It was noted that once she introduced this to the students, 96% of the students began to actively participate in completing the homework. One of her students even created a teaching-learning material (TLM) to teach the concept of subtraction. It had side pockets that contained pieces of paper that could be used to support those who didn't know how to subtract. Tharani was impressed by her student's creativity, and now she receives TLMs made by her students every day to support their fellow friends.



A picture of TLM Created by class 2 student



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-Tharani, Primary School Teacher, PUPS Anakaputhur



Creating child-centric learning spaces

Does the idea of students taking charge of their education feel exciting? UNICEF's Activity Based Learning (ABL) is empowering students to own their learning process.

One of the Indian states that has adopted Activity Based Learning (ABL) is Madhya Pradesh. The aim of the program is to create a childfriendly learning environment that allows children to learn at their own pace and acquire learning competencies through a series of activities.

The ABL curriculum is divided into 20 milestones for each subject area, which include Languages, Environmental Studies, Mathematics, and English. Each milestone represents a collection of activities a child should acquire to develop their learning competencies. For example, in the Language subject area, a milestone may include activities such as storytelling, role-playing, or reading aloud.

Further, it also allows children to evaluate their own progress and reinforce their learning in a child-friendly way. The milestones are arranged on a common chart in the form of a ladder. This chart is stuck in their classroom under each name as per the attendance, allowing children to know exactly which milestone they completed in the last lesson. This approach not only enables children to track their progress but also promotes a sense of accomplishment and motivation to move forward.

This shift from a teacher-centric to a child-centric approach allows for a more personalized learning experience and promotes active student engagement. Children are encouraged to explore, experiment and think critically, which helps develop their problem-solving and decision-making skills

-Tharani, P S Umasree Education and Child Protection Specialist, UNICEF-Madhya Pradesh.









Unleashing the Warrior Within: Puducherry's Self-Defense Training for Girls. Self-Defense training Initiative by Samagra Shiksha, Puducherry

Are you aware of the self-defense training program that is taking place in Puducherry?

Self defense training program is a series of training sessions designed to teach girls how to protect themselves from physical harm or violence. The training includes techniques like situational awareness, physical fitness, conflict resolution, and self-defense techniques like strikes, blocks, and throws.



Gender-based violence is a serious problem that continues to affect millions of girls worldwide. Adolescent girls in India are particularly vulnerable to this type of violence, which threatens their growth, development, education, and health. But the good news is that the Samagra Shiksha Puducherry scheme is providing self-defense training for girl students from class VI to XII comprising 158 government schools of Pondicherry and certificates were issued after the completion of three months training.

The girls are trained to use everyday items such as key chains, dupattas, stoles, mufflers, bags, pens/pencils, notebooks, etc., as weapons of opportunity/improvised self-defense weapons to their advantage. After three months of training, a demonstration of self-defense skills was conducted in the school assembly as an exhibition of the trainees' achievements.

The self-defense training activities organized by the Samagra Shiksha Puducherry were closely monitored and observed by Ms. M. Helen Rani, the program coordinator. She was impressed by the enthusiasm and courage displayed by the girls who had participated in the training. She noted that the girls had effectively utilized the training they received to empower themselves and feel more confident in their abilities to handle potentially dangerous situations. The efforts of the trainers and organizers of the program were appreciated and emphasized the importance of such initiatives in ensuring the safety and security of girls.

"The braveness while using Dupatta as a weapon is just amusing and am very happy to see girls couragely participating in the training program"

- Ms. M.Helen Rani, Co-ordinator,Self defense program,Puducherry.







Issuing certificates for completion of training by Co ordinator

Glances from Self defense trainings for class 6 girls