

REPORT

CREATING A CHILDREN'S LIBRARY

KANDUNI VILLAGE, DISTRICT SITAPUR, LUCKNOW (U.P.), INDIA

FROM- 14th – 16th MARCH 2019



SPONSORED BY:

IBBY YAMADA FUND



ASSOCIATION OF WRITERS & ILLUSTRATORS FOR CHILDREN (AWIC)

and

SOCIAL ACTION FOR WELFARE & CULTURAL ADVANCEMENT (SWACA)

Creating a Children's Library

Kanduni Village, Sitapur District, Lucknow

(U.P.) India

A team of four members, Indira Bagchi, Ira Saxena, Vibala Rastogi and Pratibha Majumdar, from the Association of Writers and Illustrators (AWIC), went to a far off village of Kanduni, in Sitapur District of Uttar Pradesh, to set up a library under IBBY YA MADA Fund for creating a children's Library. Their partner in the project was the NGO 'Social Action for Welfare & Cultural advancement' (SWACA), which was founded and nurtured by a young and dynamic couple Sharat and Gunjan Chowdhary. This NGO is working for the overall development of this village, educating the women folk of Kanduni and the nearby villages and making them independent and self-reliant.

On day one AWIC members visited Kanduni Village which was one and a half hour's drive from Lucknow. It was a beautiful sight. There were miles and miles of lush green fields where wheat, sugar cane, vegetables and variety of fruits were cultivated. What impressed us most was the installation of solar panels in the middle of the fields, which supplied electricity to all the surrounding villages. They also had a sports stadium for coaching students in a number of games and sports. Eminent sports persons were invited to coach them. Such development in a far off village was a real achievement for SWACA. The program was to be held in the skill management training building of the NGO (SWACA) which was quite spacious.



Building form where SWCA operates. Resource persons from AWIC

AWIC members carried one thousand books for a library where children and young adults will sit and read them. Ira Saxena, Virbala Rastogi and Indira Bagchi conducted three workshops with the teachers



Ira Saxena introduced the resource persons and gave a brief introduction of the International Board on Books for the Young People (IBBY), and the IBBY YAMADA Fund. She emphasised the fact that IBBY has always been very generous in giving AWIC funds to expand its Library Project by setting up libraries in the remotest areas of India where books have not reached.



Indira Bagchi conducted a workshop on ‘Creating a Library’ in Kanduni Village which will cater for the children of the nearby villages. The participants in the workshop were teachers of schools in the rural area of Sitapur dealing with children of farmers, farmhands and labourers in the local industry and employees in the Block Offices, who had no exposure to the colourful world of children’s books and the facilities of a Library.



After explaining the importance of books in the lives of children and the duty of the teachers to motivate students to read books, she urged the teachers to be role models by reading books. When questioned it was discovered that most of them did not read books regularly. She also explained to them that libraries can be started anywhere e.g. in a class room, under a tree, in the hospital or in a mobile van. The idea is to reach books to those who do not have access to them. They were told how to classify books according to the age group and how to display them in the library. Teachers were asked to co relate the stories with their respective subjects. They could even have class libraries in one corner of the classroom where books could be displayed in an open shelf and children would have free access to the books. She then discussed the various activities which could help in getting children interested in reading books e.g. Storytelling, creative writing, story acting and illustrating. An idea about mobile libraries was also discussed. After the instructions and procedure for setting up a children's library were discussed, guidance was given about managing it. Role of the Librarian was highlighted. The participants were given a handout with instructions on how to set up a library and how to motivate children to read books. The response of the participants was quite encouraging.

The second workshop was taken by Ira Saxena on Book Therapy. The concept of Book Therapy, apparently new to the gathering, aroused considerable interest among the mature and earnest audience. The approach to the subject began in a simple chatty manner in the local language Hindi, gradually intercepted by increased number of technical terms and simple expressions in English retaining the flow of a dialogue. The concept of healing disturbed children through storytelling and giving them attractive books was understood and accepted easily. When there was a mention of stress and traumas the group became seriously involved as they started interacting eagerly. Many in the audience related their individual experiences in discovering a disturbed pupil in their class. The presentation remained distant from a bookish approach to the subject, rather Book Therapy was defined with a practical approach which could enable the tutors with a sensitive method to handle a troubled pupil. The group felt inspired to read children's books themselves since some of them had never considered reading story books as a means to enhance their knowledge and teaching capability.



A hand-out circulated among the participants was specially prepared for this workshop to reinforce the procedures and benefits drawn from the Books.

Next workshop was conducted by Virbala Rastogi who has been working with special children and counselling the teachers who handle the differently able children, for a long time. Since now Governments policy is to include special children in the main stream, it is mandatory for the teachers to know how to handle these children. They have to know that these children can develop their other senses which can be utilized in educating them.



Teachers should not pity them, but support them to have confidence in themselves, provide them such an environment where they feel safe and encouraged. The role of the teachers and parents of physically and mentally challenged, visually and hearing impaired children, is vital. Every child needs love from the parents and teachers. Those who get affection can achieve a lot in life. Virbala sensitized the teachers to use books to clear the concept of children and as well as to provide them knowledge, to improve their language ability and to promote the reading habit. It will not only educate them but will give them mental strength, confidence and dignity but also inculcate in them the feeling that they are as good as the main stream children.

Participating teachers were impressed by the workshop and made enquiries regarding government schemes for special children and also the organizations facilitating them. They were informed about “Right to Education and Inclusive System of Education.”

Next day interesting and interactive storytelling sessions kept the children enthralled. There were about two hundred students - boys and girls of all age groups, well dressed in their school uniforms, came from far off villages to attend the storytelling session. Pratibha Majumdar first told them a story with the props and then taught them how to draw illustrations with numbers. Children enjoyed the story and drew the illustrations with apt attention.



Storytelling Session



Pratibha Majumdar Teaching illustrations with numbers.



Storytelling by Pratibha Majumdar



Storytelling by Virbala Rastogi

Feedback by teachers participating in the workshop.

KASTHAN TRIPATHI (English Teacher)
 (AWIC - Sitapur)
 आज दिनांक 15/3/2019 को सितापुर, उत्तर प्रदेश में आयोजित एक कार्यक्रम (कार्यशाला) की पर-
 वर उपस्थित होकर मैंने बहुत ही अच्छे से
 को अपने ही शब्दों, मुझ, एवं बच्चों
 के लिए बहुत ही महत्वपूर्ण बातें
 में सभी अपने अपने तरीके से समझकर
 बातें हैं। और, सभी बच्चों के दिमाग में
 में एक नया अंश बनने का प्रयास करनी।
 मुझे
 मुझे बहुत ही अच्छे से समझने
 और समझने का प्रयास किया।
 Today a new library has been set
 up by AWIC. The visit helped us to get
 knowledge about the development of children. I
 am thankful to the visiting teachers
 for giving a platform to them to share
 their own experiences in an area.

राजशंकर शर्मा
 श्री अ-महात्मा लाल देवी शरण आरंभ
 कठनी तबिसवी (सीतापुर)
 भेष्य- हम सभी लोगों ने आज के दिनों
 को अपना भीत भाषके हाल बहापीकर
 ताली से हमारा समझने दुसा की
 फिल जफार बहापी के काम को भी
 अ हमका बापीरि, मातासिक, व जेसिकर
 वि काव रिमा जा सखा है। उन बहने
 को बहने दिन जफार बापीरि फफर
 अपने आप लोकासभी बन सखे हैं। उसे
 कार्य में उन बहने पर बहुत बड़ा योगदान
 है।
 धन्यवाद।

Name: Kast Tripathi
 My name is Kast Tripathi
 I am a soft skill and
 English teacher.
 Today I learned for the
 program to increase
 the reading book to child
 and also know the
 situation of disabled child
 we also know how we
 teach the disabled student
 in the help of sign
 language. We read some
 interesting books that they
 give a unique message.
 In the last we all say
 "Book are the mirror of present
 time."
 Kast Tripathi

My name is Nirmal Kumar. I am a lead trainer in DDU-GKY Kandhari Bikaner, Rajasthan (Raj). Today I attend the session based on library of books. Overall session was very good and I learnt many new things here. Now, I can do something better for children for improving their future & knowledge.

Thanking you
Nirmal Kumar

My name is Abhinav Tewari. I am a lead side assistant trainer in DDU-GKY in Kandhari, Dist. - Bikaner.

Today's Experience:- Today, I know about some interesting facts related to our books. I learn that how our books help for the student to a teacher also to cope up in their critical situation of life. Books help to solve our problems & provide strength. Books also give us inspiration that how we can live our life in an easy way & will be successful for AWC.

Name: Ashish Badap Singh
Designation: English core soft skill teacher
V.O. DDU-GKY, Kandhari

Feedback:- We have learned from this conference that books play an important role in the life of children to motivate them. Library involvement is necessary in their life. We must start motivate all children for reading books and inspired with them.

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(U.P.) India

14 - 16 March 2019

Income & Expenditure

Income: Rs.3,52,841.00

Expenditure

S.N	Particulars	Amount in Rs.
1.	Books	1,00,000.00
2.	AWIC Display Board	1,000.00
3.	Stationary	10,000.00
4.	Air Fare for 4 Resource persons	29,128.00
5.	Honorarium for 4 person for three days	60,000.00
6.	Hospitality for 4 resource person	40,000.00
7.	Taxi Fare	6,000.00
8.	Conveyance to teachers at Sitapur	10,000.00
9.	Refreshment for participants	20,000.00
10.	Miscellaneous	5,750.00
11.	Administrative Cost	66,000.00
12.	Cartage	10,000.00
	Total	3,57,878.00