

NEWSLETTER
OCTOBER '21 TO MARCH '22





DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

2021 has been a year full of ups and downs, while it begins with the second wave of Covid- 19, we all eventually found our ways of coping with the new normal. There are numerous things that we learnt during the year: patience, flexibility and the adaptability to change.

Prolonged school closures, lack of outdoor activities has impacted the psychological well-being of the children. At this stage, when the schools are reopening, it is important to focus not just on their holistic development but also on their socio-emotional well-being. The learning gap over the past two years is a new challenge for all of us, which we will need to address through our continuous efforts of the ground.

Going back to school, meeting their peers and teachers and studying in the learning conducive environment of the school will definitely help children to cope up and make them more centered. We have significantly scaled up our work to assist children in terms of their overall development.

We begin the year with a sense of optimism and hope to reach out to more children across the nation to spread joy & happiness.

Vidyun Goel
Director
The Toy Bank

REACH AND TEACH PROGRAM

Schools are shut for almost two academic years. Lack of resources like digital devices and access to the internet added to financial restraints of parents. This has further led to reduction in quality of education in grassroot levels. The work being done in the field of education had to be accelerated to repair the damage caused by the pandemic. At The Toy Bank, The Reach and Teach Program was launched to provide continuous educational support during the pandemic. In this program, the students receive

- DIY Activity-based learning kits & toys
- E-learning activity worksheets
- Guiding videos & audios

ACTIVITY KITS DISTRIBUTION HELD AT MUNICIPAL SCHOOLS OF DELHI

To increase the accessibility of art and craft material, educational and learning aids such as bricks intelligence, rubrics cube, DIY kits and stationery items, as part of Reach and Teach Program, The Toy Bank distributed Activity Based Learning Kits to the students of class Nursery to V. In the last two quarters, more than 2000 Activity kits were distributed in South Municipal Schools of Delhi.

Age-graded Activity kits are created to foster the learning and creativity of the students while they are learning from home.

We have received positive responses from the school teachers as well as parents. According to the school teachers, the activity kits emphasize on learning through play which is a more impactful way of learning.

Ms. Shikha, Guardian of Mithul, (Class Nursery) stated that the material provided in the kit has help the student in improving the basic arithmetic skills, colours' name and understanding of textures as well as improving their creativity skills.



E-LEARNING ENGAGING WORKSHEETS

Technology has played a major role in bringing learners and educators together to continue the learning process. To ensure the usage of activity kits, E-learning worksheets are created and shared with the students which involve experiential learning i.e. learning while doing. Since most of the students are first-generation learners, the guiding videos & audios shared with the E-learning worksheets are composed in easy-to-understand language so that each child can understand the concept effortlessly. The material provided in the activity kits allows The Toy Bank team to conduct online sessions with the students which enhance their language, numeracy, environmental awareness & life skills. This program also focuses on the emotional and social well-being which was severely affected throughout the pandemic.

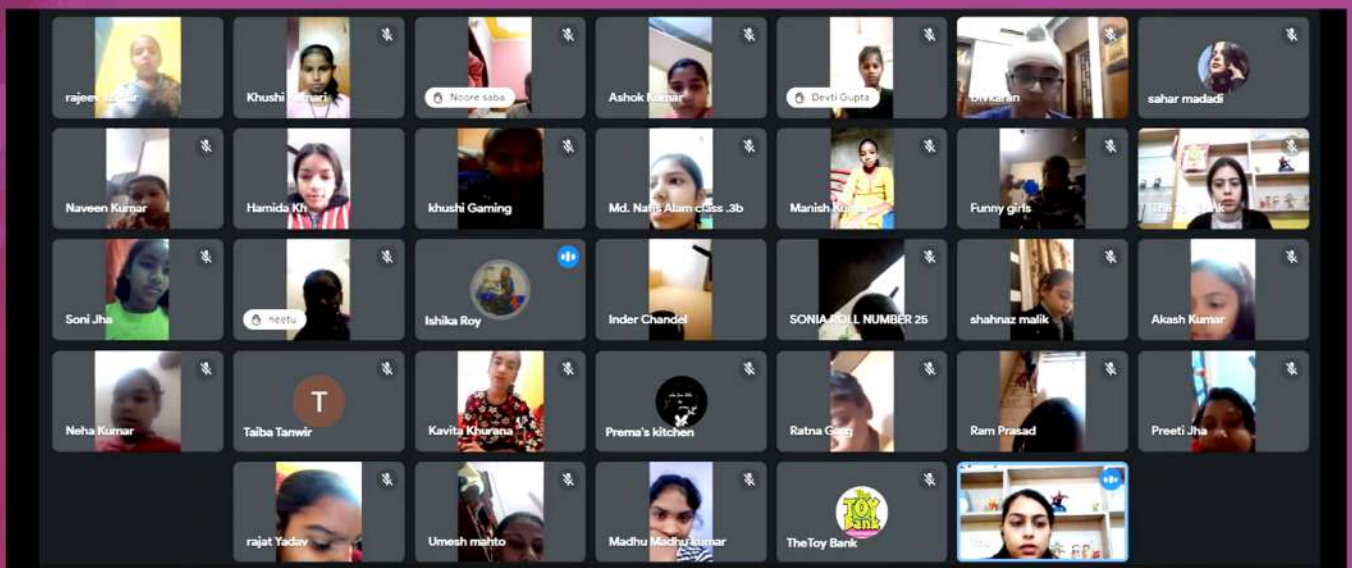
In the last academic year, more than 1000 worksheets were shared with the students studying in classes Nursery to fifth



SHOE4TWO CAMPAIGN

Shoe kit distribution was also conducted for fifth grade in SDMC Malviya Nagar which was led by The Toy Bank and supported by The Toy Bank volunteer Divkaran Singh. This shoe kit was personalized as per the shoe size for each student with a module on Self-expression, poster colours, paint brushes and glitters.

An online session on “Shoe4You” was conducted with the students of the fifth grade. The Toy Bank volunteer hosted the session on Self-expression and how it affects us as an individual. To conclude the session, students were asked to design their white canvas shoes as per their choice. The students thoroughly enjoyed the session and participated in it with enthusiasm and joy.



TOY KITS DISTRIBUTION IN NORTH DELHI MUNICIPAL SCHOOL

On March 9, 2022, The Toy Bank got a chance to be a part of the inaugural event of Charati Lal Goel Nigam Pratibha Vidyalaya, Civil Lines, New Delhi. Union Minister, Shri Piyush Goel inaugurated the school. He also talked about the contribution of The Toy Bank and how it has impacted several children throughout the country by spreading smiles and joy in form of toys. This inaugural event was followed by the distribution of activity kits benefiting more than 305 students of classes Nursery to fifth.



VIRTUAL CELEBRATION OF FESTIVALS

DUSSEHRA



DIWALI



CHRISTMAS



NEWYEAR 2022



REPUBLIC DAY



SPREADING JOY IN LEARNING CENTER AT GURGAON

The Toy Bank in collaboration with the Agrasar Ngo in Gurgaon created a Toy library in Sikanderpur learning center that caters to the needs of children from the underprivileged group who are unable to attend the school due to multiple reasons. This toy library has impacted more than 170 children in the age group of 5 to 13 years. This toy library is equipped with different types of educational and leisure toys which will help to bridge the gap between the privileged and underprivileged children and also will help in the holistic development of the children.

After a successful collaboration with the Agrasar NGO, The Toy Bank has been asked to create multiple toy libraries in their other learning centres as well.



STORY OF CHANGE

STUDYING TOGETHER.... LEARNING TOGETHER

The children were forced to remain confined to their homes by the Covid- 19. Throughout the pandemic days, The Toy Bank did not lose contact with any of their students. Through the Reach & Teach Program.

Recently, the playroom in charge was overwhelmed to meet few students from the SDMC school in RK Puram. The students were enthusiastic & recounted their experience of spending time at home with family & friends.

Rohit and Saloni, both in fourth grade, reside in the same neighbourhood. They spend most of their time together and play together. Both students had shared the experience of studying and playing together. Saloni and Rohit are students who are first-generation learners. A few months ago, they received their activity-based learning kits. The characteristics of the two children are vastly different. Saloni is a very happy and jolly child, while Rohit is reserved.

Saloni's mother, Mrs. Arti, expressed that Saloni missed her school, particularly the Safe Playroom visits. Saloni would tell them about her play sessions every day after returning home from school. Her mother also expressed her gratitude for the activity kit, saying that it assisted her children in studying at home. Saloni learned to write her name & improved her English and Hindi vocabulary while using the material given in the activity kits. Saloni was unwittingly learning while playing.

Saloni shared, मुझे टॉय रूम में खेलना बहुत पसंद था। जब हमें एक्टिविटी किट मिली मुझे लगा जैसे मैं फिर से पहले की तरह घर पर खेल सकती हूँ। मैंने दीदी और अपने दोस्त रोहित के साथ मिलकर ड्रीम कैचर बनाया था जो मम्मी को बहुत पसंद आया था। इस बार मैंने नए साल के लिए कैलेंडर भी बनाया था। मैंने रंगों के नाम, आकर के नाम, जोड़ना, घटाना सब कुछ बहुत आसानी से खेल - खेल में सीख लिया। जो वर्कशीट और वीडियो आती थी उनकी मदद से काफी कुछ सीख लिया है। अब मैं अपने दोस्तों की भी मदद करती हूँ।

As Rohit used to spend the maximum of his time with Saloni and her circle of relatives, Saloni shared that she has seen a positive change in Rohit's nature. Rohit has started asking questions that include what's the meaning of a selected word. He has also started showing interest in art and craft activities.

Seeing such an overwhelming response from the parents and children, motivate us to continue our work at a larger scale. Reach & Teach program has not only impacted these children but has also impacted us as an organization that learned to change as per the needs of the hour.



COLLECTION DRIVES

- **PLADIS** conducted a corporate collection drive on the festival Diwali to celebrate the joy of giving.
- **PATHWAYS SCHOOL, NOIDA** conducted a Toy donation drive on the occasion of Christmas.
- **MANNAT**, one of our volunteers, during the second wave of Covid- 19 when all of us were confined in our home to be safe & healthy, she was actively engaged in toy collection drives in which she was able to collect & donate more than 1500 toys. According to Mannat, during her childhood, she had all kinds of toys which made her childhood days the most memorable time of her life. But some children don't have the privilege of having such memorable childhood. Toys not only help to add the fun element but also help in the child's development.





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