

Access Times

A quarterly newsletter by Pratham for the English Access Microscholarship Program



"We are happy that Saliya – our daughter is selected in Access. She tries to talk in English at home. I feel happy that Saliya signed in English while opening her bank account for school scholarship."

Saira Banu, Saliya's mother

From the Editor's desk

The purpose of the English Access Microscholarship Program is to make the study of English more accessible to adolescents - providing opportunities to acquire sufficient English skills for further studies. Student achievements at the end of the program are recognized through award certificates by representatives of the US State Department.

It is heartening to see the schools and students expressing satisfaction with the relevance of the program to their educational development. Access students have been sharing their knowledge from the Access Classes with their parents, siblings and peers and we hope that this newsletter becomes a good medium for them to express and share about their experiences. The Pratham Access teachers are the linchpin to deliver quality instruction and to create a student centered classroom environment

We enjoy opportunities for cross-learning between teachers and other Access programs, with a clear focus of enhancing English language skills, developing and stronger critical thinking skills to boost their personal growth and development.

Ms. Renu Seth

"As always Pratham Access Gujarat family started the program with a bang. Students are made to realise the importance and intensity of the program time and again with various language activities and enhancements. A good start is work half done."



Amit Karandikar
Teacher
Access Program

"Access is making learning accessible to whom it's out of reach. And being in the team is the double bliss, enriching the self and showing the way to success, the Access way."



Renu Tewari
Teacher
Access Program



The last three months have been reeling with activities and fun. Here are some highlights:



Feedback on the Access Facebook page, by one of the students.



Celebrating the Festival of Lights
FD High School, Juhapura

A visit to Kids City, Maninagar, Ahmedabad was organized on 11th October 2014, for all Access Students of batch 2014-16 as a part of enhancement activity in the 2-year cycle. Kids City is a huge campus made to encourage general education through entertainment for young children which gives them an opportunity to understand how things work in day-to-day lives around them.

World Tourism day: was celebrated at FD High School, Juhapura, by playing an audio file for the students followed an activity done with the help of 'mingle- technique 'using 'fill ups worksheet' and 'Students Survey Sheet'.



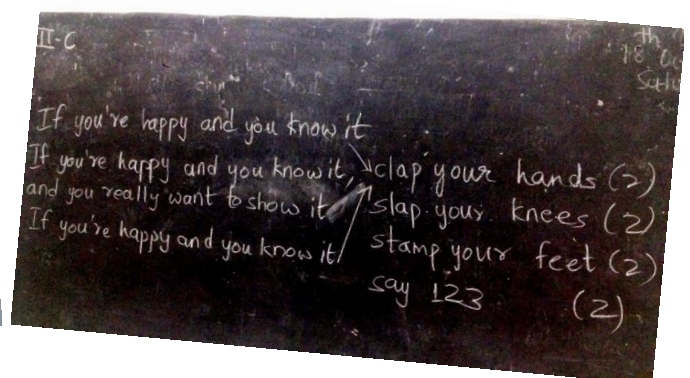
World Literacy day: Pratham's program - Pratham Books celebrate the Champions event where volunteers across the country unite and do the story telling session with children. We merged this with Access class and did 'Takloo the salt seller' story telling activity in our style like playing audio, telling stories in English, poster making etc. Children made charts and wrote paragraphs about the story.

Columbus Day: was celebrated in a class by playing a video and the students got to know about the history of Columbus Day.

Enjoying American Music: Listening to music and getting exposure to English songs: 'Happy song', 'Peace song', 'Over the river and through the woods' are the new songs that the students enjoyed.

Banking Services: Children learnt about Banking services – how to open an account, what are cheques – how are they used, and also how to deposit and how to withdraw money from a bank.

Newspaper activity: Students make their own newspaper by sticking the newspaper cuttings in there notebook in relevant columns like sports, entertainment, etc. The activity creates interest in students to look for their favourite news and make their own newspaper the way they want it to be!





Class Curriculum highlights

Learning through audio, conversations, snapshots and reading is the key for a fun filled classroom session in the Access Centres. In the past three months, children have been introduced to

- Conversation through role-playing, word power and many more similar activities.
- They learnt about various objects (pronouncing them, spelling them, the plural forms, etc.) along with their appropriate usage in a sentence.
- Knowing the world and where we come from was also an interesting session that the children enjoyed. They got to know about various countries, cities around the world.
- Children learnt how to decipher the difference between appearances and personalities, through various interactive activities.
- Knowing the clothes one wears in different climatic conditions. Through clothes they also learnt correct pronunciation of various colours.

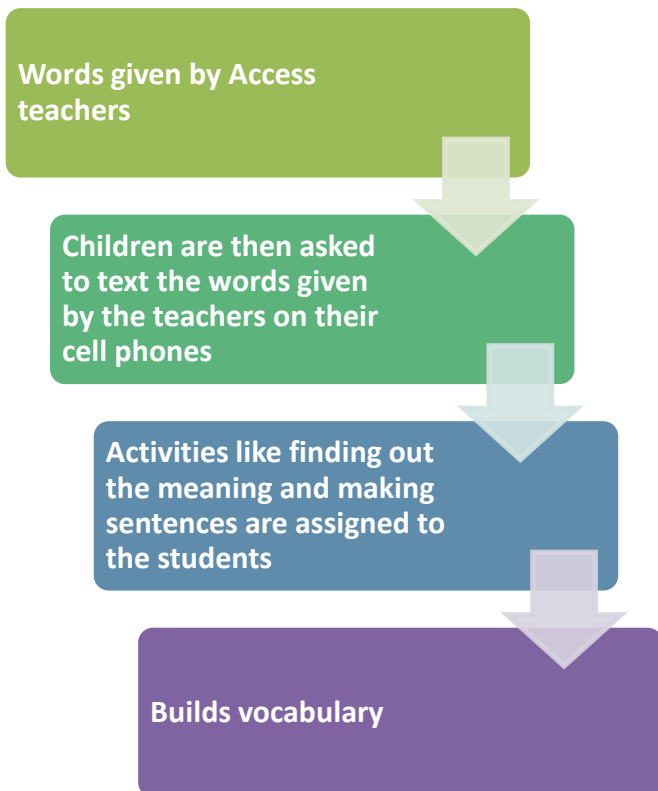


Vocabulary Cards prepared by the students



Fun learning activities initiated:

We here at Pratham continuously strive to initiate new, interesting and fun activity for the children and also making the learning process more interactive, participatory and enjoyable.



A Facebook page has been setup to connect with all the present students, Alumni's, Access teachers, well-wishers and also other Access groups around the world. <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Pratham-English-Access-Gujarat/>

The concept of 'vocabulary cards' has been introduced at all the Access Centres. Beautiful cards are prepared and preserved by each student in their respective vocabulary card holder.

Did you know that there are nine different traditional dresses for women in Kashmir?





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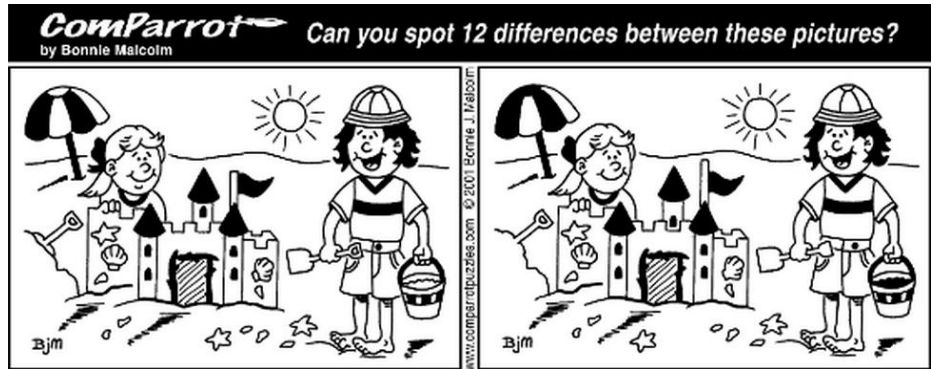
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Facebook link:

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Pratham-English-Access-Gujarat/1506176032962383?ref=hl>









Fun Corner



Find the words in the grid

Name: _____ Date: _____

red		d	e	v	o	l	g
ham		r	e	d	p	h	k
coat		q	c	h	z	j	c
glove		p	o	a	a	f	o
block		v	a	m	m	n	l
fox		q	t	f	o	x	b



We welcome contributions in the form of paintings, poems, jokes and other fun learning snippets for Access Times from our eager, earnest, energetic students and teachers.