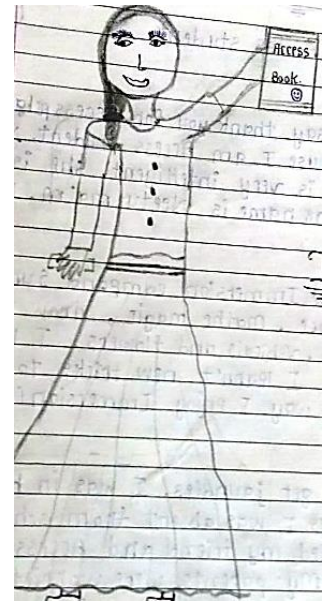


Access Times

A quarterly newsletter by Pratham for the English Access Micro-scholarship Program



Discovering together is so much fun – computer based learning



From the Editor's desk

Dear Children,

By the time you get this newsletter in your hands, final exams may be round the corner- here's wishing you happy preparation and confidence as you write your exams. Give yourself the best chance with some of these tips

- 1) Explain your answers to others- Explain an answer to a parent, brother or sister. This will help you get it clear in your head, and also highlight areas where you need to work.
- 2) With your study schedule, also plan regular breaks.
- 3) Get together with friends for a study session if possible.
- 4) Snack on 'brain food' – stay away from junk food.
- 5) Plan your exam day – Get everything ready well ahead of the exam – don't leave it to just the day before'
- 6) Drink plenty of water. Good luck!

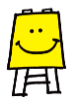
The last six months has seen much activity in the Access English Program –and this issue of Access Time is going to tell all about this period – the exposure trips, speaking and communicating in English, creative writing, and preparing for the upcoming competitions. We at Pratham were most excited to receive emails from Access Students – their first ever emails. Let them keep coming – we love to hear from you! A continued and genuine thank you for our Access Teachers *“Every human being has a personal legend to be fulfilled, and this is our reason for being in the world. This personal legend manifests itself in our enthusiasm for the task.”* Paulo Coelho

Keep well and let's look forward to great summer activities!

Ms. Renu Seth



Understanding wildlife: Sundarvan Park



Learning through fun activities

Language practice through games: Board Games

As much fun as it sounds, learning through such activities is not only exciting but is equally meaningful, as children are able to retain more. About the game - It is similar to a snakes and ladder game. Students are the players and throw dice on the board (filled with different topics) and move ahead by doing whatever is written at that particular position on the board. Topics like – which is your favorite sweet, your favorite place to spend the day, pick the odd one out from the group, etc. This improves spontaneity response, boosts their confidence and transforms the classroom into a fun place reverberating with laughter and applause. This is also an effective method for teachers to gauge how much a child is grasping through his/her participation.

Enjoying the board game



Building vocabulary through Vocabulary Cards:

Students are still enjoying and learning through the vocabulary card activity which was started last year. Students write new words they come across, using the vocabulary cards (including words sent via SMS on their cell phones). Students then look for the meaning of that word in a dictionary or other reference materials, write it on a card and preserve it in their own Vocabulary card boxes. Students have made beautiful storage boxes to keep their vocabulary cards in. The amazing collection of card boxes also works as a handy dictionary. This fun process has helped the children in using the dictionary more often and effectively. Close to 290 words have been sent to the students till date. This translates into the number of words being added into each child's vocabulary. Every now and then students are made to recall the words by using them in sentences in the class room sessions.



Beautiful vocabulary card boxes

Adopt a word:

Another interesting activity started in the class room session is 'Adopt a word'. An activity in which a student adopts a word (given by the teacher/suggested by a fellow classmate/ selected themselves). They then do some research on the word, which involves finding the meaning, using the word in different sentences to showcase the usability. This is all then presented before the class in the following session. For example - a student adopts the word 'Aim'. Meaning: Intension of achieving something. Usage in a sentence: My aim is to score 90% in exam.



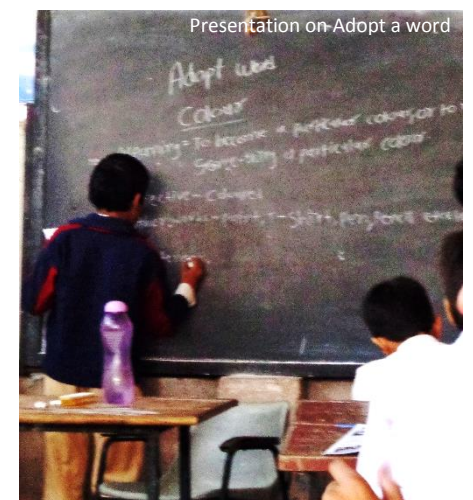
Vocabulary cards

Visitors

RELO visit: The Regional English Office visit, was something the children looked forward to. They enjoyed interacting with Mr Brad Horn, RELO, India, Ms. Rachna Sharma, Access Coordinator, India and Mr Bill Little, RELO, from Washington. Our guests visited the Juhapura Access Centre in December 2015. Students interacted with them confidently and had series of questions for the visitors like- who is your favorite Indian actress? What two things you would not like to do in 2016? Name the places that you have visited in India? Do you like Indians? Mr Brad Horn and others were thoroughly amused and impressed with all that the interaction they had with the children.



RELO Visit



Presentation on Adopt a word



A whatsapp group (a social media platform) has been formed for all the students and teachers of the English Access Program in Ahmedabad. Want to join the group? SMS your name, phone number and centre to 9510370111.



Highlights

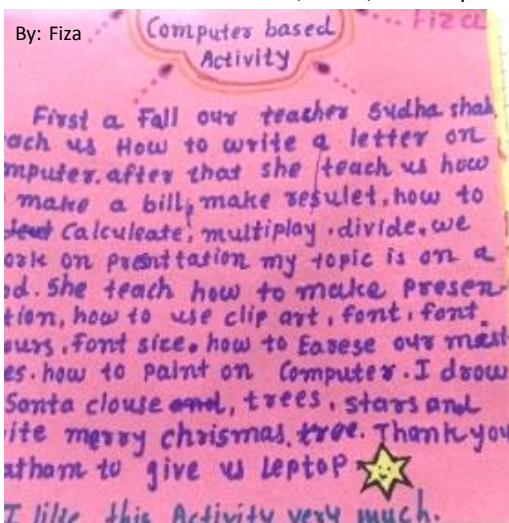
Computer based learning: Children are now being given regular computer exposure. During the computer sessions the students worked on MS word, Excel, Power point presentation (PPT), paint and internet – emailing and Google. Students made presentations using Microsoft Power Point on their class curriculum.



A presentation on healthy v/s junk food



Enjoying the world of computers



My computer learning experience

I didn't know about internet. Me and my friend prepare a mail about visit to Indroda Nature Park and send it to Sanjay sir.

Pathan Farhin Khan, Gayatri School

Enhancement Activities

i) Exposure and learning: AMUL DAIRY

Conducted on 18th October, 2015, it was a thrilling experience for the Access students and teachers when they saw huge milk factory and pasteurizing tanks. They understood the process of pasteurization and its need. Access students were amazed to observe the process of making various by-products of milk like butter, milk powder etc. They also enjoyed solving the crosswords, fill ups, quizzes, singing songs, and arranging the sentences activities, as a part of Pre-While-Post activities.

They learnt the history of AMUL co-operative society (Anand Milk Union Limited) (of how it started, how it works, etc.) by the instructors at the AMUL factory. The learning sessions were in between licking and gulping tasty AMUL ice creams and chocolates.

ii) Exploring nature: A visit to Sundarvan

Conducted on 21st December, 2015, Access students had an exposure visit to Sundarvan nature garden as a part of their enhancement activity. The objective of the visit was to enlighten them with the importance of saving the environment. The Access students learnt about the importance of various species of animals preserved at the Sundarvan. The visit had three components:

- Ice breaker: the students learnt about the web of life through an activity, which involved making connections between different species of animals and their dependence on each other. They learnt a valuable lesson on how loss of a specie can create imbalance in our nature.
- Zoo visit: The students saw different zoo animals like vultures, geese, snakes, ducks, bats, hare, fish etc. The instructors helped the students to understand the functions of different organs of the animals, their habitat and food they eat.
- Snake show: Students were given an understanding on the different types of snakes venomous and non- venomous and on how to cure and prevent a snake bite. The instructor was holding the snakes in his hand to explain, watching this; itself was a thrilling experience for the students.

Additionally the students also did the regular pre-while-post activities which comprised of a solving a crossword puzzle on Sundarvan, knowing some fun facts about zoo animals, questions they wanted to ask the instructor and their key observations of the entire visit.



At Amul Dairy



All smiles – at the Amul Dairy



For how long can you hang like a Bat? – Sundarvan visit



Quiz – at Sundarvan

Life skill sessions: the sessions were conducted by Ms Suchita Raval and Ms Renu Seth. Children learnt some basic skills like: keeping ourselves clean, good manners/ how to greet and be grateful/thankful to people. Basic etiquette were taught along with lessons on valuing oneself, valuing those who love and support, and positive communication. Children found these lessons very helpful, as these are manners and part of good behaviour that they would be using every day.



Engrossed in a life-skill session

Some experiences from 2015

I got admitted in the hospital because of jaundice. I got admit for 8 days. I was absent in school for 1 month. I missed my friends and Access class. I felt very weak. My parents were worried. They prayed every day for my health. So these days I am healthy and happy. I come to school and Access class.

Shaikh Hafsanu, FD Girls High school Jamalpur

We did 2 dramas in Allahnagar community for kindergarten children, gave them erasers, sharpeners and chocolates and sang 'Hum hongey kamiyab'. We took pictures with Renu madam and all other madams. I will never forget this day.

Huma Rahim Patel, FD Girls High school Jamalpur

My happiest moment in 2015 was summer camp because this was my first longest camp. Summer camp is big part of my life. I learnt so much like letter writing and speaking more in English. I made new friends. When I came home, my father was proud of me. My whole family was happy.

Asad Ilyas Shaikh, FD High school, Juhapura

My school teacher speaks in English. I didn't use to understand. I learnt English in Access. So now I understand.

Miran Mirza I, FD High School Juhapura

One day in 2015, I was surprised to hear that we are going for immersion camp.

Amrin Banu Shaikh, FD Girls High school Jamalpur

Things I learnt in Access English Program

Adopt a word, science experiments, quiz, and send e-mail, Readathon- reading books.

Nagma, Gayatri School

I am good at Spell bee and judgment activity. I learnt indirect speech, grammar and sending e-mails.

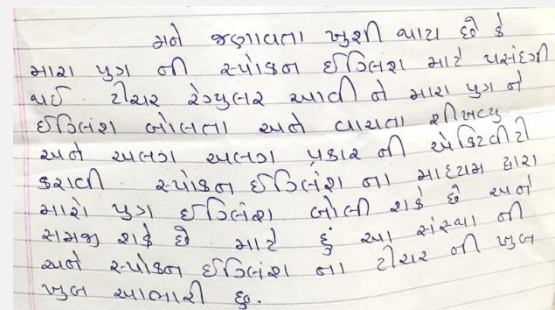
Miran Mirza I, FD High School Juhapura

I learnt good manners.

Vishwajeet Dineshbhai Parmar, Community Class

I learnt grammar and grammar helps me in exam very much. I also learnt how to teach others from 'adopt a word' activity.

Mahera Banu Shaikh



Written by: Mr Firoze Noormahommad Vahora, Aasim's father



Class Curriculum Highlights:

The Access classroom transform the same four walls into a place of learning and not just teaching. It is always a two way conversation in the Access classrooms. Teaching backed by numerous activities within and outside the classrooms make the children as well as the teachers eagerly look forward to these sessions. Ample space for creativity is provided for the students as well as the teachers in the Access classes.

During the period of Sep – Feb 16, Children got to know their classmates better, by enquiring about their birthdays an activity which was fun to do along with learning the months of the year along with its correct pronunciation and also by asking each other what they like to do over the weekend. This involved writing down grammatically correct sentences describing each other's idea of a fun weekend. They also learnt about different holidays celebrated in the United States of America and also did a comparative study on any similar holidays that is celebrated in India. They wrote down their ideas for their next birthday – things they would like to do, places they would like to go, presents they would like to get, etc.



Preparing for spell bee competition

The students are busy preparing for series of competitions to be held in the month of July. Competitions will include – spell bee, dance, skit, quiz, essay writing, storytelling, story writing, singing, maximum vocabulary words, best portfolio, monologue and stand by – comedy. The competitions act as a catalyst by making Access students mingle more with their fellow class mates from various centres and instils confidence, presence of mind, spontaneity and creativity.



The spirit of competition



Learning about 'time'



Lessons on healthy eating – salad making in progress

Laughter therapy

By Aasim Sheikh

Two friends were arranging to meet in garden
 chhotu:- If I reach there first, I'll put a classon the gate.
 motu:- and if I get there first, I'll rub it off

chandru:- father, do you water the bullock when he is thirsty?
 father:- That's right, Chandru
 chandru:- Then I'm going to milk the cat

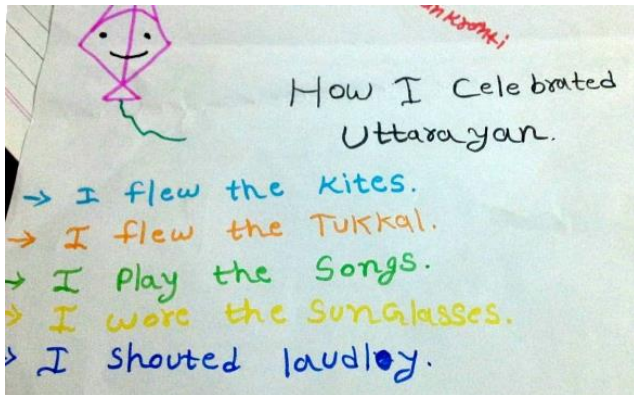


chandru:- I love lost my dog
 champak:- why don't you give an ad in the news paper
 chandru:- Don't be stupid. He can't read.

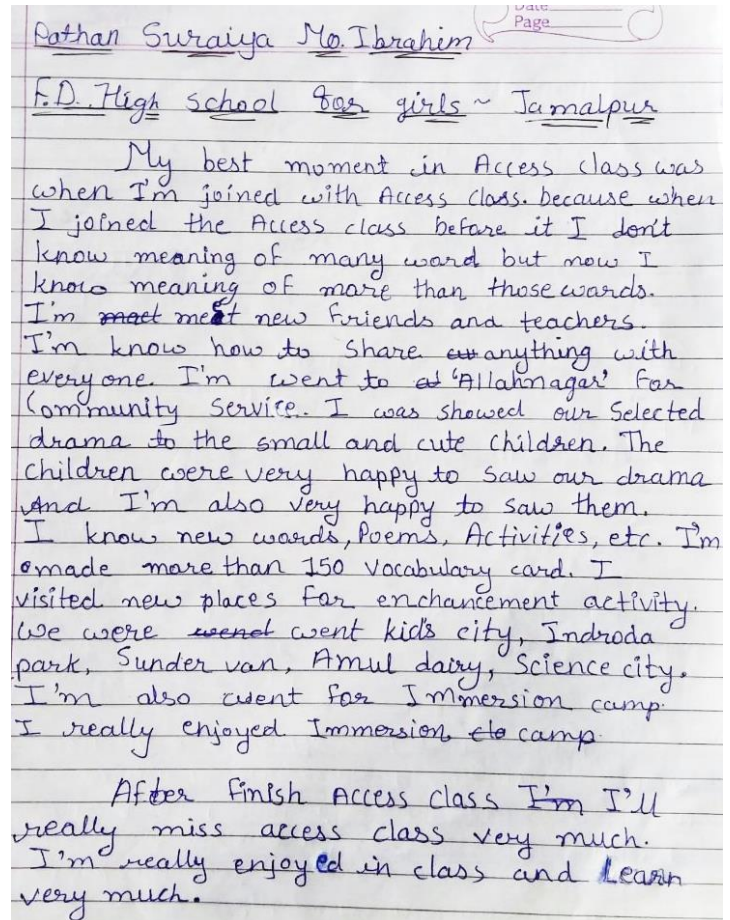


Graffiti

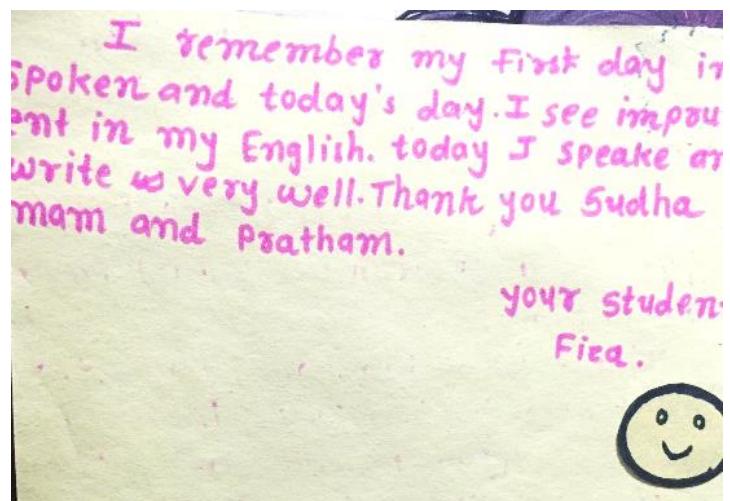
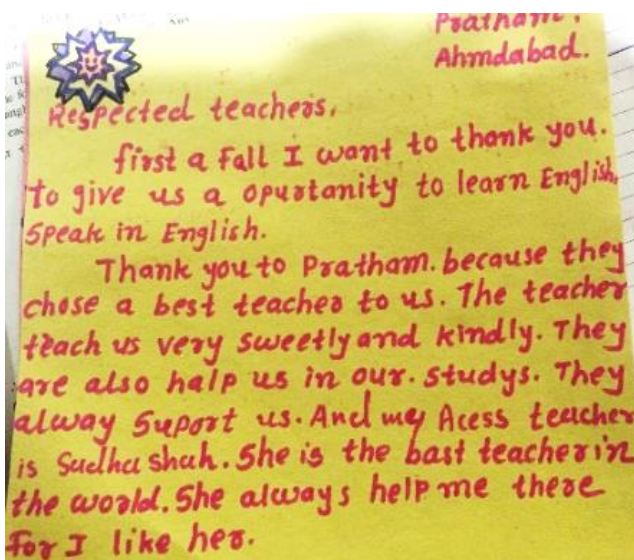
We are excited to share with you this new section in your Access Times - **Graffiti**. This section will consist of contributions from **YOU**, in any form – poems, jokes, drawing, stories... basically anything you want to share will be here. So get your pen and papers ready and write or draw away!



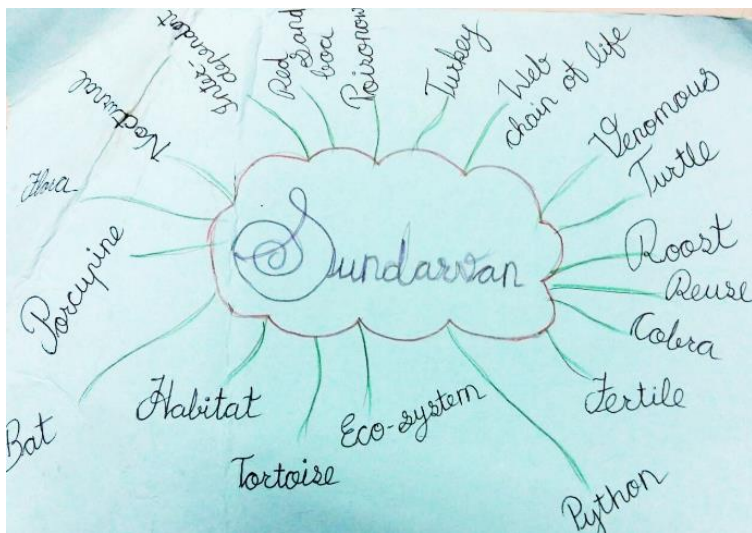
By: Sakhib



By: Pathan Suraiya



By: Fiza



SUN AND MOON BY MAHERA SHAIKH

I Come in day
 I Come in night.
 Who am I?
 Who am I?
 I am a Sun.
 I am a Moon.
 I give brightness.
 I give lightness.
 Who am I?
 Who am I?
 I am a Sun
 I am a Moon.
 I help to grow trees.
 I help to grow Cactus.
 Who am I?
 Who am I?
 I am a Sun.
 I am a Moon
 I am a King of day.
 I am a King of night.
 Who am I?
 Who am I?
 I am a Sun.
 I am a Moon.

Poems:-

*** SUN AND MOON**

*** SUN * And * SUMMER**

- * Sun, sun, sun, oh! I like sun.
Sun is only and only one
- * Sun is very and very bright.
Sun is give us bright light.
- * Sun is very and very hot.
In summer people can't wear coat
- * In summer a sun become strict,
and give us extremely hot heat
- * In winter sun become loose,
and he can't give brightness huge.
- * In winter and monsoon sun take rest,
therefore people say winter is best
- * In summer the weather is so hot,
so they can't go outside a lot.
- * In summer people like coolness,
and people don't like warmth
- * Sun is extremely huge star,
And its heat like war.
- * Sun's rays is very strong,
what can we do for this wrong
- * people like go outside like hill stations
please do something avoid this tentation
- * But one thing that child like most in
summer that I forgot to mention,
and that is this "Summer Vacation."

- Alisha Qureshi

By: Alisha Qureshi

Sun & Moon

This world is amazing
 I love everything

I love Sun and Moon
 Children want to reach there soon

The Sun is too huge
 But the Moon is too cute.

The fairies live on the Moon, is it true?
 I want to go there, give me a clue.

The Sun and Moon are friends,
 Their friendship never ends.

Sun gives energetic hot sunlight
 Moon gives happy cool moonlight.

Planets run round and round
 Stars you just can't count.

The Sun is big fire sphere
 But you don't fear

The moon is white
 Let's fly there kite

Oh! I love love Sun and Moon
 We'll meet soon. ☺

- Mantasha Pathan

By: Mantasha Pathan

'Amit sir not only taught students and me English language but also taught discipline, good behaviour, professional work, GK, punctuality and commitment with principal.'



Jigna Rathod, Pratham Access, Assistant teacher



Fun corner

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* I am lucky my sister chosen in spoken english class.
 * She nows how do put work.
 * In spoken english she learn about presentation
 Thanks to A lot.
 FROM: AFTAB KHAN
 (Mhejebeen's brother)

Odd-one out quiz

Please circle (or underline) the word you think is different. Write down your reason for choosing that word.

For example:

e.g. Mother Brother Friend Daughter

Reason: A friend is not family

1. Boy Female Woman Girl

Reason:

2. Shoe Sandal Glove Boot

Reason:

3. Lake Forest Ocean River

Reason:

4. Seat Wheel Door Oven

Reason:

5. Chair Seat Table Sofa

Reason:

6. Happy Grumpy Joy Excited

Reason:

7. Rice Pork Chicken Beef

Reason:

(Answer in volume 5 of Access Times)

FUn fACTs about India

Many zoologists estimate that there are some 76,000 species of animals in India. The best-known of India's animals are the Indian elephant and the tiger.

Two of India's most impressive animals, the Bengal/Indian Tiger and the Asiatic Elephant are found in most regions of India. Bengal Tiger (fact sheet). Tigers are India's Official National Animal and India's largest cats. Other cats of India include four species of panther--the common leopard; the all-black leopard; the rarely seen albino leopard; and the snow leopard, which is found only in the Himalayas.

Domesticated elephants are often used instead of bulldozers or tractors to build buildings and clear jungle or forest!



Looking forward to hearing from you all for the next issue, until then happy reading!