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Feb 5, 2024

Celebrating Abundance in Collabaction

#Read Aloud Challenge

Let's spread the joy of reading aloud far and wide! Whether it's a classic tale, a personal favorite, or even your own creation - read aloud a story in any language, capture it on video and post it on your social media, this World Read Aloud day (7th Feb). Add your voice and join the challenge! Learn more [here](#).



#Be Her Hero

In rural communities, parenting has traditionally been the domain of women, with men playing secondary roles, if at all. This is even more stark when it comes to daughters. To shift this paradigm, Dharma Life launched the #BeHerHero campaign in selected communities in Bihar, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Uttarakhand, and Uttar Pradesh on World Children's Day (November 20),

Driven by Dharma Life Entrepreneurs (DLEs), women leaders chosen and trained from within the same communities, the campaign aimed to celebrate and nurture the father-daughter relationship through community engagement and using the #BeHerHero app. Fathers were encouraged to express their hopes and aspirations for their daughters, culminating in a community event showcasing children's performances.

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of affection and support for their daughters. Time conflicts due to work and livelihood commitments further limited their involvement.

But the DLEs were not one to give up! Through counselling and leveraging their influence within the community and flexible scheduling of events, they brought in larger participation and a shift in thinking from traditional paternal roles towards a more nurturing and supportive approach.

Sadam Seta from Gujarat enthusiastically expressed "This campaign made me realise that being her hero is also about being there emotionally for her, not just as a provider." Manish from Uttar Pradesh echoed, "I used to think my role was just to earn, but now I understand I can shape her dreams too." This initiative facilitated a platform for emotional expression and emphasised the importance of active paternal involvement in daughters' lives. Through conversations, fathers expressed desires for their daughters' health, safety, academic success, and skill development, reflecting a holistic concern for their well-being.

The #BeHerHero campaign has taken a significant first step towards empowering fathers to play a more active and nurturing role in their daughters' lives. It underscores the transformative potential of targeted community initiatives in altering traditional roles and fostering deeper familial connections. After this successful pilot, Dharma Life plans to scale the campaign across its network of 18,000+ DLEs.

This article is contributed by Dharma life. [Dharma Life](#) is a social enterprise dedicated to poverty alleviation through rural entrepreneurship.



Different worlds

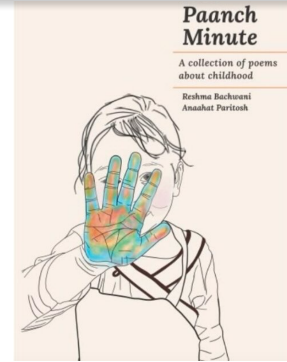
This poem is written from the point of view of a child telling how adults mess up their childhood by Reshma Bachwani.

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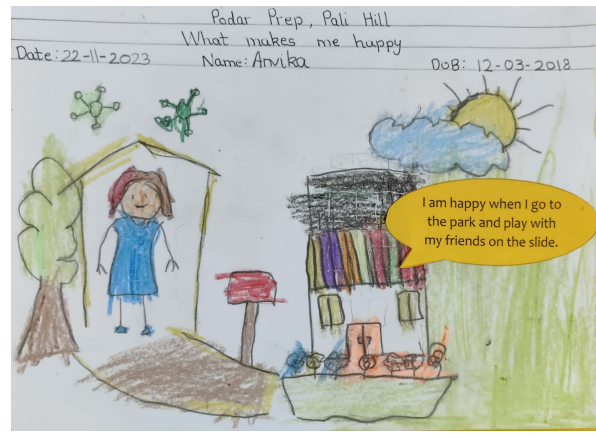
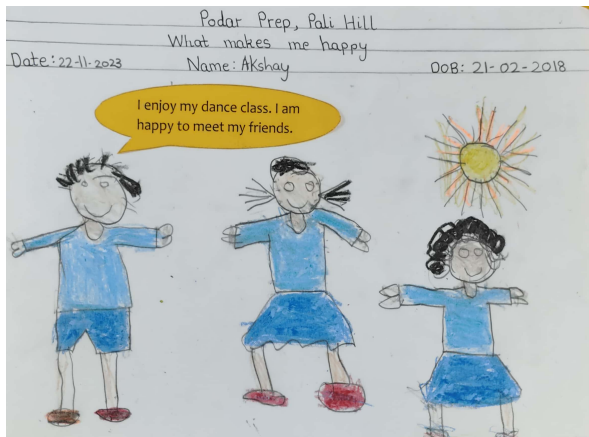
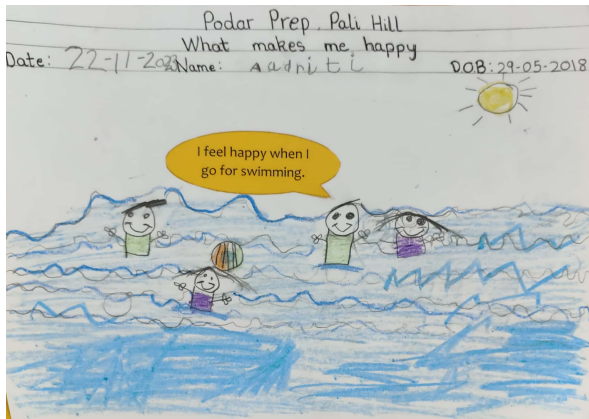
Mine, where possibilities thrive
 You talk of reasons
 Within me, dreams stay alive
 You create boundaries
 I create rainbows and doves
 You speak reality
 I speak love
 You are the past
 Old and jaded
 I am the future
 Fresh as morning dew
 You sap out the spirit from life
 And I am born to help it renew



This poem is part of 'Bas Paanch Minute': a collection of poems about childhood.

Voices of Children

Bookosmia brought alive children's voices through art at the Bangalore Literature Fest last year. Have a look at what the children conjured up for "What makes me happy":

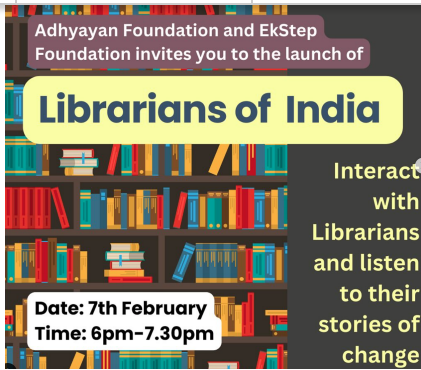


The Bachpan Manao Network at Play

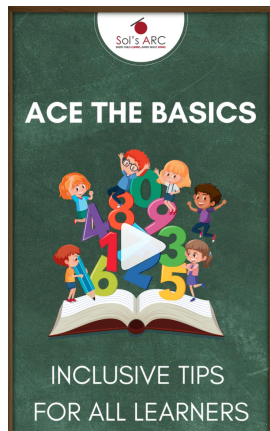
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Special group of librarians across India have created such spaces for children with books across libraries in rural & urban India. Join **Adhyayan Foundation** and **Ekstep Foundation** at the virtual launch of Librarians of India. More details [here](#).



Sol's Arc's inclusive tips for all learners helps children master the art visualising numbers Have a look at the post [here](#).



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