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March 21, 2024

## Celebrating Abundance in Collaboration


### Conjure Up Stories and Ideas with NCERT's E-Jaadui Pitara!

The e-Jaadui Pitara (e-JP), launched by NCERT, is an integration of the latest technology with play-based pedagogy for the early years (3-8 years). It complements the physical Jaadui Pitara and transcends beyond the four walls of the classroom to make learning more fun and interesting!

In alignment with [NEP 2020](#) and [NCF-FS 2022](#), e-JP is an app initially developed for Android users (available on the Play store), complimented by an IVRS interface/toll free no. **18002120173/150** that can be used with feature phones to get story, song, riddle and question of the day. The [website](#) and mobile app are packed with fun and engaging content in multiple languages, including activities, songs, riddles, stories and lullabies. In addition to NCERT content, the app features curated content from collabactors [Pratham](#), [Makkala Jagriti](#), [Kutuki](#), [PlanetRead](#), [Key Education Foundation](#) and [Rocket Learning](#).

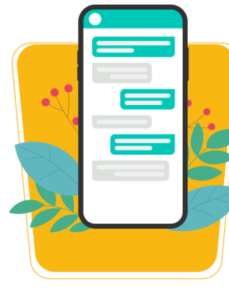
An exciting feature are the three artificial intelligence (AI) powered bots available in 9 regional languages:

- **Katha Sakhi:** your storyteller buddy, bringing contextually relevant Indian themed stories to life
- **Teacher Tara:** A guide for educators offering tips, activities and resources for ages 3-8
- **Parent Tara:** A supportive companion for parents, providing guidance and fun activities to do with the child at home for ages 3-8




**Mobile App**  
Easy to use Mobile App provides quick and convenient access to a diverse variety of content to Parents and Teachers

[Download App](#)



**WhatsApp & Telegram**  
AI powered Bots that give just in time assistance to parents and teachers in engaging with children. Access them on both WhatsApp and Telegram.

[WhatsApp](#) - [Telegram](#)



**IVRS**  
Dial in to the Toll-free number to listen to "Story of the day", "Song of the day" and "Question of the day" in your language.

[18002120173](tel:18002120173)

### The Prompt Challenge

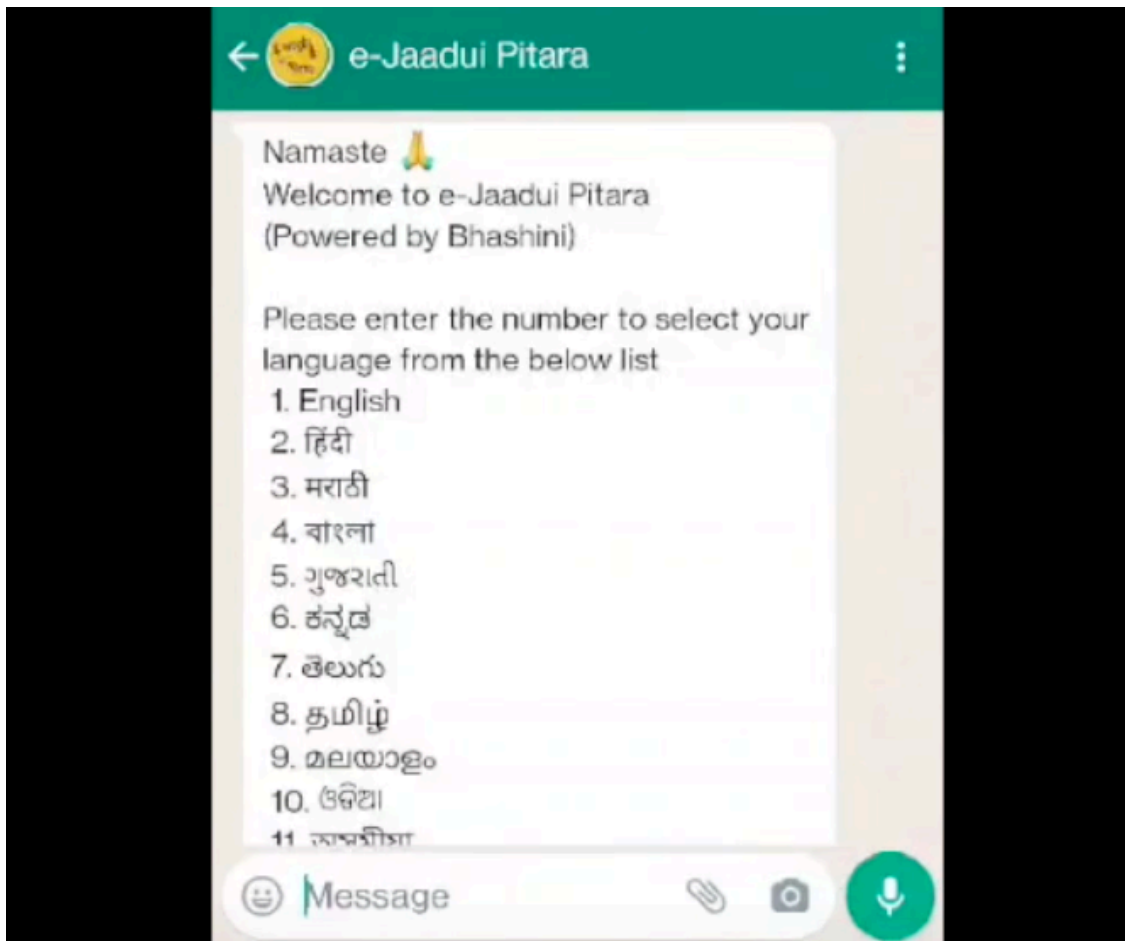
Use the above mentioned AI bots on Whatsapp (through the Whatsapp number **9599961445**) by asking it the most pressing questions/issues in different contexts and languages!

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screenshot of the prompt and responses and additional feedback to [bachpanmanao@gmail.com](mailto:bachpanmanao@gmail.com) or to any of the team members. The top 3 innovative prompts get featured on our next newsletter!

Some prompt examples are:

- **Katha Sakhi:**  
give me a story on honesty with different animals  
give me a story with a child with hearing disability trying to make friends in a new school
- **Teacher Tara:**  
How do I schedule plan for children in grade 2?  
Give me an activity on counting to do with six year olds
- **Parent Tara:**  
What activity can do with my five year old child right now?  
My children are fighting. What do I do?



walkthrough on using the AI chatbots on Whatsapp

## Latika's Wabi Sabi Program Empowers Aarti to Go to School!

Aarti joined Latika Nanhe at the age of four. Diagnosed with Diaplegic Spastic Cerebral Palsy, she was as cute as a button and blessed with a supportive family consisting of her parents (her father is a gardener and her mother a homemaker), a younger brother, grandparents, chacha-chachi and several cousins. But in spite of

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Latika's multi-disciplinary team worked hand-in-hand with her parents to improve Aarti's diet, posture and confidence. The results were remarkable! Aarti began to sit up straight, walk with support and participate happily in games, lessons and other activities at Nanhe. Seeing the transformation in their daughter, her parents' dream was now to send her to a mainstream school.

When everyone on her team (her family, special educator, therapists, and counselor) agreed she was ready, the Wabi-Sabi team started the process of crafting a plan for Aarti to go to school.

Wabi-Sabi is Latika's school inclusion program. The name comes from the Japanese philosophy that sees the beauty in imperfection, recognizing that it is our quirks and differences which make us all so interesting. An inclusion plan for any child begins with a series of conversations with the family to understand exactly what they are looking for in a school. Once a school is selected (in Aarti's case based on affordability, distance from home and overall vibe), the Wabi-Sabi team works closely with the school to ensure that it is prepared to welcome the child and ensure her success.

Sometimes this is effortless; sometimes it requires diplomacy and persuasion, occasionally we may even have to resort to a bit of pressure. Often, given a school's limitations or lack of confidence, compromises must be made. In Aarti's case, the school insisted that her mother attend school too as there was no ayah to take her to the toilet or support her physically. Her mum was so committed to the process that she agreed to this and for the next 18 months she was there at the school premises every day, ready to do whatever was required to further Aarti's education.

Aarti's personality and eagerness to learn makes her popular both with teachers and the other children. She makes friends easily and is not only included in playground games but also invited to birthday parties (a key indicator!). In the last school play, she even bagged the lead role (Naniji)! Her family is so proud of her and amazed by all she has accomplished.

There are still challenges however. School inclusion is in its infancy here in India and many hurdles remain - too many to describe in this short note. One important lesson we have learned, however, bears repeating in any conversation about disability and education: **inclusion happens one child at a time**. While we do have a clear process, a system and a toolkit, each child, each family and each school is different.

The day will surely come when every child's right to education is taken for granted but for now it is *ek step, ek school, ek parivar, ek bacchha* (one family, one kid) at a time.



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This article is contributed by Latika. Latika (formerly Latika Roy Foundation) is a voluntary organization in India working with children and adults with disabilities. It is a resource centre for people with special needs and provides early learning opportunities, livelihoods development, education, training and awareness. They believe that when we plan for the most vulnerable, the world works better for everyone. Their rights-based approach challenges injustice and demonstrates how inclusion works.

## #Spotlight: Renu's Transformative Journey with Pratham's Mother's Groups

Renu, from East Delhi, lives with her sons and parents. She overcame her social anxiety after being a part of Pratham's Mothers' Groups and became more involved in her son's learning journey. Pratham's Mothers' Group supports mothers from communities to come, engage and learn together, so that they can contribute and take responsibility towards their children's learning needs in a better manner. Watch the video to witness her inspiring journey.



This video is contributed by Pratham. Pratham is an NGO working to provide quality education and skilling to the children and youth of India.

## The Bachpan Manao Network at Play



**Papagoya** got featured by UN Women! UN Women supported by the Ford Foundation launched a book called "*Hum: when women lead*" featuring 75 stories of women leadership in India. It chronicles the extraordinary journeys of resilient women across India, each trailblazing a path of transformative change in their communities. Helen Issar, director and founder of Papagoya is part of the anthology. Read more [here](#).



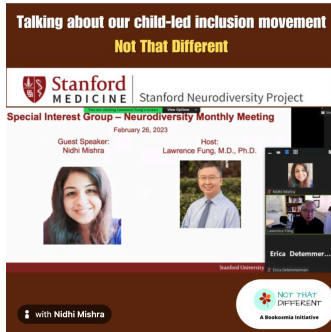
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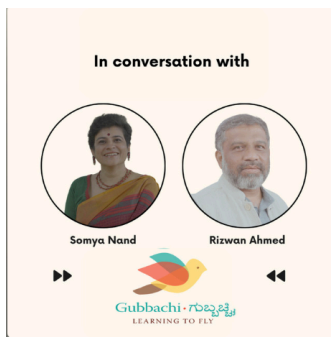
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initiative of building a repository of lullabies in multiple indic languages and it is in full swing! The First Songs Project has received more than 40 lullabies in 8 different languages - Gaddi, Pahadi, Gujarati, Magahi, Tamil, Hindi, Chhatisgarhi, and Bengali! Head over [here](#) to know more and message them [here](#), if you'd like to contribute!



**Bookosmia** spoke at the Stanford Neurodiversity forum about their child-led inclusion movement - [Not that different](#). Nidhi Mishra, founder of Bookosmia talked about their annual Inclusion fest, art for inclusion exhibitions, digital resources from parent journeys and role of partners and parent advocates. Read more about it [here](#).



**Gubbachi Learning Community** co-founders Somya Nand and Rizwan Ahmed discuss "Out-of-school children: What prevents them from accessing schools?" on the Educator's Commune podcast. Find out more [here](#) and listen to the podcast [here](#).



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bachpanmanao@gmail.com

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