

A Letter to Teachers

Dear teachers

Greetings from Shriram Foundation!

With this issue, Chalkboard completes a year of existence. Throughout this journey, we have tried to address your challenges and empower you with thoughts, ideas and suggestions that can make your professional life easier, more exciting and fun. We hope you have found our contribution useful.

In the years to come, we hope to serve you even better through the medium of Chalkboard. To make Chalkboard more useful to you, it is important that we understand how you use the magazine and what you would like to see in it. We look forward to hearing from you. Please do share your feedback and suggestions and help us to serve you better.

Write to us at m100.shriramfdn@gmail.com.

Warm regards
Editor

Merry
Christmas



Wise Words

Here are some proverbs, sayings and quotations from all over the world to inspire you. You may write or display them on your blackboards or notice boards, explain and discuss them with your students.



"When everything seems to be going against you, remember that the airplane takes off against the wind, not with it."

- Henry Ford

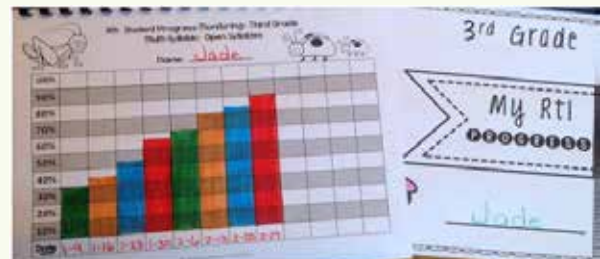


"All our dreams can come true - if we have the courage to pursue them."

- Walt Disney

Teacher Tip

The work of a teacher can be very tiring. Sometimes, you might feel that students are not making any progress. But all you need, is the right way to track progress. One way to do this, is to create charts with graphs for students to monitor their own progress. This makes them aware of their strengths and weaknesses and work on them independently.



In a study between two sets of students, one set of students tracked their own marks and the other did not. It was found that students from the first group showed a 32 percentile growth in their achievement.

Quiz

Monuments of India

As exams end and holidays are round the corner, here's a quiz on the famous monuments in India that children can visit during their vacations:

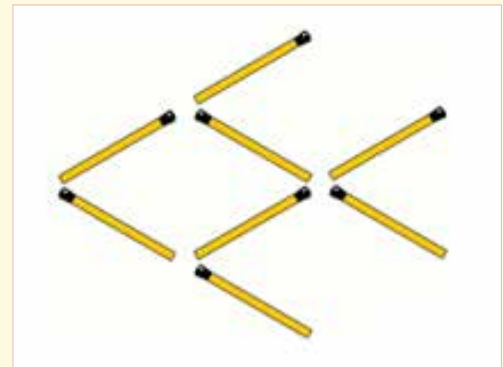
1. Which Indian monument is one of the Seven Wonders of the World?
2. What is the more popular name of 'the palace of the winds' and where is it located?
3. This temple is made of white marble and coated with real gold. It is a religious place for Sikhs. Which temple is this?
4. This famous monument in Hyderabad is in the shape of a perfect square. Name it.
5. Name any 2 Sun temples of India.
6. This historical railway station is the headquarters of the Central Railways. Where is it located?
7. This is the tallest minaret in the world. Not only that, this complex, also had an iron pillar that has not rusted for 2000 years. Which place is it?
8. This monument is built in memory of Indian soldiers who died saving our country. This is the place where the grand Republic Day parade happens every year. Which place is it?
9. This is the oldest stone structure in India. The Ashoka pillar is a part of this monument. Name it.

Puzzle

Matchstick Mania

Turn the Fish

Move exactly three sticks and make the fish to swim in the opposite direction.



Learn Through Games

Once children have an understanding of take away and subtraction, organise a takeaway tournament. You need a big heap of pebbles, stones, beads or large seeds for this tournament.

Divide the class into groups of four children each. Each group plays this game against another group. Place about 50 pebbles/ beads on the ground between the teams. Tell the two groups that each team will take turns to take away 1 or 2 pebbles from the heap. Announce which team will start first. After they take away pebbles, tell them to say how many pebbles remain in the heap now. Then it is the other team's turn. They can also choose whether to take away 1 or 2 pebbles. The winner is the team that can take away the last pebble(s). Therefore the groups will have to work out strategies, planning and problem solving.

Encourage questions and answers;

You had 21 pebbles, you took away 2, how many pebbles are left?

Mental maths:

As the game progresses, check if the children are able to know instantly the number of pebbles to take away, without counting the remaining pebbles.

Primary Mathematics



Exam Tips

With exams round the corner, give children these 10 study tips to make preparation easy for them:

- Planning:** Are children feeling overwhelmed with too much to study? Ask them to plan the study. Let children make a *time-table* of their exam preparation.
- Drawing:** When there are concepts difficult to remember, ask children to make their own drawings about them. When they think of the drawings, they can remember the concepts easily.
- Underlining:** Another method to make learning easier is to first read the textbook fully and then underline important words. These key words can serve as good reminders.
- Taking notes:** Some children learn best by writing. Ask the children to make notes in their own words as they read. Then they will know what they understood and on the day before the exam, they can look back at the notes for revision.
- Making Mind-maps:** This technique is mostly for upper primary and secondary children. When they learn a concept, they can remember it more easily, by making a concept map of the same.
- Flash cards:** Dates or names and places in social studies and other subjects are difficult to remember. In such cases, ask the students to make flashcards with the information.
- Story-telling:** Everyone loves stories. Ask the children to narrate the English or History lesson like a story to their friends.
- Discussions:** Encourage the students to discuss with their friends about what they read.
- Mnemonics:** They are an easy way to a sharp memory. Try this for example:
"The first 10 elements: Hydrogen, Helium, Lithium, Beryllium, Boron, Carbon, Nitrogen, Oxygen, Fluorine, Neon can be learnt with a sentence – Happy Hari Leaves Benz But Catches Nano On Fourth November"*
(*Ref: Menmonics in Science, The progressive teacher, September 2016)
- Become a quiz master:** If there are children who have spent good amount of time mastering the content, ask them to try conducting quizzes for the others in the class. This would be a fun way of learning!



In the News

It is important for children to know what's happening in the world around them. Why not have a morning "News Discussion time" in your classrooms once a week! To start with, you can use these small snippets!

November 5: World Tsunami Awareness Day

On November 5, 2016, World Tsunami Awareness Day was observed for the first time. It was done to spread awareness about Tsunami among people in the world.

On this day, in 1854, a villager in Japan, saved many lives by warning people about the danger of tsunami. He set fire to sheaves of rice on top of a hill to warn people.



India makes it big at Paralympic games:



The Paralympic games are games for differently-abled people. They are similar to Olympics and held once in 4 years. This time, India's paralympic team of 19 members, went to Rio de Janeiro (Brazil, South America) and returned home with two gold medals- Mariyappan Thangavelu (Men's High Jump) and Devendra Jhajharia (Men's Javelin throw), one silver- Deepa Malik (Women's Shotput) and one bronze- Varun Singh Bhati (Men's High Jump), in addition to three fourth place finishes. This is India's best performance at the Paralympics so far.

Creative Corner

The famous cartoonist Walt Disney's birthday falls on December 5th. A fun idea to celebrate his birthday might be to teach some cartooning skills to students. Here's how one can draw his famous cartoon, Mickey mouse in just 6 simple steps!



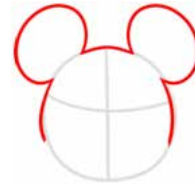
Step 1:

Draw a circle and 2 lines across it as shown in the picture



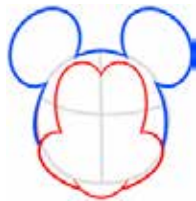
Step 2:

Draw two semi-circles for Mickey Mouse's ears as shown.



Step 3:

Now draw Mickey's face (lines shown in red), with the help of the circle we drew in Step 1



Step 4:

Draw Mickey's eyes as shown in the picture.



Step 5 :

Add details to Mickey's face. Draw the eyes, nose and mouth as shown.



Step 6:

Add final details to Mickey's face. Draw mouth and tongue as shown.



Now your cartoon is ready. Enjoy colouring it and displaying it in the class!



Answers

Quiz

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. Tajmahal | Kumbakonam (Tamil Nadu), Surya Pahar (Assam) |
| 2. Hawa Mahal, Jaipur | 6. Chatrapathi Shivaji terminus – Mumbai |
| 3. Golden temple – Amritsar | 7. Qutub Minar Delhi |
| 4. Charminar | 8. India Gate |
| 5. Any 2 of the following : Konark (Odisha), Modhera (Gujarat), Arasavilli (Andhra Pradesh), Gaya(Bihar), Unao (Madhya Pradesh), | 9. Sanchi Stupa, Madhya Pradesh |

Matchstick Mania

