

ACTIVITY REPORT OF CHILDREN'S RESOURCE CENTRE

APR-SEP 2012

INTRODUCTION

Timbaktu Collective, under its 'Child Rights programme - *Chiguru*' is running a Children's Resource Centre at Chennekothapalli. The aim of this centre is to provide free access to learning and development resources to the children of *Prakruti Badi* and children and youth from villages around, which includes school children, members of *Balala Sanghas* and youth groups.

In the **current year** it is planned to make CRC more accessible and resourceful. CRC would be catering to the needs of the children by providing new trainings along with new resources valuable for the children's development and growth.

OBJECTIVES

The Objectives of the CRC are:

1. To provide a learning space with a variety of resources accessible to the children
2. To create opportunities for children to learn various crafts
3. To create facilities for celebration of events and festivals.

ACTIVITIES DURING APRIL – SEPTEMBER 2012

The activities of the CRC include running a library with more than 10000 books in English and Telugu, a science laboratory, a computer learning facility with 100 educational CDs, an arts and crafts workshop with tools and materials for painting, fabric work, tailoring, bamboo craft, electronics, weaving etc, and also organize play facilities, children's festivals and events.

A brief on the activities of this period is given below:

LIBRARY

The library at CRC is used by children and youth from *Prakruti Badi* as well as from Chennekothapalli village and also by the children from other villages with whom the Collective is working through *Mogga* and Back to Basics programmes. In this period, 466 new books were procured from *Manchi Pustakam*, which was catalogued and included into the library resources. During the summer vacation almost 70 children came to the centre everyday and used the books.

For the last six months 100-200 books are given every month on a rotation basis to the Back to Basics centres that are run in 30 villages of 3 Mandals. These books are mainly used to improve the language skills of slow learners from Government schools in these 30 villages. Thus CRC is being instrumental in supporting the children from far off villages in their education.

The local schools were approached to inform about the available resources in CRC and the Principals were requested to send their children to the CRC for Library Classes every Saturday. Since July 2102, 60 children are coming every Saturday for their Library Classes. Educational films for children are screened every Saturday evening.

COMPUTER CLASSES

Local children and youth come to the CRC to learn and practice Power Point, typing and drawing on the computers. CRC faced problems in getting a full-time computer trainer in the year before. However, in this year with continuous efforts, the centre got a new trainer, who is conducting regular classes for 4 batches of children, two in the morning and two in the evening. These classes cover a total of 30 children at present. A syllabus has been framed and is followed on a monthly basis.

In the initial months, when the centre did not have any computer instructor and children tried to learn on their own with some help from the Librarian.

ARTS AND CRAFTS CENTRE

Total number of trainees in the ACC is 8 at present after two of them dropped out on personal reasons in the month of September. Two new trainees will be taken in their place. The ACC has been shifted to the old *Prakruti Badi* space in the month of June.

Regular training sessions by the in-house trainers have been conducted in bamboo craft, tailoring and other crafts including embroidery.

TRAININGS

A 3 days training was given to the 8 ACC trainees on techniques of screen printing by professionals from Anantapur on 26th to 28th May. A 15 days tailoring training was given to 4 ACC members on making *Kurta-Pyjamas* in August and another 10 days tailoring training to the other 4 trainees in September.

The following list gives the list of produce that are made by the trainees in this reporting period.

Month	Items made	Number
April	Bamboo bangle stand	2
	CRC bamboo gate	1
	Toy Bullock cart	
	Tailoring- pouches	24
	Cloth bags for Dharani	100
May	Wood work- toy swings	10
	Tailoring- cloth bags for Dharani	400
	Bangle stands	5

	Penstands	5
	Paper bags	100
	Visiting cards	200
	Screen printing- certificates	150
	Badges	1000
	Toy snakes	50
June	Cloth bags	100
	Mahila Shakti Cooperative flags	31
	Timbaktu Collective letterhead	1
July	MACTS flags and banners	35+2
	Badges for sports festival	500
	Certificates for sports festival	100
	Bamboo letter holders	10
August	Toy bullock carts	24
	Bamboo wall hangings	10
	Flower vases	6
	Trays	3
September	Visiting cards for TC staff	200

VISITORS

CRC had regular visitors in this period mainly friends of the Collective. Besides, there were visitors from Jana Vignyana Vedika (JVV) and educationists working on music visited the centre in ay & July and interacted with the children.

EVENTS AND CELEBRATIONS

In *Paryavaran Parasa* celebrations, organised by the Collective along with other CBOs, CRC organised a stall and had a sale worth Rs. 5,500. Sports Day for junior children was celebrated in the premises of CRC in August, where 400 children from the 3 Mandals participated in indoor and outdoor games. Independence day was celebrated in CRC with 250 children including old students of *Prakruti Badi* participating in it.

OTHERS

CRC provided space for conducting some *Balala Sangha* activities. In the month of May, 27 children made paintings on environment pollution and their ideas for future actions. A training for 35 *Balala Sangha* children in natural painting was done in June. Review meeting for volunteers for the Back to Basics programme is regularly conducted at CRC.

Everyday children from the village come to play in the play ground and play with the indoor games materials like carrom, chess, connect four and different kinds of puzzles.

Some pictures from the centre are given in the Annexure.

ANNEXURE – PICTURES



Children at the CRC library



Children playing indoor games at CRC



During the sports day festival



Bags made with screen printing



Wall hangings with paintings made at ACC



CK Palli children using computers at CRC



A batch of computer students at CRC



CRC stall in Paryavarana Parasa



CRC stall in Paryavarana Parasa



Bangle stands made at ACC



Bullock carts made at ACC