



by
"The Rite Centre"

Research in Integrated Training & Education

OUR PHILOSOPHY AND GUIDING PRINCIPLE

ALL CHILDREN ARE SPECIAL

A child is first and foremost a child and the ability, disability or giftedness, secondary.

❖ 2 YEAR INNOVATIVE COURSE

❖ Highlights (August - Sept. 2011)

The optional course "Education of Children with Special Needs", designed by our Foundation for the M.A. Education (Elementary) programme offered by Tata Institute of Social Sciences, is being offered in the forthcoming semester. Preparations for this are being undertaken.

❖ Lectures/Workshops/Training Programmes

- The senior students were placed for practice teaching sessions at **Sulabha Trust for Special Education and Research, Chembur, Saraswati Mandir, Dadar and Childreach, Santacruz** while the junior students were at **G. A. Kulkarni, Khar and Muktangan, Worli.**
- The Foundation day was celebrated this year along with Teacher's Day at the office with a seminar on "**Right to Education (RTE)**". Power point presentations were made by the students, after which they participated in a dessert making competition.

❖ RESEARCH / DOCUMENTATION

Desirous of full time psychologist

- **Ongoing:**
 - Evaluation of students on teacher attitude, values & opinion of the philosophy of integration, before & after completion of the D.Ed (Integrated) course.
 - Preparing questionnaires - school visits/classroom observations.
- **Wish to undertake:**
 - Attribution of factors related to students' participation in the D.Ed (Integrated) course.
 - Survey for awareness of integrated education among schools of Mumbai.

❖ WEBSITES OF INTEREST

- www.flonga.com: Colour tangle will test your puzzle solving skills at a multilevel. You will find an entanglement of nodes and lines, of different colors. Similarly coloured lines and nodes can pass through each other. There are special rules for black and white colours. An enticing and enjoyable experience indeed!
- www.5minute5.com/2011/character-writing-tips/ A reader asked Dan Harmon, the creator of the hit TV series Community, to share his method of writing fictional characters that display depth. Harmon posted his reply on his blog, and while he may ramble a bit, it's a wonderful look into the mind of an established writer and his creative process. A must-read for budding writers!
- <http://www.arounder.com> AROUNDER gives travelers a vivid sense of what a city has to offer: historical cathedrals and works of art, museums featuring famous artists, local cafes and stores, breathtaking mountain-top views, quiet parks and gardens. Navigation is easy with Google maps of the city and its surrounding area.
- www.Zenhabits.net.com Self improvement tips and motivation guide. The writer says that saying 'yes' to things that matter can be difficult. You can begin by saying 'no' to things that shouldn't matter.

❖ RESOURCES WANTED

- **For Us:**
Lecturers: Eligibility - M.A./ B.A. (Psychology / Sp.Ed) with B.Ed / M.Ed.
Teaching experience preferred.
Contact us : 2369 6596/6664 8768/ ritestep@gmail.com
- **For Others:**
- Arpan - a registered NGO, Mumbai working on the issue of child sexual abuse. Requires - Programme coordinator for BMC and Institutional and also for Private Schools. Email: Manjeer@arpan.org.in Website: www.arpan.org.in

❖ PROFESSIONAL INTERACTIONS

Participated in various seminars/workshops/conferences.

- Roda presented a paper on **Integrated Learning** at a seminar entitled "Espousal" organized by Vrudhi Research Foundation.
- Jignesh attended a one day workshop on **online fundraising** organized by CAP in collaboration with Global Giving.
- Mrs. Bhatia and Jignesh attended a one day discussion on **Collective Impact – Solving large-scale, complex social problems through effective collaboration** with FSG Foundation Strategy Group). It was organized by India Philanthropy Network and hosted by EdelGive Foundation.

❖ HEROES FOREVER

- Four fishermen from Arnala survived a 14-hour swim to the shore after their boat capsized in deep sea on Saturday. Fighting against the tide, and tied to each other at waist, they kept swimming and praying for next few hours. Local resident Shantaram Mukund Vaiti spotted them and brought them to safety.

❖ TAKING STRIDES

- From a village in Tamil Nadu's Tirupur district, Pavithra is the older of two children, born to illiterate parents. At home, she was submerged with domestic chores and the care of her younger brother and handicapped father. Her teachers saw in her a burning passion to learn, a hunger to excel and a deep motivation to use education to get out of the poverty trap. They asked her to stay back in school after regular hours and addressed her doubts. All this resulted in Pavithra topping her school with an aggregate of 95 per cent.
- The RPF decided to approach schools and colleges to create awareness about stunts on the railways done by school going students. They emphasized upon the fact that just one slip while performing a stunt could take a person's life, or leave him handicapped forever, most students were unaware that performing stunts invited strict punishment.
- The drop in the number of student suicides is partly due to the efforts of schools, which sensitized teachers, hired counselors, and organized awareness programmes for students and parents. Another major boost for students' self-esteem was the implementation of the Right to Education Act last year. The Act gave students the assurance that they can get to Class IX with ease. The emphasis on exams was replaced with stress on class work.
- Turning deadwood from the "promise of pension" to alive, vigilant, sensitive teachers, TISS adopts an evaluation system. It follows the model of recruitment by employing teachers on a contractual basis and assessing their performance before extending their three-year tenure. Besides, it will give students a crucial role in deciding the fate of their professors.

❖ CONCERNS

- In a surprise discovery, researchers found adults with reading disorder also have a hard time recognizing voices. We as teachers are interested in understanding the root cause of dyslexia, so that we can intervene early and do something about it. One way to check that: See how they're able to delete sounds from words — ask them to quickly say "cowboy" without the "boy." It is felt that more clear-cut methods are needed.
- Kritika Purohit, moved court last year after the Directorate of Technical Education turned down her application to appear for the CET for professional medical courses as she is visually impaired. The court directed the state to take into consideration the directives of the chief commissioner for the persons with disability to treat all handicapped and the willingness of the Maharashtra University of Health Sciences (MUHS) to support visually impaired candidates.

- Several bypass procedures have been adopted by NCTE. Created in 1973, NCTE allowed B.Ed correspondence courses to mushroom, which were poor and deficient in quality. The sharp deterioration in the quality of teacher preparation must be highlighted and remedial measures should be taken against errant institutions.
- The charging of exorbitant fees, and following unscrupulous practices has been rightfully brought to the attention of the education minister by a vigilant NGO.

❖ OVERHEARD

- Actor Priya Anand, has announced that she will lend her support to Save the Children, a leading child rights organisation working in 12 States in India and in over 120 countries around the world. Listening to the stories of how some of the children were trafficked into child labour was a moving experience for Priya Anand. “These children deserve to enjoy their childhood just as I did. Children must work hard but at school.”
- Schools can soon adopt playgrounds in MUMBAI: In a bid to protect open spaces from political interference and encroachments, the BMC has issued a new draft policy as per which playgrounds that are situated next to schools and colleges will be given to the educational institutions for adoption. The BMC will levy a token annual licence fee of Re 1 on the institution that adopts the playground.
- Anganwadi honorarium hiked: The union cabinet has doubled the honorarium for more than 22 lakh Anganwadi workers and helpers who serve as the first outpost on child care and nutrition for hundreds of lakhs of mother in rural India. Presently there are over 11.17 lakh anganwadi workers and 10.97 lakh workers. The honorarium for 11.17 lakhs Anganwadi workers has been enhanced to Rs 3000 per month from existing level of Rs 1000.
- The state government will conduct a surprise test in more than 35,000 aided schools every two months to check the quality of education and students. The test, called ‘Baseline Survey’, will be held for students in classes II to VIII, and will not contain questions from the schools’ curriculums.

❖ FUTURE PLANS

- We are glad to share the news that the Kalash puja was performed at our Kharghar plot. The construction is in full swing.
- Donations in any form are welcome. We provide tax exemption under section 80G and also have an FCRA registration.



NEWSLETTER

The Rite Step

Sir Phapurji Billimoria Foundation

Reg. No. E-17693.
To,

No. 38 –September 2011



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