

Newsletter Feb 2022

At the start of this New Year, we were able to make further inroads in providing digital contents to over 5600 students in Rural, School and Urban centre programs. With the closure of schools in the last 2 years due to the pandemic, Chudar's simple and easily accessible content became the only educational input for many children. They were engaged through interactive videos and puzzles and tried out simple experiments and projects at home. While our initial focus had been to bridge the gap due to learning loss, we have also been striving to sustain their students' basic skills in English, Math and Science and enhance their understanding of concepts as opposed to rote memorisation.

CHUDAR IMPACT

Assessments

In the beginning of the academic year, we conducted diagnostic tests to assess the basic skill levels of the children enrolled in our programs. As we suspected, there had been a learning loss due to school closures for more than a year. To plug the learning gaps and strengthen the basic skills in English, Maths and Science, Chudar initiated a month-long bridge course for the students of standard 6,7 and 8. Following this, we resumed curriculum-based online classes. In December, we conducted online and offline skill based assessments (as given in the table below), in Math, Science and English, to evaluate the students' progress and understanding of concepts in select skill topics that were covered by us in the last couple of months. The assessments cover 1596 students in our centers.

The questions given in the assessments were not taken from their textbooks but were designed to assess the students' depth of understanding of the skill topics. For example in HCF, the students were tested to see if they could find the HCF of any two or three 2 digit numbers. In the Magnetism topic under Science, the concepts on magnets and their properties were tested.

This is also the first time that we have assessed students' English listening and comprehension skills by playing an English story and having the students answer questions.

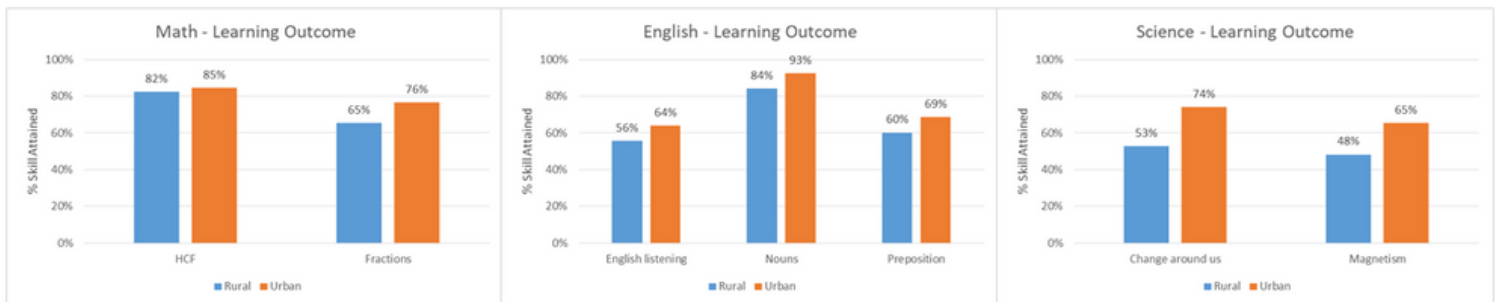
Math Assessment	English Assessment	Science Assessment
<input type="radio"/> 3 <input type="radio"/> 36 2. The HCF of 10, 15 is _____ <input type="radio"/> 30 <input type="radio"/> 10 <input type="radio"/> 5 3. The HCF of 16, 20 is _____ <input type="radio"/> 20 <input type="radio"/> 80 <input type="radio"/> 4	1. Identify the nouns in each sentence: 1. The kids went to the mountains. Your answer _____ 2. Rani is going to the beach. Your answer _____ 3. My dad gave me an apple. Your answer _____ 4. Chennai is a beautiful city. Your answer _____	<input type="radio"/> Chemical change <input type="radio"/> None of these 4. The North Pole of one magnet repels _____. <input type="radio"/> North pole of other magnet <input type="radio"/> South pole of other magnet <input type="radio"/> None of these 5. A freely suspended bar magnet rests in _____. <input type="radio"/> East and west direction <input type="radio"/> North and west direction <input type="radio"/> North and south direction 6. Example of Non-magnetic material is _____. <input type="radio"/> Eraser

Subjects	Skills
Maths	HCF and Fractions
Science	Changes around us, Magnetism
English	Preposition, Nouns, Listening Comprehension

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Learning Outcomes

The pre-assessments conducted prior to taking skill classes did not show encouraging results (Math below 7%, English and Science below 12%) and hence have not been presented below for comparison. The learning outcome of the skills attained by the children after the skill topics were taught by Chudar is presented above. We are happy to report that the students have shown significant improvement and performed well in the assessments.



Thank You Donors

Thanks to all our Donors for your confidence in Chudar. As more children are coming into the fold of education through our online program and soon, in our physical program as the school re-opens, we request our donors to donate generously. We also request you all to share the details of our work with your friends and family who may wish to donate to our programs.