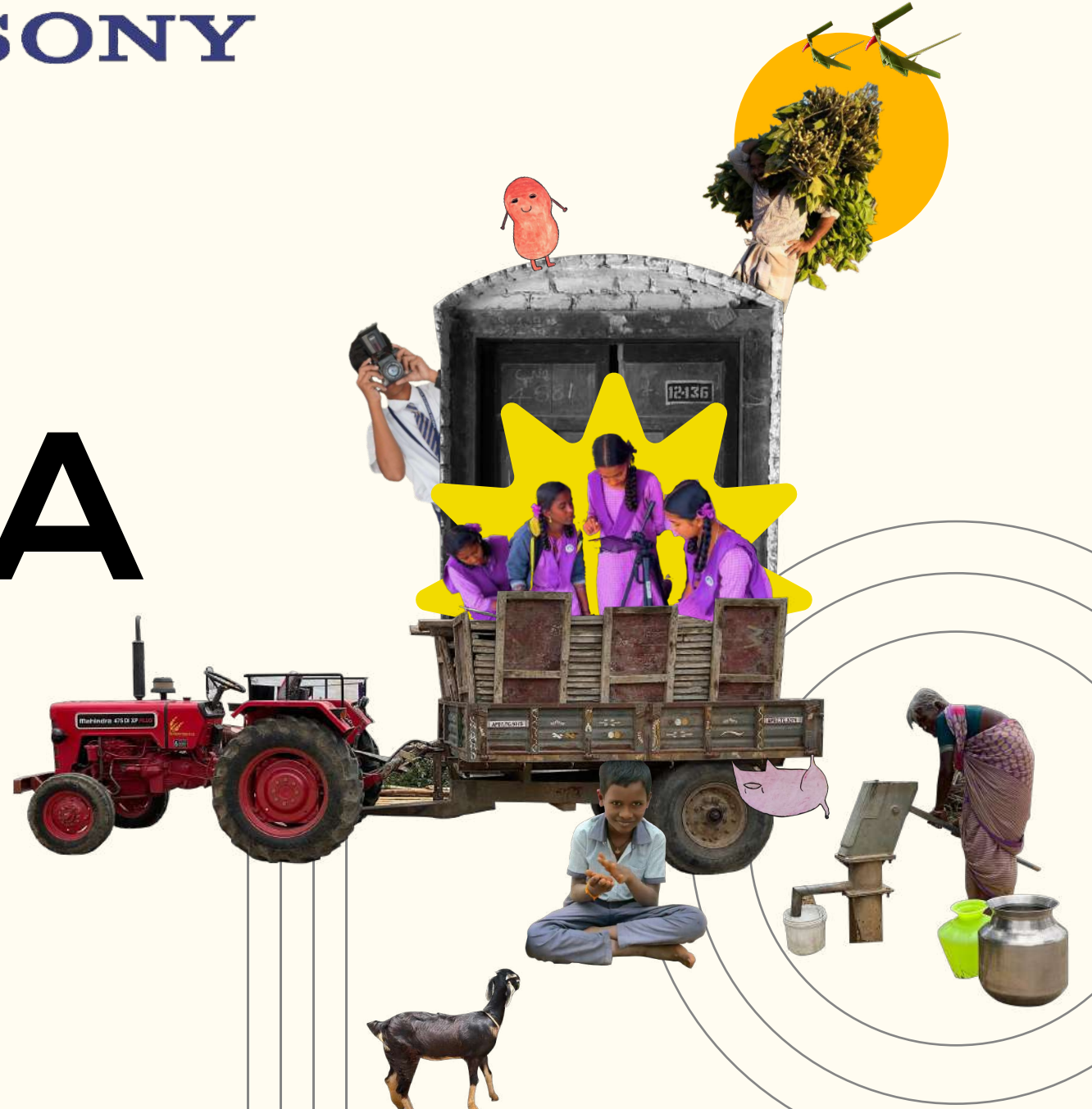


# AHA! KATHA





 **AGASTYA**  
INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION  
Supported by RaRe Family Foundation & Others





# About Agastya

Since our establishment in 1999, we at Agastya have been committed to nurturing a generation of curious minds, fostering innovation, and empowering individuals to drive positive change for a better future. Our mission remains steadfast: to ignite curiosity (Aah!), cultivate creativity (Aha!), and promote confidence and compassion (Ha-Ha!) among children. To date, we've had the privilege of reaching over 24 million children and 300,000 teachers across 23 states in India.

At the heart of our efforts are our flagship mobile science programs, such as Mobile Science Labs and Labs-on-Bikes. These innovative initiatives directly deliver scientific equipment, models, and interactive learning resources to underserved children and educators in government schools, ensuring that hands-on science education is accessible even in remote areas.

We take pride in our Innovation Centers and Science Centers strategically positioned across India, serving as dynamic hubs for innovation and learning. These centers offer interactive exhibits, workshops, and programs, providing a conducive environment for children and teachers to engage in experiential learning and discover the joy of exploration.

Recognizing the transformative role of technology, we've integrated digital and self-learning initiatives into our programs. These initiatives complement our on-ground efforts, enabling children and educators to access educational resources and engage in interactive learning beyond traditional classroom settings.

With the introduction of Agastya's Vision 2.0 plan, we are embarking on a new chapter, aiming to expand our reach, particularly to underserved communities, and create transformative learning experiences for children across India, fostering moments of curiosity, discovery, and joy on an unprecedented scale.

## About the MediaArts Lab

At Agastya's expansive 172-acre Campus Creativity Lab in Gudivanka, Andhra Pradesh, the MediaArts Lab stands as a beacon of creative exploration for children in neighboring schools. Designed with the aim of fostering media literacy, this innovative space empowers young minds to unleash their creativity through various forms of media arts, including filmmaking, photography, animation, and digital storytelling.

Led by dedicated instructors, the lab offers a hands-on approach to learning, guiding children through every stage of media production—from conceptualization to execution. Equipped with state-of-the-art resources such as tablets, photography equipment, and workbooks, instructors carry the tools of creativity directly to participating schools, ensuring accessibility for all.

Throughout 12 immersive sessions, participants embark on a journey of self-expression, culminating in the creation of their own films, storybooks, and photo stories. These masterpieces are proudly showcased at the Kala Kootami art and creativity fair, providing a platform for children to share their narratives with peers, teachers, and the wider community.

Interactive activity corners at the fair offer visitors a glimpse into the captivating world of media, enriching the educational experience and inspiring future generations of creative thinkers.

**2023-2024**



**486 Children**  
**14 Schools**



**+3254 children**  
**through one-day sessions.**



# PHOTO STORIES

Armed with cameras, youngsters in the MediaArts Lab initiative skillfully capture the beauty of daily life, weaving tales through photostories. These images allow them to share their perspectives and feel a sense of belonging to their heritage and communities. MediaArts Lab empowers these young storytellers to express themselves and interpret the world around them through the art of photography. It provides them with a creative outlet to observe, reflect, and communicate their unique viewpoints.









PHOTOSTORIES



# A GRANITE MOSAIC

Sculpting foundations  
in stone

BHANUSREE  
GAYATHRI  
BHANUPRIYA

Mandal Parishad Upper Primary School, Bagalnatham



In my school construction was happening in the first floor

It's interesting process of mixing cement to fix the granite on wall



## PHOTOSTORIES



They measured the wall size and start cutting the granite ,and also made sides smooth

Everyday I am observing the construction





PHOTOSTORIES

# HUES OF THE SUN

Sculpting foundation in stone

CHANDU  
TEJAS  
DEVIKA  
PREETHI

Zilla Parishad High School, Kempasamudram



Yellow is my favorite colour,  
Which attracts me more



For me yellow means happiness.  
Yellow means peace

 **PHOTOSTORIES**



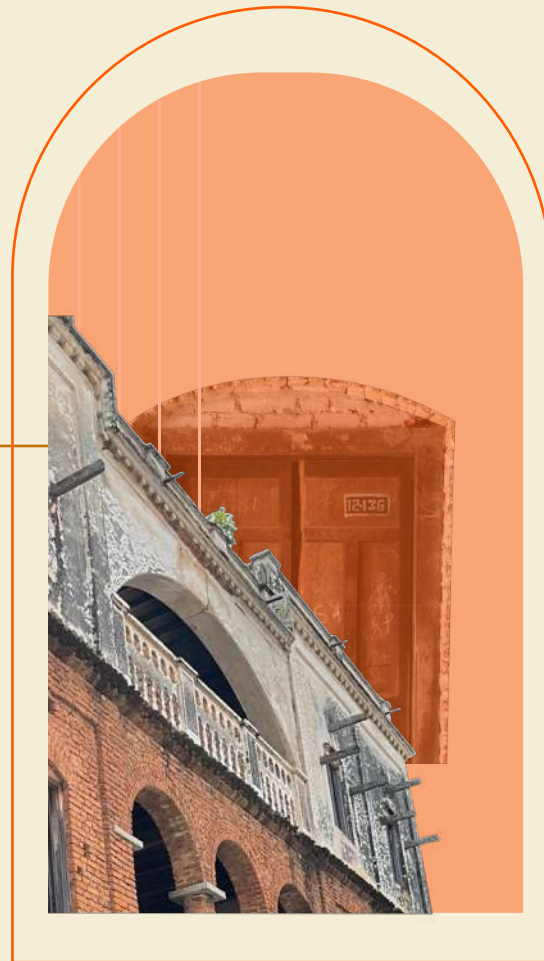
My friends teases me on this like  
-“yellow yellow - dirty fellow”



This flowers attracted me every  
time it blossoms



PHOTOSTORIES



# THE FEEL OF SCHOOL

Textures that speak  
louder than words

DHANA LAKSHMI  
GANGASRI  
GEETANJALI

Girls High School, Kuppam



This is our school Building ,which is called as Thimmojamma banglow



To see its look like a palace. So many patterns in this building

 PHOTOSTORIES



It's build before when king's were ruling



Texture of building blocks with pillars

# WHAT THE EYE CAN

**SEE** A glimpse into a wonderful world



PHOTOSTORIES



PADMA  
NANDHINI  
ROJA

Mandal Parishad Upper Primary School,  
Bisanatham



Every day I wake up by seeing my goats We use boring pump for water



Planting using waste buckets is a one of my neighbour habit

 PHOTOSTORIES



I play a lot with top along with my friends



Planting using waste buckets is a one of my neighbour habit. It is my home garden



# UNDER THE MULBERRY CANOPY

A buffet for silkworms



PHOTOSTORIES

A.SIREESHA  
LAHARI  
RAMCHARAN TEJ  
SUBRAMANYAM

Zilla Parishad High School, Kempasamudram



Let me introduce my mother

She is workaholic

 PHOTOSTORIES



This mulberry leaves is food source for silkworms



This is our mulberry farm





PHOTOSTORIES

# FROM FARM TO PLATE

Chronicling a cabbage  
harvest

RIYAN  
THASMIYA  
ARUNA  
SHARVANI

Zilla Parishad High School, Sogadaballa



Patterns of cabbages.  
Human cabbage....haha funny right???



cabbage is affordable vegetable for all  
Its a multi-layer leafy vegetable

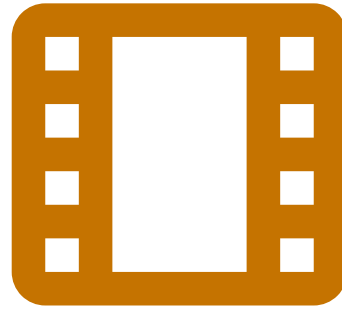
 **PHOTOSTORIES**



Cabbages need well drained soil and  
well sunshine to grow well. Now-a-days  
cabbages are using more in fast food



Cabbages are full of fiber.  
It has vitamin C



# LIVE ACTION FILMS

At the MediaArts Lab, students are immersed in the world of live-action filmmaking, enabling them to bring their vast imaginations to life. The creative journey begins with script conceptualization and meticulous planning depicted in storyboards. Equipped with a script and visual guide, these budding filmmakers progress to the filming phase, translating their imaginative narratives into tangible scenes. Next comes the editing phase, that offers a refined platform for story shaping. From initial scripting to final editing, the MediaArts Lab systematically empowers young participants to harness their creativity, effectively converting their imaginative ideas into compelling cinematic expressions.







 LIVE ACTION FILMS



## MESSY HANDS, PRISTINE CRAFT

ART, MOLDED FROM EARTH'S  
EMBRACE



---

**Created By:**  
Ajay Bhaskar  
Sanjana Prasanna  
Mohan  
Hasini

**Zilla Parishad High School,  
Kenumakulapalli**



 LIVE ACTION FILMS

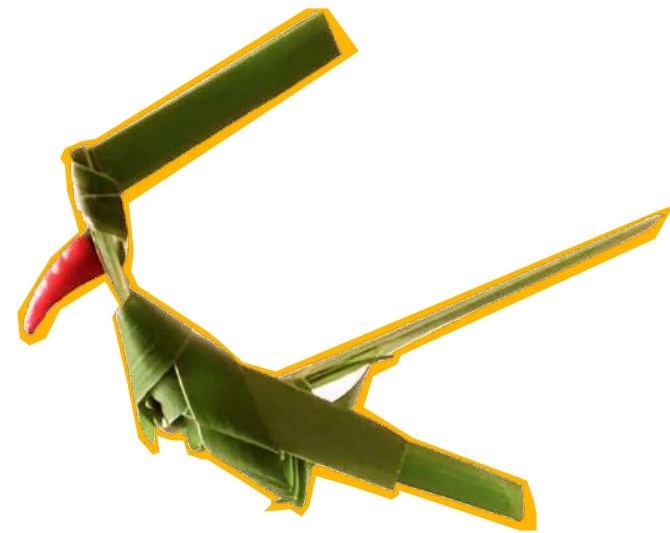


**GREEN LEAVES,  
NIMBLE FINGERS**  
A COCONUT LEAF BECOMES A  
FEATHERED FRIEND

---

**Created By:**  
Lakshman  
Sai Charan  
J. Charan

**DNTW Governement High  
School, Somapuram**





 LIVE ACTION FILMS



## OCCUPATIONAL DELIGHT

INTERVIEW WITH AN AGASTYA DRIVER

---

**Created By:**  
Chandana  
Keethi  
V. Dileep

Featuring: Anil Kumar

**Zilla Parichad High School,  
C.Bandapalli**



 LIVE ACTION FILMS



## NEVER TOO MANY CHICKENS HERE

THE ORIGINS OF CLUCKS AND SQUAWKS

---

**Created By:**  
Dekshitha  
Pallavi

**Zilla Parishad High School,  
Settepalli**



 LIVE ACTION FILMS



**TOOLS OF BAMBOO**  
CLEANING RICE, NOW MADE EASY!



---

**Created By:**

*Sowmya*

*Hasini*

*Charan*

*Chandu*

*Aparna*

**Zilla Parishad High School,  
Lingapuram**



 LIVE ACTION FILMS

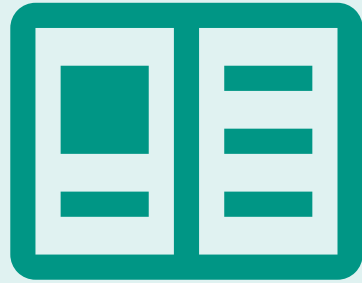


**CHEERS!**  
BOTTLES OF BADAM GOODNESS

---

**Created By:**  
Pallavi  
Kavitha  
Jaswanth  
Mallesh

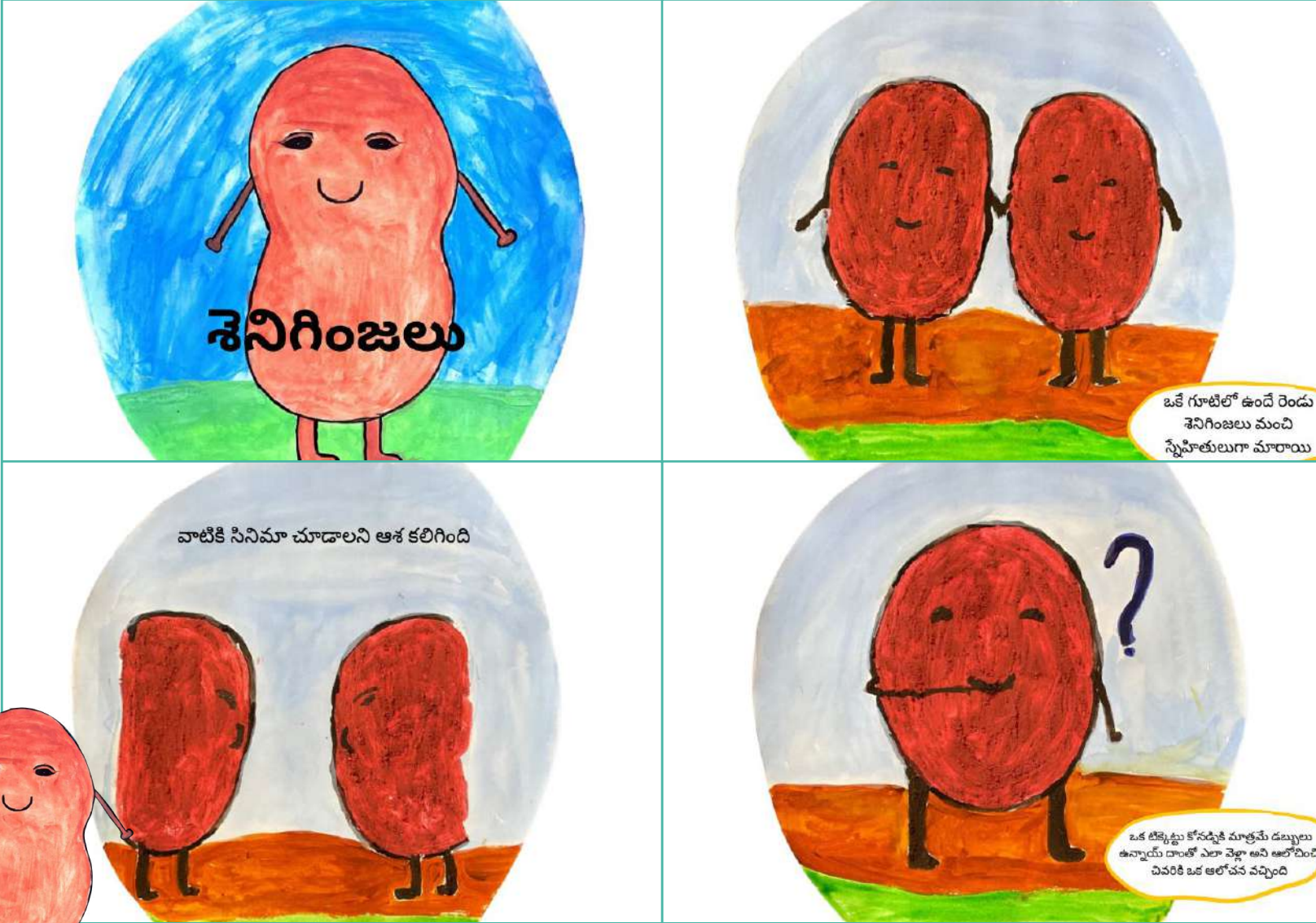
**Zilla Parishad High School,  
Cheldiganipalli**



# STORYBOOKS

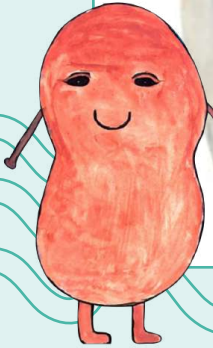
Through the MediaArts Lab program, children not only explore the enchanting world of storybooks but also become creators themselves. With boundless enthusiasm, they embark on the creative process, meticulously crafting plots, characters, and settings before translating their ideas into intricate storyboards. Through their vivid illustrations, these young storytellers bring their narratives to life, infusing each page with vibrant colors and rich imagery, thus creating their own captivating storybooks.





## TWO PEANUTS IN A POD

FRIENDSHIPS THAT THRIVE AMIDST THE DARKENED WALLS OF A THEATRE .





ఒకే గుత్తిలో ఉండే అవి రెండు తిరిగి అదే శనిగకాయల మరీ వెళితే సరిపోతుంది అని ఆలోచించాము



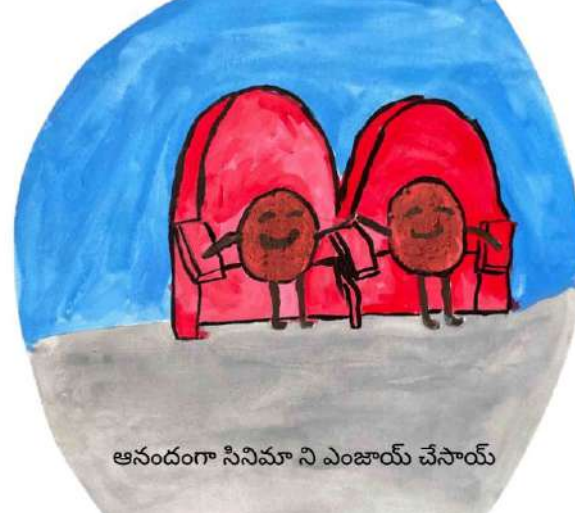
చివరకి సినిమా థియేటర్ కి చేరి టిక్కెట్టు కొన్నాయి



సినిమా హాల్ దగ్గర తమ టిక్కెట్ చూపించి లోపలికి వెళ్లాయి



లోపలికి వెళ్ళాక శనిగకాయ నుండి బయటికి వచ్చాము



ఆనందంగా సినిమా ని ఎంజాయ్ చేశాము



**Created By:**  
Alekhya  
Tanushree  
Tasmia

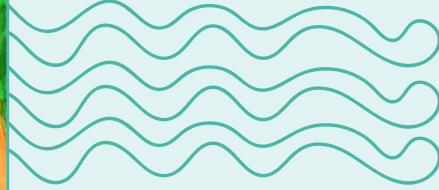
**Zilla Parishad High School, Maddanapalli**



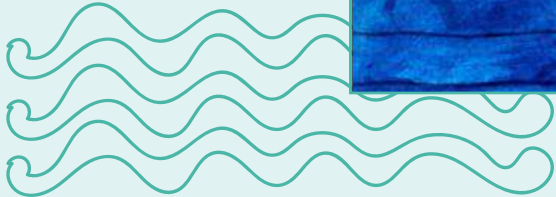


**THE PERFECT THIEF**  
ALL FOR A PERFECT SLICE OF TASTE



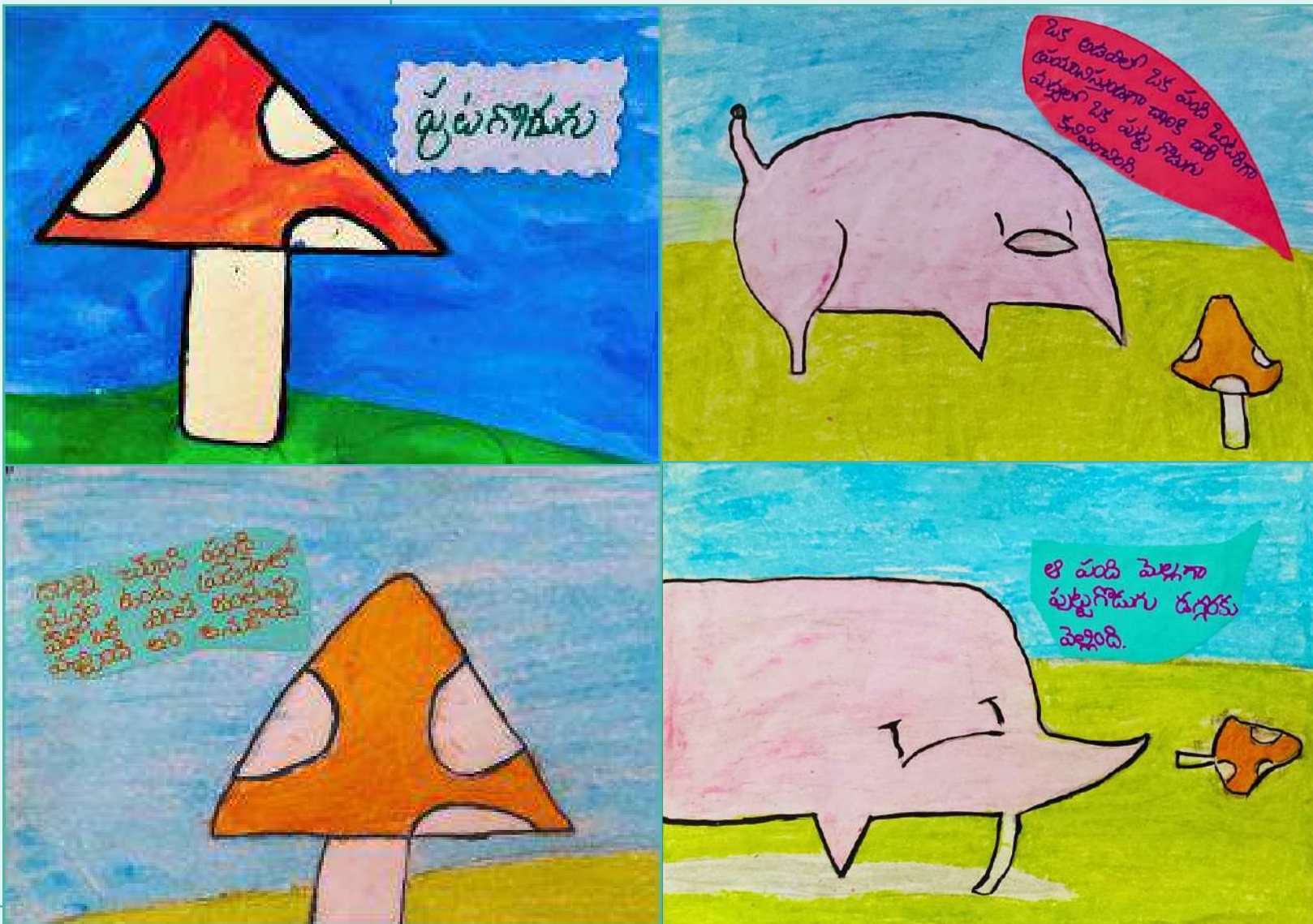


 STORYBOOKS



**Created By:**  
Madhumita  
Meghana  
Mehektaj

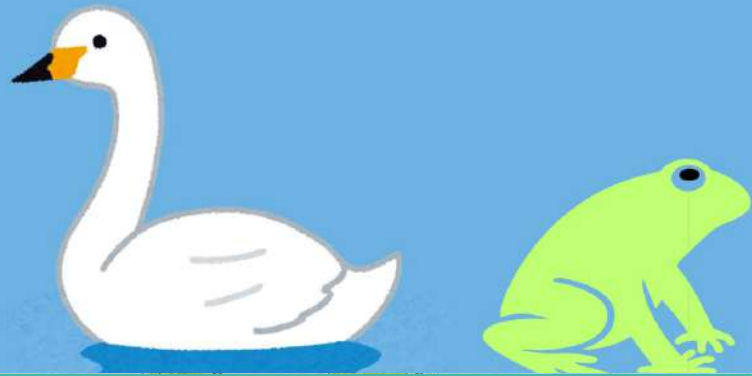
**Girls High School, Kuppam**



**THE LIFE OF A MUSHROOM**  
A MYSTERIOUS FUNGUS AND MISPLACED FEARS



# SELFISH HUNTER



Swan and frog were lived in a pond



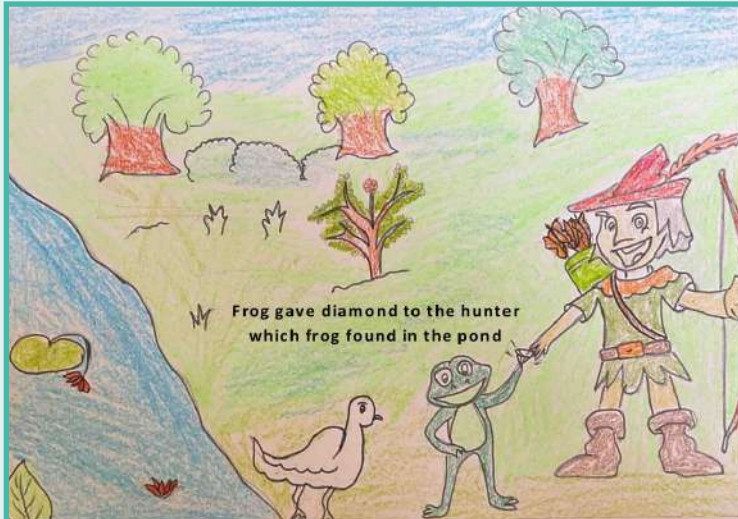
Hunter caught the swan one day for money need



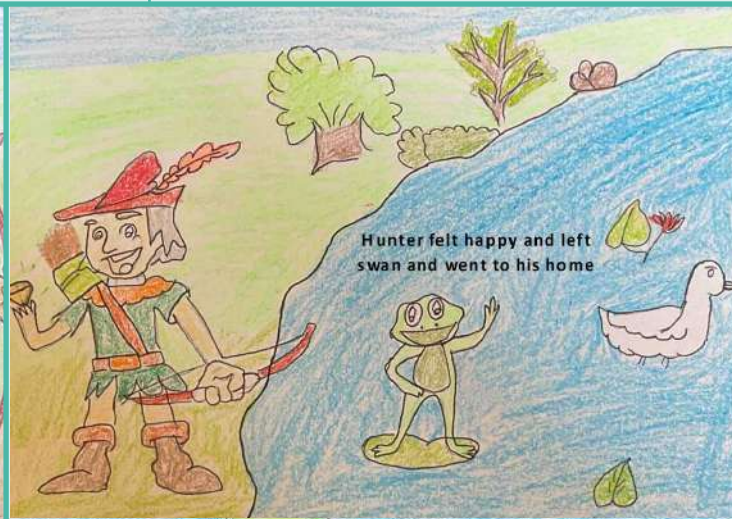
Frog requested to wait for a moment

**SELFISH HUNTER**  
OUTSMARTING ENEMIES AND  
SAVING ALLIES

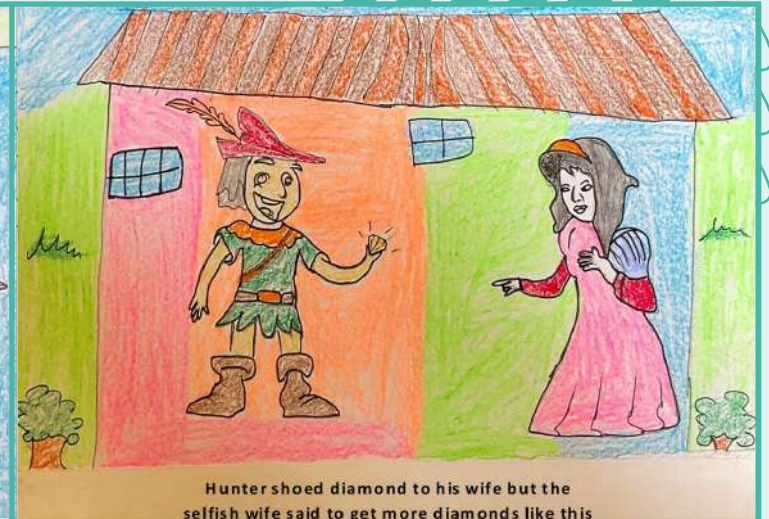




Frog gave diamond to the hunter which frog found in the pond



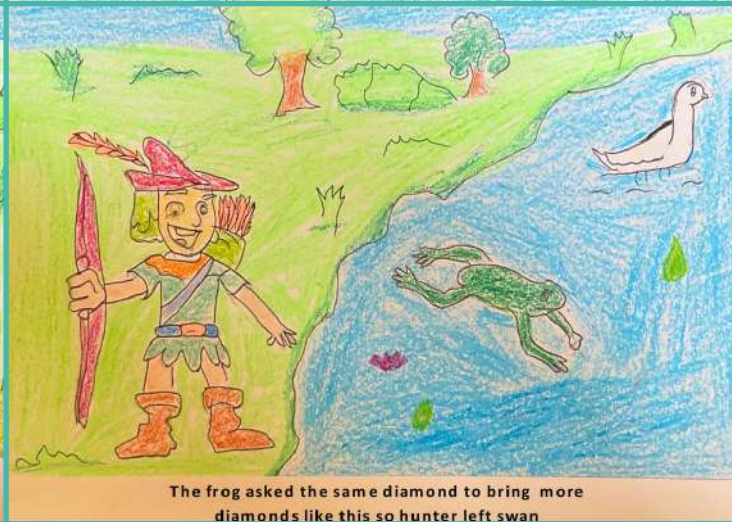
Hunter felt happy and left swan and went to his home



Hunter showed diamond to his wife but the selfish wife said to get more diamonds like this



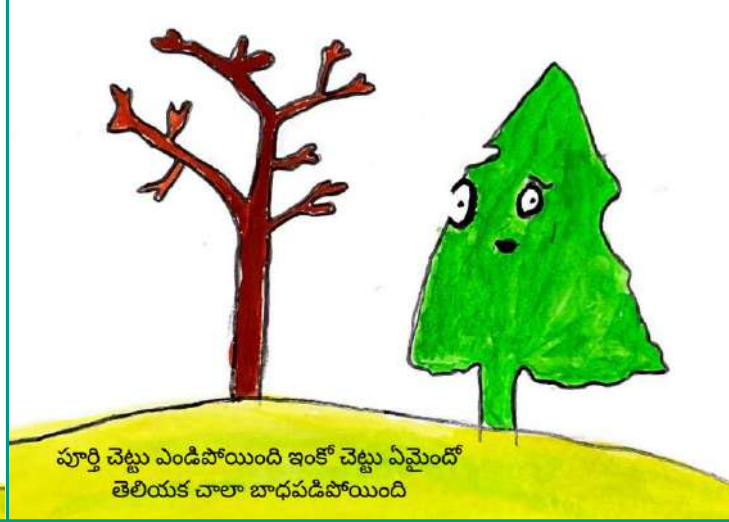
Hunter again catches the swan and blackmailed the frog for diamonds



The frog asked the same diamond to bring more diamonds like this so hunter left swan

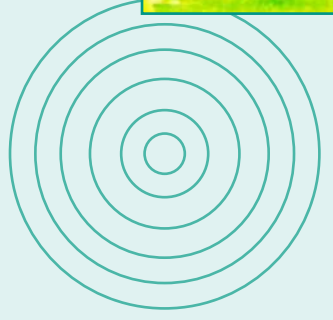
**Created By:**  
Darshini  
Anusha  
Deepthi  
Praneeth  
Srimannarayan  
Gowthami  
Hemanth  
Manoj

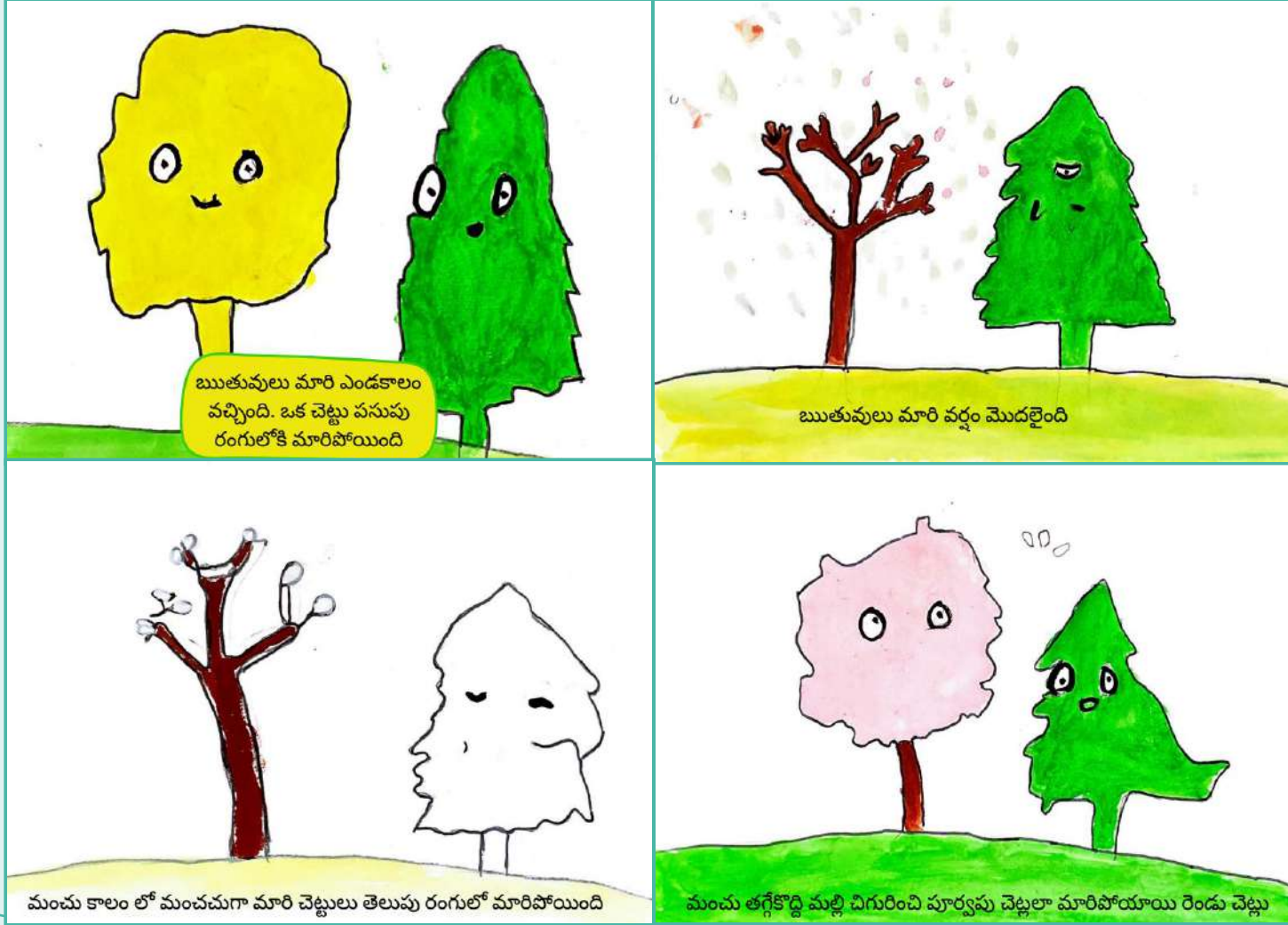
**Zilla Parishad High School,  
Kenumakulapalli**



 STORYBOOKS

**THE CIRCLE OF LIFE**  
FROM WITHERING LEAVES TO  
BLOOMING FRIENDSHIP

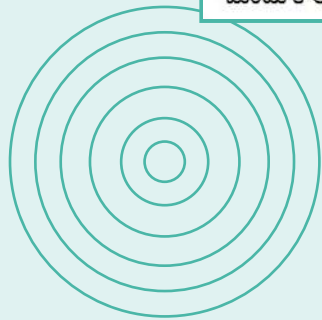




 STORYBOOKS

Created By:  
Chaitanya  
Ram Charan  
Janardhan

Zilla Parishad High  
School, Madanapalli







STORYBOOKS

**A FATHER'S  
AFFECTION**  
A HELPING HAND AND A  
WHOLE LOTTA LOVE



వేగంగా ఊగుతు కింద  
పడిపోయింది



వెంటనే నాన్న అక్కన  
చేరుకుంది



నాన్న నెమ్మదిగ తనతో పార్క్  
మొత్తము తిప్పారు

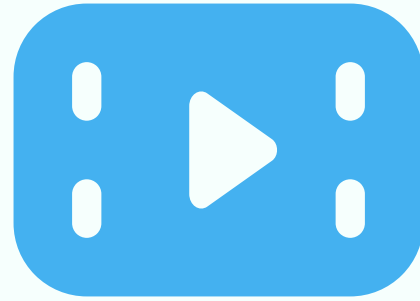


సమయం అవ్వడం తో ఇంటికి  
పయనం అయ్యారు

 STORYBOOKS

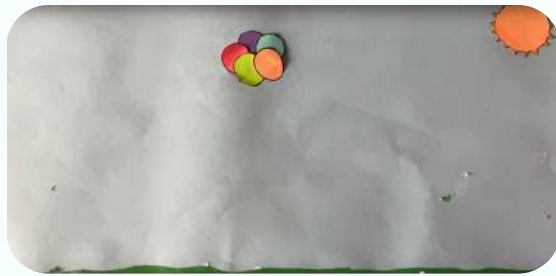
**Created By:**  
Pooja  
Poornima  
Deepthi

Zilla Parishad High School,  
Kenumakulapalli



# ANIMATION FILMS

At the MediaArts Lab, kids dive headfirst into the captivating realm of stop-motion animation, pouring their passion into crafting imaginative stories. It's a meticulous process, starting from brainstorming ideas, scripting scenes, to painstakingly bringing each frame to life. With every flicker of movement, these young animators not only refine their artistic talents but also learn the values of patience and attention to detail. They delve into the intricate techniques of animation and editing, essential skills for weaving together a seamless visual tale.



ANIMATION FILMS

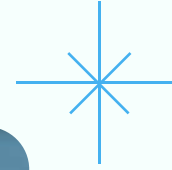


## CAPTURING COLOURS

SETTING THE RAINBOW AFLOAT

Created By:  
Jahnvi  
Anushree  
Kavitha





ANIMATION FILMS



## CUTS AND EDITS

A FAST-PACED MOSAIC

**Created By:**  
Charan  
Nani Babu

DNTW Governement  
High School, Somapuram





ANIMATION FILMS



## THE PEANUT DANCE

ROWS OF TASTY CRUNCH

**Created By:**  
Sridevi  
Rohit

Mandal Parishad Upper Primary  
School, Bisanatham



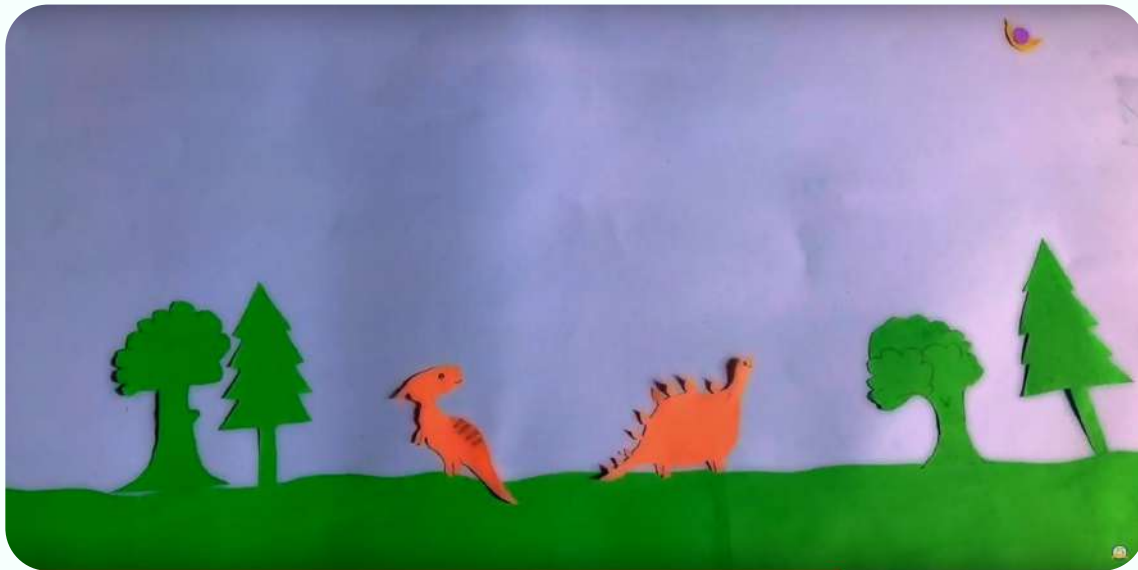
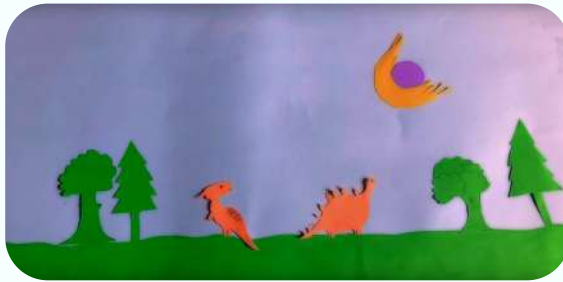
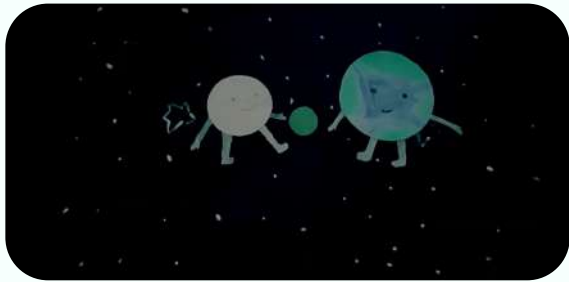
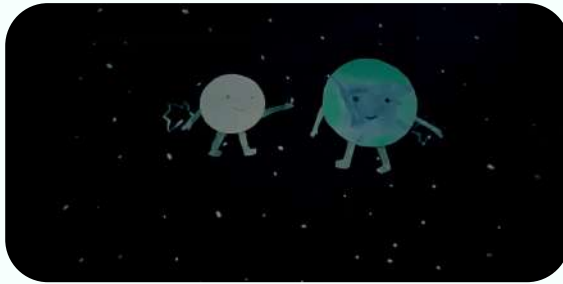
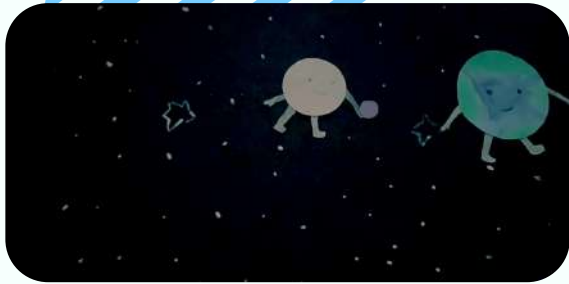
 ANIMATION FILMS



**A TASTY BAIT**  
BEWARE OF THE POISON LAID  
BARE

**Created By:**  
Bhanupriya  
Thanusree  
Bhanusree  
Gayathri

Zilla Parishad High School,  
Sogadaballa



ANIMATION FILMS



## A COSMIC GAME

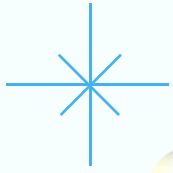
TWO FLOATING GIANTS AND A  
FLOATING BALL

---

**Created By:**  
Hemanth  
Thanveer  
Jashwant  
Aeabujan  
Asif

Zilla Parishad High School,  
Cheldiganipalli





ANIMATION FILMS



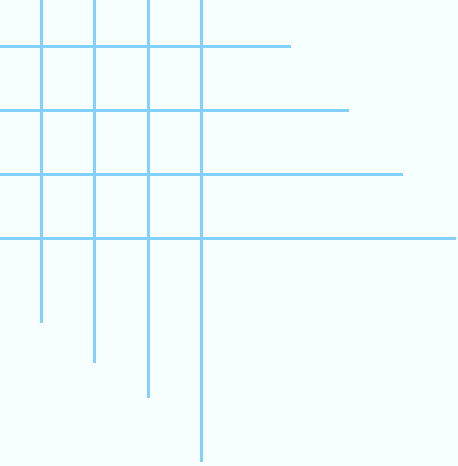
**A BOX OF NUMBERS**  
YOU DO THE MATH

WE LOVE MATHS

**Created By:**

Divya  
Kavya  
Vinay  
Pallavi  
Heena  
Preetham







# AUDIO STORIES

Through their exploration of audio storytelling, children at the MediaArts Lab discover the remarkable ability of audio to stir emotions, ignite creativity, and bridge language gaps. From crafting engaging commercials to producing heartfelt songs, they traverse a rich landscape of expressing their creativity through sound. This journey fosters a deep appreciation for the power of audio, empowering them to communicate and connect in meaningful ways.

**A BITE OF  
GOODNESS**  
NATURE'S BOUNTY FOR  
RADIANT HEALTH AND  
WELLNESS



Created By:  
Manohar

 AUDIO STORIES



**VENKATAMMA  
VS SEETHAMMA**  
A DISAGREEMENT DURING  
DIWALI

Created By:  
Seethamma  
Venkatamma

Mandal Upper Primary  
School, Bisanatham



# VILLAGE VS CITY

WHAT WOULD YOU CHOOSE?



Created By:  
Haripriya

Government Higher Primary  
School, Donimadugu

 AUDIO STORIES



## BASAVANNA JATHARA

A SPIRITUAL CELEBRATION

Created By:  
Tejaswini  
Sireesha

Government Higher  
Primary School,  
Donimadugu







# STORIES OF KUPPAM

The town of Kuppam is a vibrant hamlet in the state of Andhra Pradesh, full of stories that captured the imagination of budding photographers at the MediaArts Lab. These stories were given a platform through a captivating photography workshop for 7th-grade students from Pragna Innovative School, Kuppam. Guided by the theme "Stories of Kuppam Town," 30 enthusiastic children immersed themselves in the art of capturing their surroundings through the lens.

The culmination of the workshop was marked by a spirited photography exhibition, where the creativity and talent of the participants shone brightly. Over 840 children and teachers from various schools witnessed the captivating display of images, each narrating a unique tale of Kuppam's charm and essence.



We started taking pictures with objects, and I thought, 'Can we make some objects of our favorites and turn them into photographs?' I tried it with the children in our kindergarten at school. I went to their class and asked some children about their favorites. Then, I made some objects using cardboard and colored sheets.

My favorite is butterfly wings. The girl was so excited to wear them and pose with them. The smile on her face made me so proud. That was my best moment in the workshop.

Another one of my best photos was with strawberries. Since most of the children liked strawberries, I made a giant one and asked a child to pose with it. He imagined himself as a strawberry and started talking about it enthusiastically. He is so talkative and was incredibly happy with that strawberry. Strawberry milkshake was his absolute favourite.

It was a random shot, but the way the child grabbed and held it was so cute to see. She represented all her favourites through this frame. The whole class took photos with this frame. On the final day of the exhibition, we set up a photo point for every child who wanted to take pictures like these frames. This frame was the most loved by everyone.





My grandfather had a hobby of collecting old money, and he was a retired army person. He always looked energetic and motivated me whenever I felt down. He collected coins and notes and often gifted them to others based on the situation, providing encouragement to those in need.

The picture above is a gift from my grandfather. I wish I had more gifts like this, but this one holds special memories of him for me. Although he's no longer with us, the memories he left behind mean a lot to me

BY HIMAVARSHA



STORIES OF KUPPAM



I am a foodie, so I selected photos of some super chefs in Kuppam. He is our sweet chef because he sells sweets. His sweets were so tasty. They were homemade and served hot, and he sells them at a reasonable price

He has been selling sweets for 30 years, and now he is 60 years old. He has 2 sons who are in good jobs, but he doesn't want to depend on anyone. He inspires me a lot with his words.



Intrigued, I asked him why he was doing this. He revealed that it was his part-time job. Surprised, I inquired about his main job. He explained that he also owns a grocery shop. While he has workers to manage the shop, he noticed that some people in the local streets, especially those without vehicles, were struggling to get products from the shop.

This prompted him to start delivering the products to them, which not only helped those in need but also boosted his business.

I used to hate taking photos and selfies, but when I started capturing stories through photos, it became incredibly interesting for me. I began searching for inspirational stories. One day, I encountered a man who came by bicycle to sell his products to shops in the local areas.

BY SAI CHARAN



STORIES OF KUPPAM



While walking on the road, the sound of music caught my attention. It was Tamil music being played. As a Tamilian, I'm deeply impressed by their talent. Listening to music is my favorite hobby, so was naturally drawn to them. Though there are only three people, the way they play is amazing to listen to.

In our Tamil culture, traditional music is essential for every happy occasion in our homes. Nowadays, music groups often replace traditional musicians, but the charm of traditional instruments, their attire, and their style of playing remains unmatched in any genre of music..

**BY VARALAKSHMI  
(TEACHER)**



**STORIES OF KUPPAM**



The train is not just a vehicle for transporting people; it carries languages, along with countless memories. Whether joyful, sorrowful, or anything in between, the journey by train offers a plethora of experiences, stories, and lessons—both positive and negative.

Strangers may become friends, while friends may become strangers, all within the confines of this moving vessel. For many, the train is a friendly companion, fostering connections and creating unforgettable moments. It's no wonder it's my favourite mode of transportation.



As I listened to her stories, I couldn't help but feel amazed; it was like a relic from a different era, akin to a doghouse toy. Yet, it's a tangible reminder of the past. Interestingly, the owner was absent when I took these photos, and even the worker on duty was unaware of its presence.

Though I attempted to check it out, it wasn't in working condition. Still, the coin phone's appearance was intriguing and brought a sense of nostalgia.

I've never seen this type of phone before, but I've heard about it from my mother. Before mobile phones, it played a significant role in their lives for communication. She used it to talk with her parents, relatives, and friends, and it was incredibly helpful. Every minute, she needed to insert a one rupee coin to make a call.

BY TARUN



STORIES OF KUPPAM



At just 18 years old, she has a deep love for studying, but her circumstances have led her to become a flower-selling girl. Despite her passion for education, she prioritizes taking care of her family.

For a year, she pursued distance education, and recently, she completed her intermediate studies through this mode. Flower-selling is a tradition within her family, and it serves as their primary source of income.

After finishing her day of selling flowers, she returns home, knowing it's the only way to support her family financially.



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**BY ANUSHKA**



**STORIES OF KUPPAM**



To me, dance isn't just an art; it's a dream. Despite my passion, I haven't been able to formally learn due to our family's financial constraints. I don't want to burden my parents further, especially since they're already struggling to support my education. Instead, I've turned to YouTube and my school teachers for guidance.

Fortunately, my school teacher recognizes my talent and often selects me to perform at various events. Being given this opportunity fills me with gratitude, and I consider myself incredibly lucky to have such supportive people in my life.





For many years, making various oils for hair, cooking, lamps, and body has been the primary business for their family. They crafts these oils themselves and sell them at wholesale prices.

Their specialty lies in producing pure oils, completely devoid of any chemicals or artificial additives for scent or other purposes.



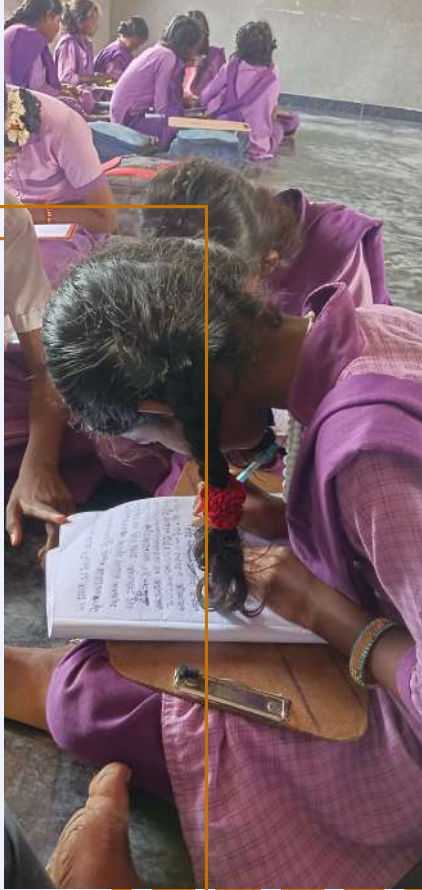
# STORIES OF KUPPAM



# BEHIND THE SCENES



BEHIND THE SCENES



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## BEHIND THE SCENES



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## BEHIND THE SCENES



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BEHIND THE SCENES

