



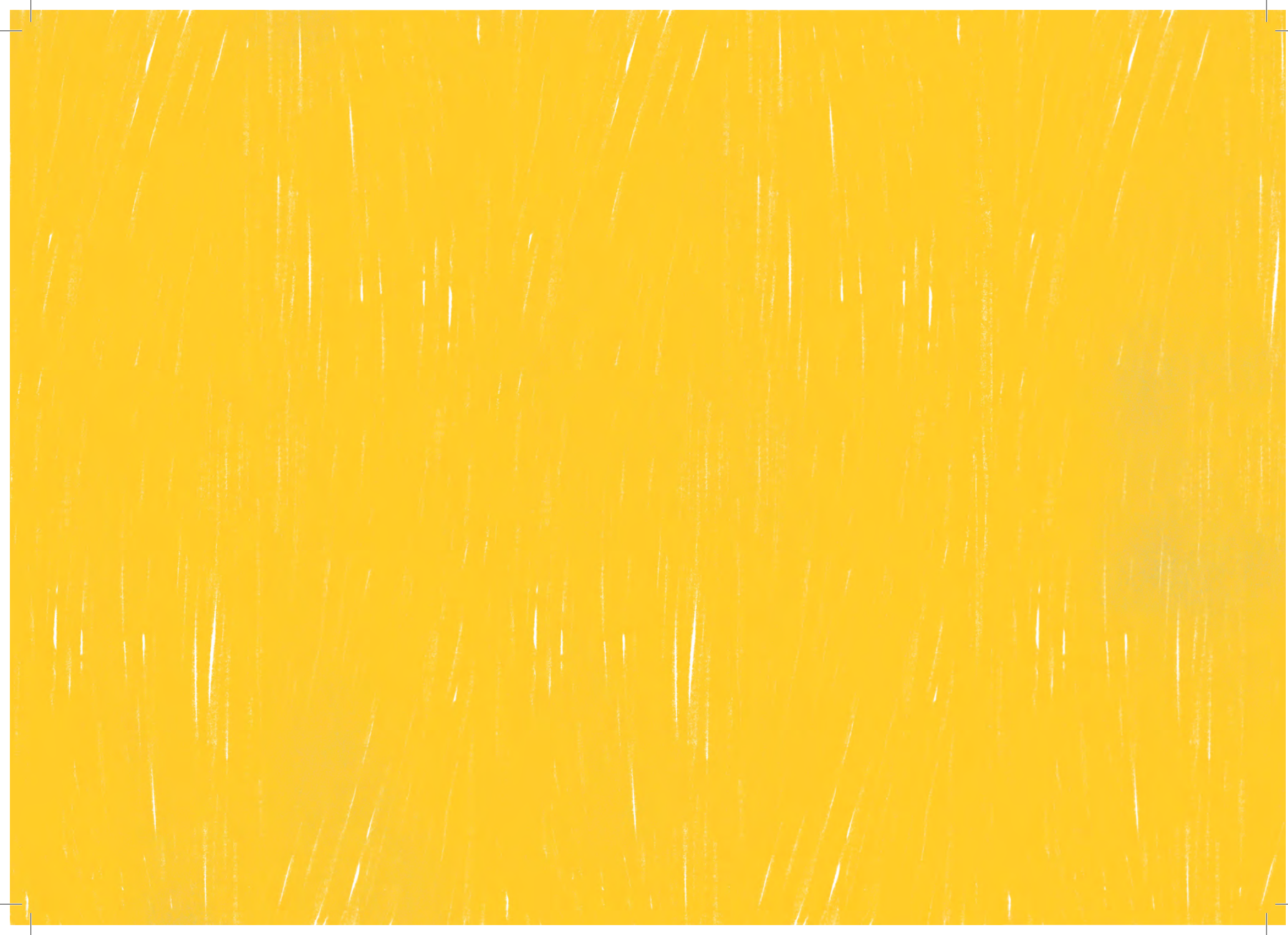
**PUBLICIS  
GROUPE**

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

# Aha! Katha

*Tiny Frames, Big Stories*





*Tiny Frames,  
Big Stories*

# **Aha! Katha**



# About Agastya

Since our establishment in 1999, Agastya has been dedicated to cultivating a generation of curious minds, innovative thinkers, and solution-oriented individuals with a profound commitment to steering positive change and shaping a brighter future

*Our unwavering mission is to spark curiosity (Aah!), nurture creativity (Aha!), and instill confidence and caring (Ha-Ha!) in children.*





At the core of our outreach initiatives are our flagship mobile science programs, including Mobile Science Labs and Labs-on-Bikes. These groundbreaking programs directly bring scientific equipment, models, and interactive learning tools to underserved children and teachers in government schools. By traversing remote villages, schools, and community centers, we ensure that hands-on science education reaches students where they are.

Our pride extends to the Innovation Centers and Science Centers strategically located across India. These centers function as dynamic hubs for innovation and learning, offering an array of interactive exhibits, workshops, and programs. They provide a conducive space where children and teachers can actively participate in experiential learning, conduct experiments, and

revel in the joy of discovery through practical experiences.

Recognizing the transformative power of technology, we've integrated digital and self-learning initiatives into our repertoire. These initiatives complement our on-ground programs, enabling children and educators to access educational resources, participate in interactive learning, and sustain their educational journey beyond the confines of traditional school spaces.

With the unveiling of Agastya's Vision 2.0 plan, we are ushering in a new era poised to broaden our programs and operations, reaching untapped communities and creating transformative moments of Aah!, Aha!, and Ha-Ha! on an unprecedented scale.

Over the years, we have impacted

over **23 million** children

and **300,000** teachers

across **23** states in India.



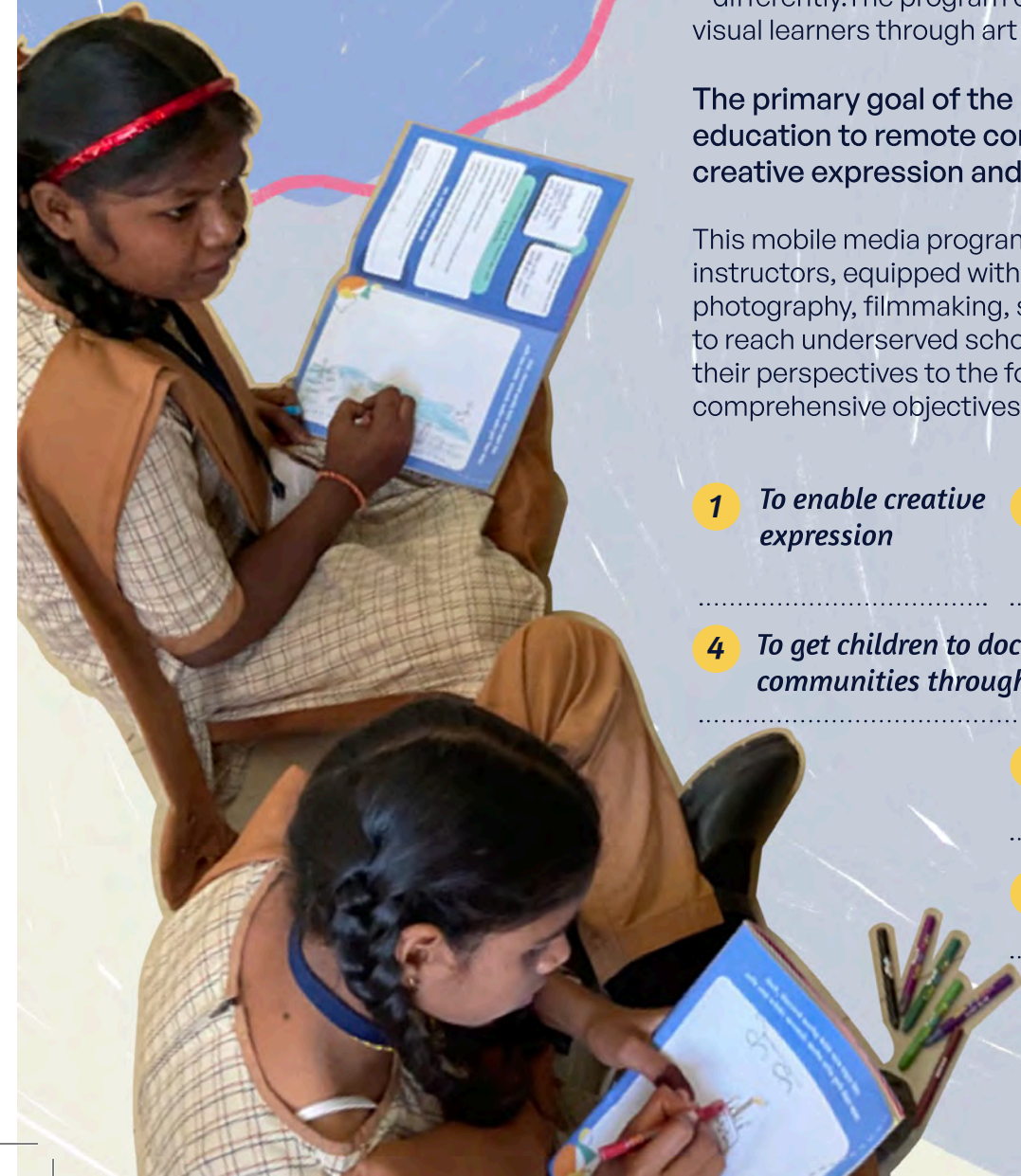
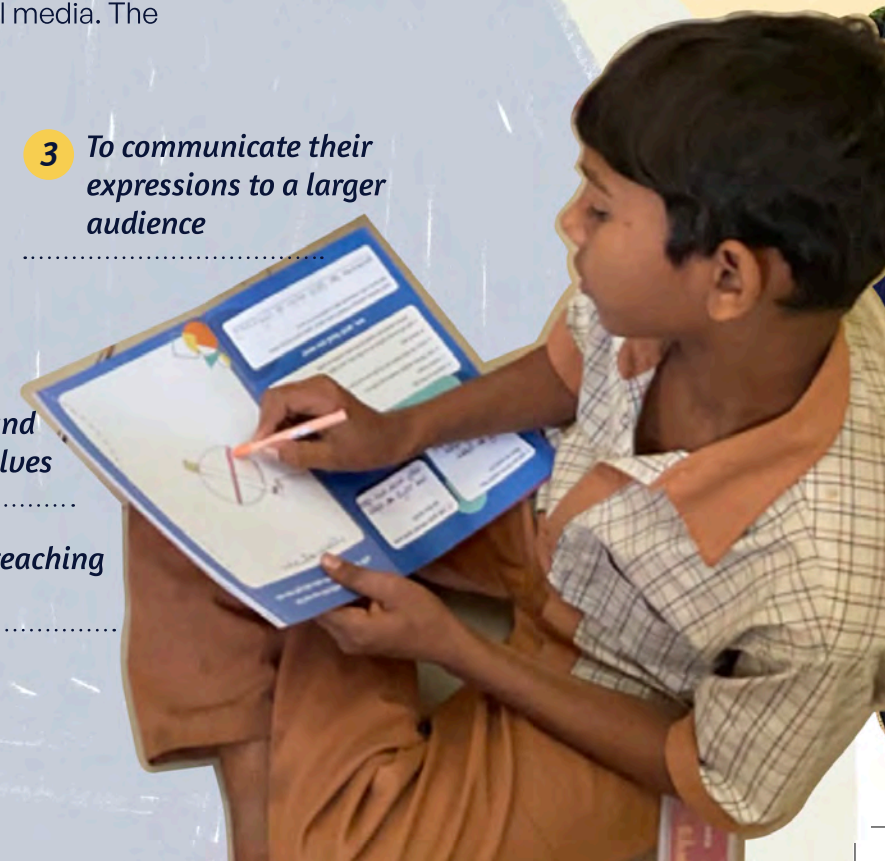
# About Dhwani

The Dhwani program challenges conventional educational norms by prioritizing artistic pursuits alongside academic subjects. Recognizing children's diverse learning styles, Agastya endeavors to engage them fully, understanding that each child learns differently. The program caters to aural, tactile, and visual learners through art and media.

The primary goal of the Dhwani program is to bring media education to remote corners of the country, fostering creative expression and critical thinking among children.

This mobile media program is distinctive in its approach; Agastya instructors, equipped with media kits containing necessary tools for photography, filmmaking, storytelling, and more, travel on motorbikes to reach underserved schools. The program empowers children to bring their perspectives to the forefront through audio-visual media. The comprehensive objectives of the project include:

- 1** *To enable creative expression*
- 2** *To provide media literacy to underserved communities*
- 3** *To communicate their expressions to a larger audience*
- 4** *To get children to document their culture and communities through audio-visual media*
- 5** *To give them the tools and skills to express themselves*
- 6** *To enable peer-to-peer teaching and learning*



Dhwani's curriculum offers a holistic media education, covering story writing, photography, video and audio production, and creating storybooks. Over 16 visits, children receive an introduction to media and acquire the skills necessary to complete a project independently. The program transcends technical skill development, instilling qualities such as storytelling, teamwork, leadership, communication, and digital literacy in participating children.

.....

*In the vibrant city of Mumbai, this year's Dhwani program left a lasting impact, thanks to the steadfast support of our partners.*

*The program's impact:*

**3**

instructors

.....

**26**

schools

.....

**10,235**

children impacted

.....

**6**

cohorts

.....

**The culmination of their creative endeavors was showcased at 13 Kala Kootami fairs, extending the reach to an additional 8,349 children.**

**A select few of the over 100 Photo Stories, Storybooks, Live-Action and Animation films, and Audio Stories produced have been curated in the following pages.**



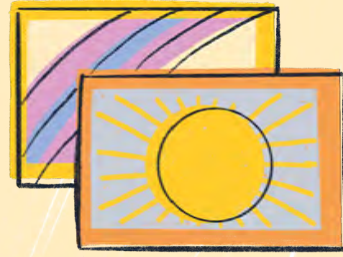


***Photo  
Stories***





Armed with cameras, children in the Dhwani program skillfully capture the nuances of their surroundings, turning daily life into visually compelling narratives. These photostories serve as a unique chronicle, allowing the children to share their perspectives and connect with their heritage and communities. Through the art of photography, the Dhwani program empowers these young storytellers to communicate their understanding of the world in a visually impactful way. It also gives them the space to observe, interpret, and express their unique perspectives.



# *Rainbow Plume*

A dance of feathers in the  
bluest of skies

---

**Created by**  
Harsh, Arya and Sanjana

 Abhinav Vidyamandir

---






# *Tiny Odesseys*

Nature's delicate sonnets,  
penned by the tiny ink of  
buzzing wings

---

**Created by**  
Srawani, Ganesh and Renuka

 Abhinav Vidyamandir

---



3



4



5



6



7



# *A Mosaic of Nutrition*

Harvests of nature, granting strength, resilience, and longevity

---

**Created by**  
Bushra Khan

 MPS Neharu Nagar

---








# Action, Reaction

Two pigtails, multiple smiles,  
and endless friendship

---

**Created by**  
Anushka, Shraddha, Gauri and  
Shravani

 **Shree Mangubhai Dattani  
Vidyalaya**

---



3



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9



10




# What Colour is the Sun?

The hues of joy

---

**Created by**  
Shrudhti Shirke, Gauri Tupe

 Govandi Station MPS  
Marathi School

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3



**Happiness**

4



**Energy**

5



**Clarifies**


6



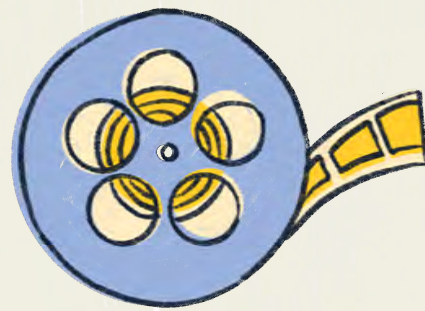
**Creativity**

# ***Live-Action Films***





Through the Dhvani program, students delve into the realm of live-action filmmaking to materialize their expansive imaginations. The creative process unfolds methodically, commencing with the conceptualization of scripts and the meticulous planning captured in storyboards. Armed with a script and visual roadmap, these budding filmmakers transition into the filming phase, translating their imaginative narratives into tangible scenes. The subsequent editing stage serves as a refined platform for shaping their stories. From initial scripting to final editing, the Dhvani program systematically empowers these children to channel their creativity, effectively transforming their imaginative concepts into compelling and meaningful cinematic expressions.






# Freedom

Unfurling the wings  
of liberation.

Created by  
Vaidehi, Purva, Bhakti, Niraj  
and Shraddha

 Shree Mangubhai Dattani  
Vidyalaya



# My School Library

Rows of dog-eared pages  
surrounded by whispers  
weaving tales

---

**Created by**  
Natasha Jadhav, Payal More  
and Nikita Hirve

 NMMC School No. 31

---




# A Good Citizen

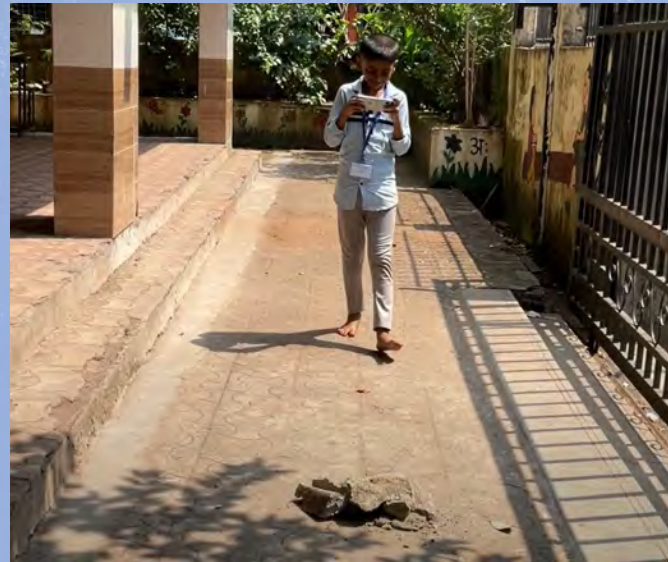
Small, selfless acts that paint the larger picture of humanity

---

**Created by**  
Swaroop Shelar, Omkar Patil &  
Prathamesh Vaghmare

 NMMC School No. 35 A

---



# Making Bhakri

Where every roll and press  
upholds taste and tradition.

---

## Created by

Rohit Chormale, Prathamesh  
Vaghmare and Pravin Jadhav

🏠 NMMC School No. 35 A

---




# *Beti Bachao Beti Padhao*

The ink of education brings  
the dawn of empowerment.

---

**Created by**  
Kajal, Antara, Gauri and Renu

 Shivaji Nagar Hindi School  
No.II

---



# Chronicles of a School Garden

A blossoming garden,  
a blooming school.

---

**Created by**  
Dayasagar, Vikram, Ayan

 Govandi Station MPS  
Marathi School

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# A Wag Here, a Bark There

A haven of woofs

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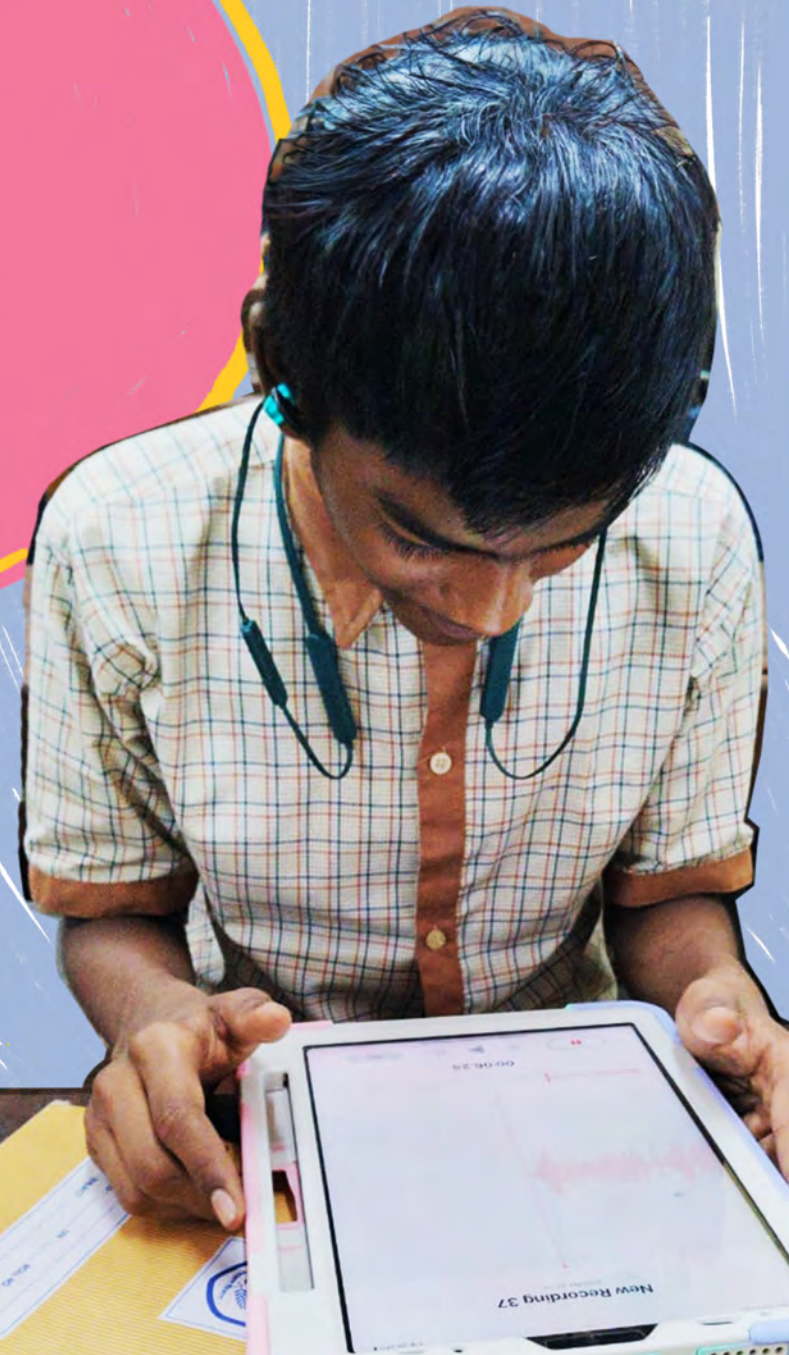
Created by  
Vaibhav, Prathamesh, Krishna,  
Pruthvi Raj, Sangarsh

 Vidya Bhushan High  
School

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# ***Audio Stories***





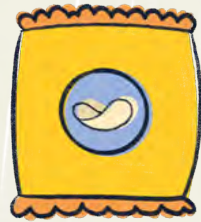
.....

Audio, as a medium of communication, holds a unique power to evoke emotions, spark imagination, and transcend linguistic barriers. Through their endeavors in audio storytelling, participants of the Dhvani program develop a profound appreciation for the power of audio as a means of communication. From crafting captivating ad commercials to recording soulful songs, they traverse a diverse landscape of expressing their creativity through sound.

.....







## *Crunchy Goodness*

Selling Krispy satisfaction

**Created By**  
Khushi Prajapati, Mrunmayi  
Kolembekar

 MPS Chunabhatti, Sion



## *A Call for Peace*

In the footsteps of the  
nation's father

**Created By**  
Jhanvi Bhagat

 NMMC School No. 30



## *In Praise of the Motherland*

Saffron, white, and green:  
India's pride in every tune

**Created by**  
Prem Dighe and Piyush Tiwari


 NMMC School No. 30



## *Vocal Percussions, Flowing Words*

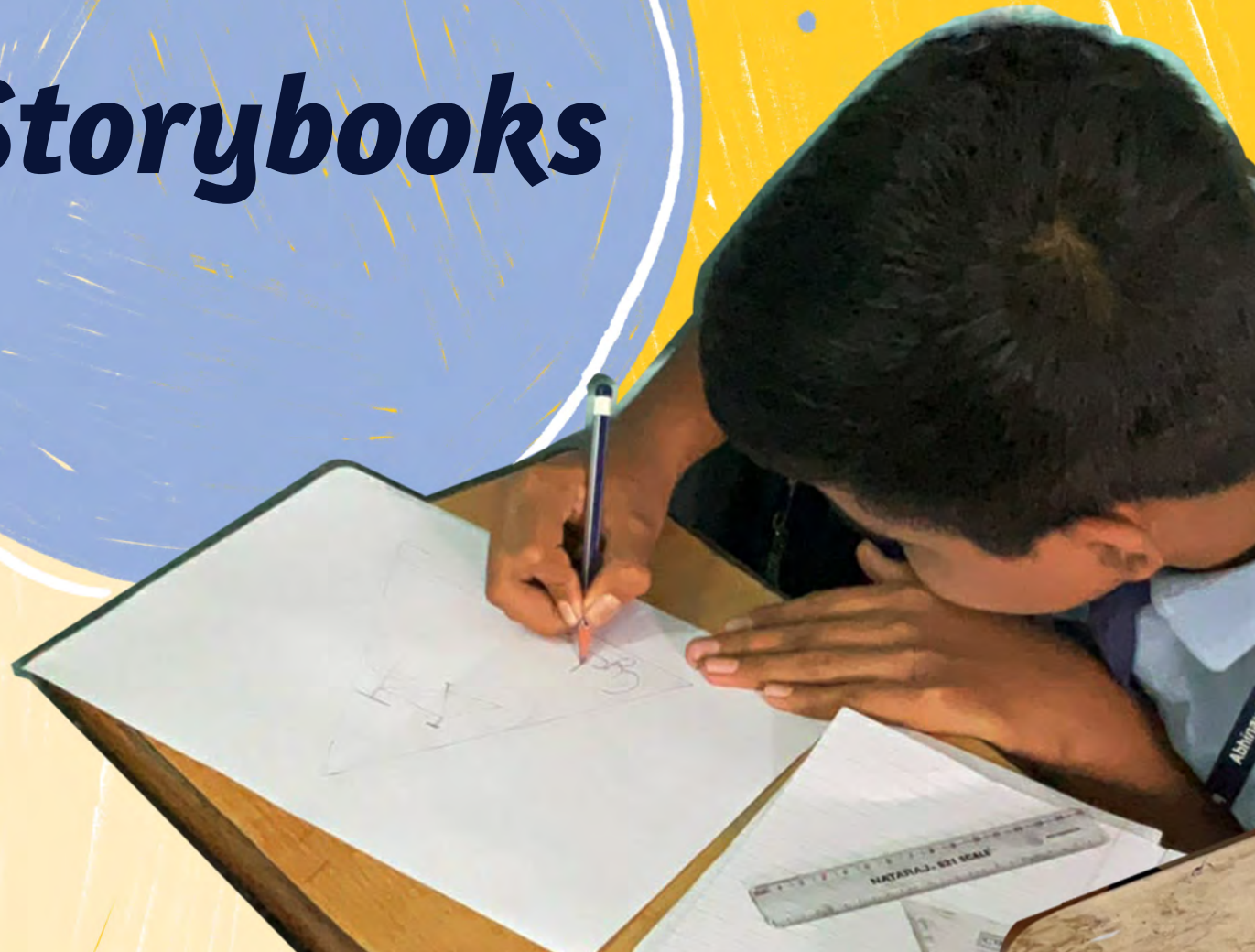
Where every beat tells a  
story

**Created by**  
Alok

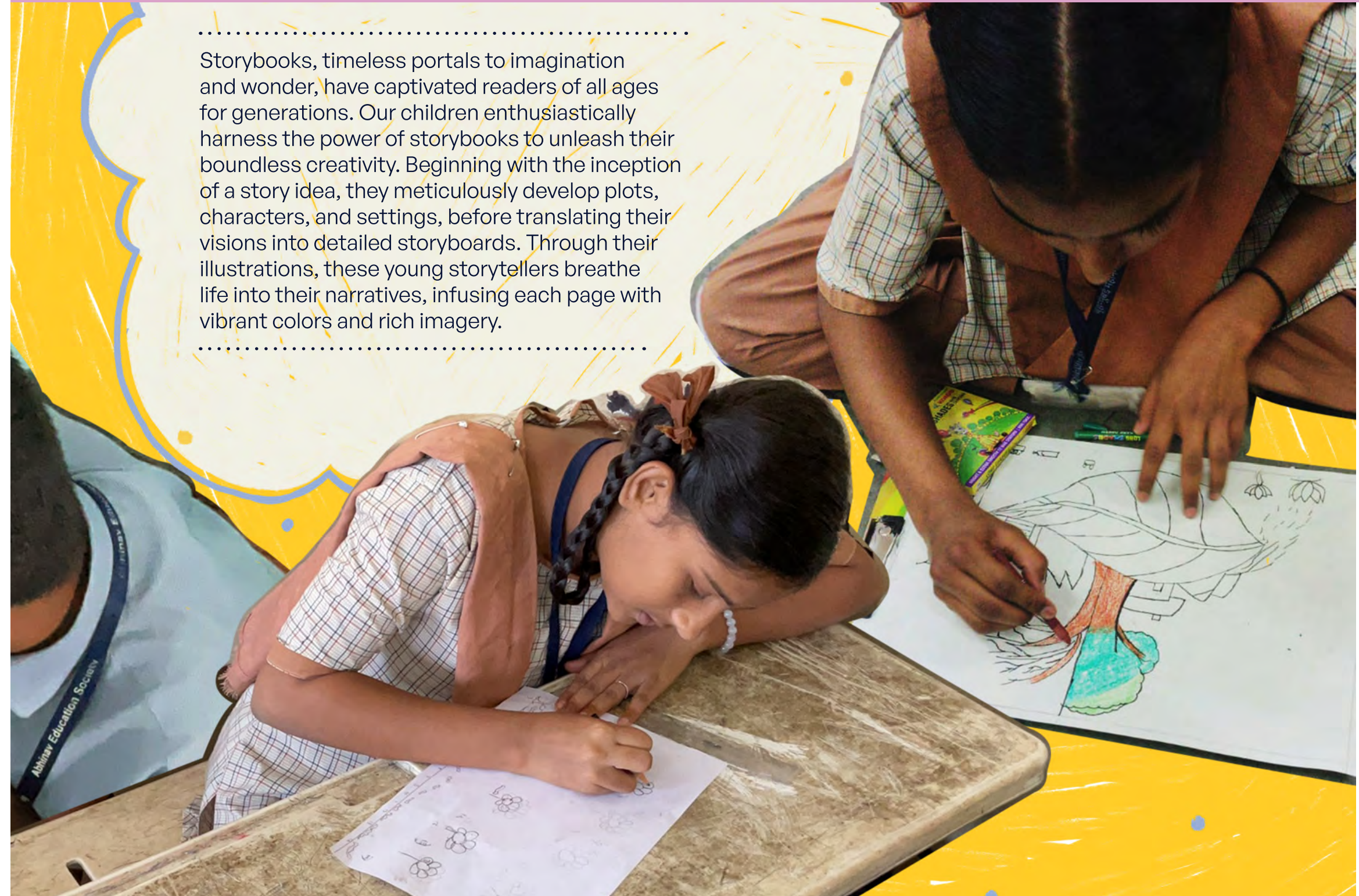
 Govandi BMC Marathi  
School



# ***Storybooks***



.....  
Storybooks, timeless portals to imagination and wonder, have captivated readers of all ages for generations. Our children enthusiastically harness the power of storybooks to unleash their boundless creativity. Beginning with the inception of a story idea, they meticulously develop plots, characters, and settings, before translating their visions into detailed storyboards. Through their illustrations, these young storytellers breathe life into their narratives, infusing each page with vibrant colors and rich imagery.  
.....






## Animal Habitat

Where do I live? Can you guess?

Created by  
Tanvi

 NMMC School No. 30

1

काडी काडी भी जमवतो  
घर भासु सुरेख बांधते.  
पिले चिवाचि करवी बाई,  
पाठा पाठा हवना भरपते.  
सांग पापा ही कुळे सहवे?



2



'टूप टूप' करीत उड्या मारते,  
गोड गोड फळे मी खतो.  
मणामणारया दिसते बाई.  
पण घर काही बांधत नाही,  
सांग कुळे मी राहतो तई?

3

वासरीना चाटून स्वच्छ करते,  
गोड गोड दूध मी देते.  
दुम्मा दुम्मा करून खेळावते,  
घारा भाऊन खंडा करते.  
सांग दादा मी कुठे राहते?



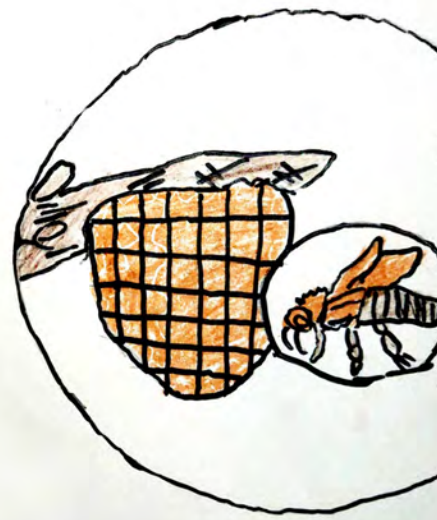
4

घरात असतो लोळ्याचा गोळा,  
ती भाऊचा भाड्यावरच होळा.  
तिला पाहून पाहून जसो,  
घरात भाड्या लपून बसतो.  
सांग दादा मी कुठे राहते?



5

वागबगीचे मी दंडात राही,  
पण मी फुलपाझरू नाही.  
फुलांमधील मध शोषून घेई,  
घरात भाड्या सावळून ठेवी.  
भाड्या घराचे नाव काय लाई?



6

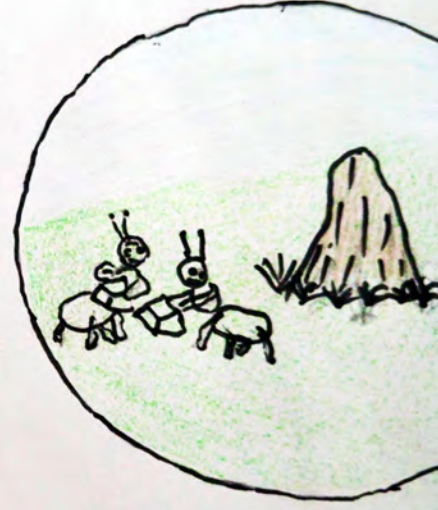
शनावानुनी दोडत जातो,  
मोठमोठ्याने मी खिंकाळतो.  
टपटप टापा टाकता जातो.  
तोबला भरून चोरो बघातो.  
सांग दादा मी कुठे राहते?





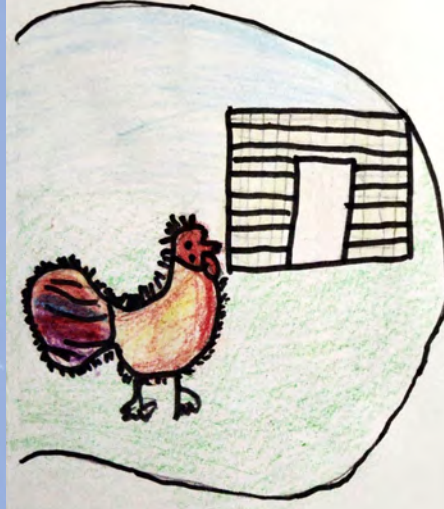
7

सायबरेचा साठा आम्ही पट्टे,  
 आम्हीनी सांगत जाऊ.  
 शिस्ताने आम्ही चालत राहू,  
 घरात साठवण करू शकू.  
 आम्ही आघात शहाण्या मुंग्या  
 आमच्या घराचे नाठ झाडां.



8


पाघाटे कुकूऽऽच कू आरबले,  
 मुला-भाणसांना जाणे करतो.  
 कोबडी भाड्डी अंडी देई.  
 सांग दादा मी कोठे राही?

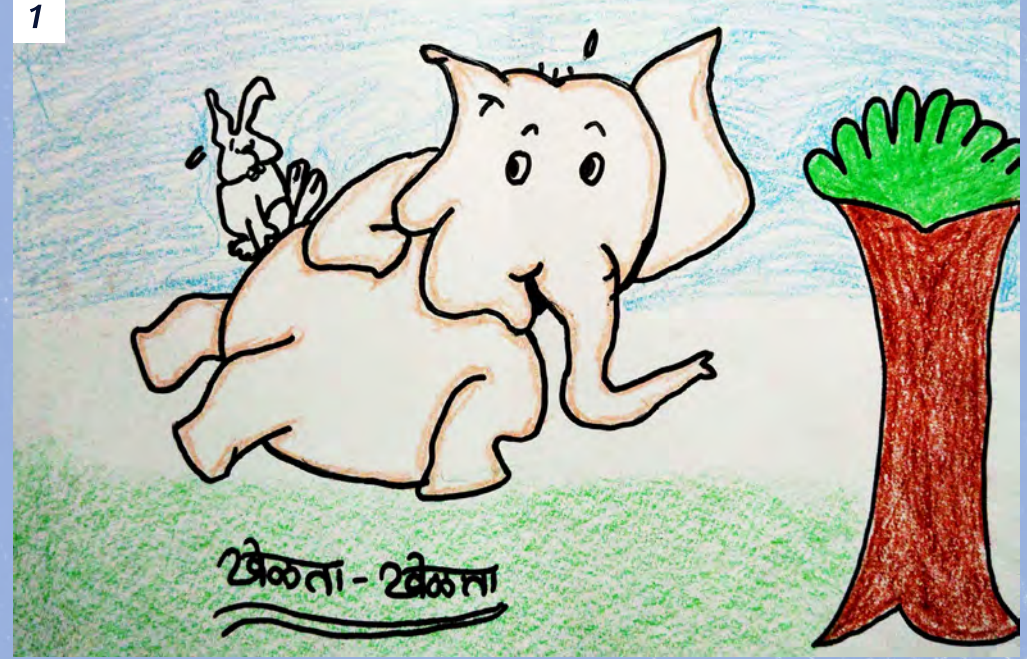


# The Elephant and the Hare

Friends that have each others back

Created by  
Sanvi Suryavanshi

 NMMC School No. 30



3

दीदीची पकळ खेळत. पळे दिवशी गोलू म्हणाला  
"आज कुठलातरी गणीन खेळ खेळूया."



4

"तू बस. मी भका उडील  
तुझ्यावर उडून बसलो,  
छोदू भेगाना."



गोलू बसला.  
छोदून उडी मारली.

5



तो गोलुच्या पाठीवर बसला.  
"बाबास "गोलू दसला आणि म्हणाला"  
आता तू बस मी उडी मारते"

6

"बू...?"  
"ब्रे, मी!"



7

"तू कसा उडी मारू शकताय ?  
छोटू धाबरेला.



8

"अस्सा !" मीळूने उडी मारून दाखवली.



9

धप... धप... धप... मीळूने  
मारू पडू लागली.



10

ती धाबरेलून पळाला.



# Geli Chapati, Aali Chapati!

A well-rounded chase

Created by

Arya, Sanvi, Neha, Anushka

 NMMC School No. 30



3



एका कावळ्याने ती चपाती  
पहिली. त्याने ती माकडाकडून  
हिसकावून घेतली. कावळा उडून  
अंगापासून पिंपळाच्या  
झाडावर जाऊन बसला.

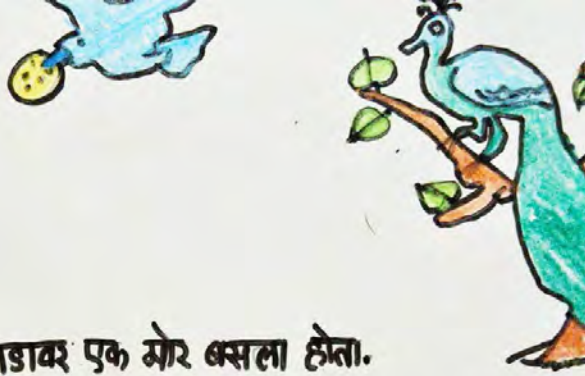


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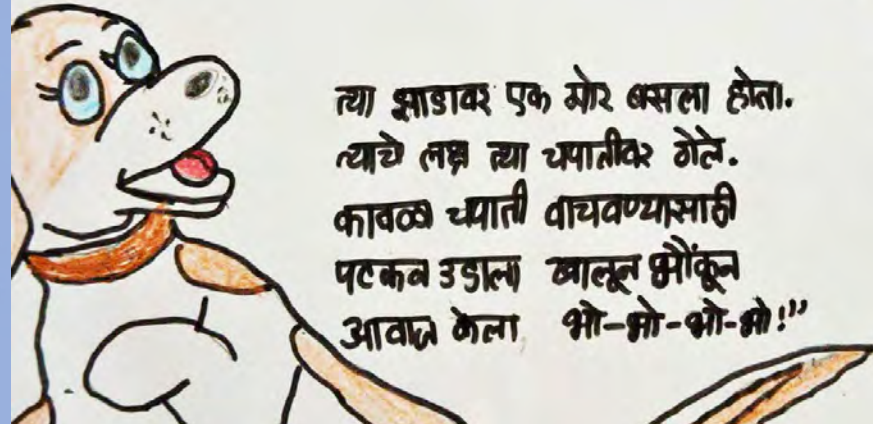
एके दिवशी कमल भोंकूला चपाती  
प्रापला गेला. तेव्हा एक माकडु त्याच्या  
सताकून चपाती हिंसकावून घेतले.  
ते त्याच्या घराच्या घाटाच्या  
मितीवर जाऊन बसले.



5



त्या झाडावर एक मोर बसला होता.  
त्याचे लहान त्या चपातीवर गेले.  
कावळ चपाती वाचवण्यासाठी  
पटकन उडाला व्हातून भोंकून  
आवला गेला. भो-भो-भो-भो!"



6

कावळा घाबरून ओरडला, " काव-काव!"



आणि त्याच्या तोंडातून ती चापाती निघवली.  
ती पुन्हा अंघणात जाऊन पडली.

7



8

भोकून त्या चापातीवर सडप घालून ती उचलली  
त्याची चापाती होती ती त्यालाच परत मिळाली.



# A Splash of Friendship

When the clouds relent,  
friendship blossoms

---

Created by

Priya, Nandhini, Ranjana, Shreya,  
Sakshi



Govandi Station MPS Hindi  
School

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3



हैं। वो मिट्टी और पिकी अब  
कहती हैं। 'अरे अगलूक  
काँचें बारह पिकी कहती हैं।  
'शायद बारिश ठीकी मिट्टी  
कहती हैं। 'यहो बगीचे में  
उपयुक्त है। अब कहती हैं।

4



अरे वह बारिश। मिट्टी बोवती  
है। मुझे बारिश पसंद  
है। मैं यही बारिश में  
खेलती हूँ, अब कहती हूँ।

5



देखो बारिश किती कम  
है। अभी और धूप आ रही  
है। नीची बोवती हैं।

6



वो तीनो बारिश में खेलने  
लगते हैं।

# The Road Well Taken

A dispassionate plea for public spirit

---

Created by  
Shabnam, Shristi, Riya

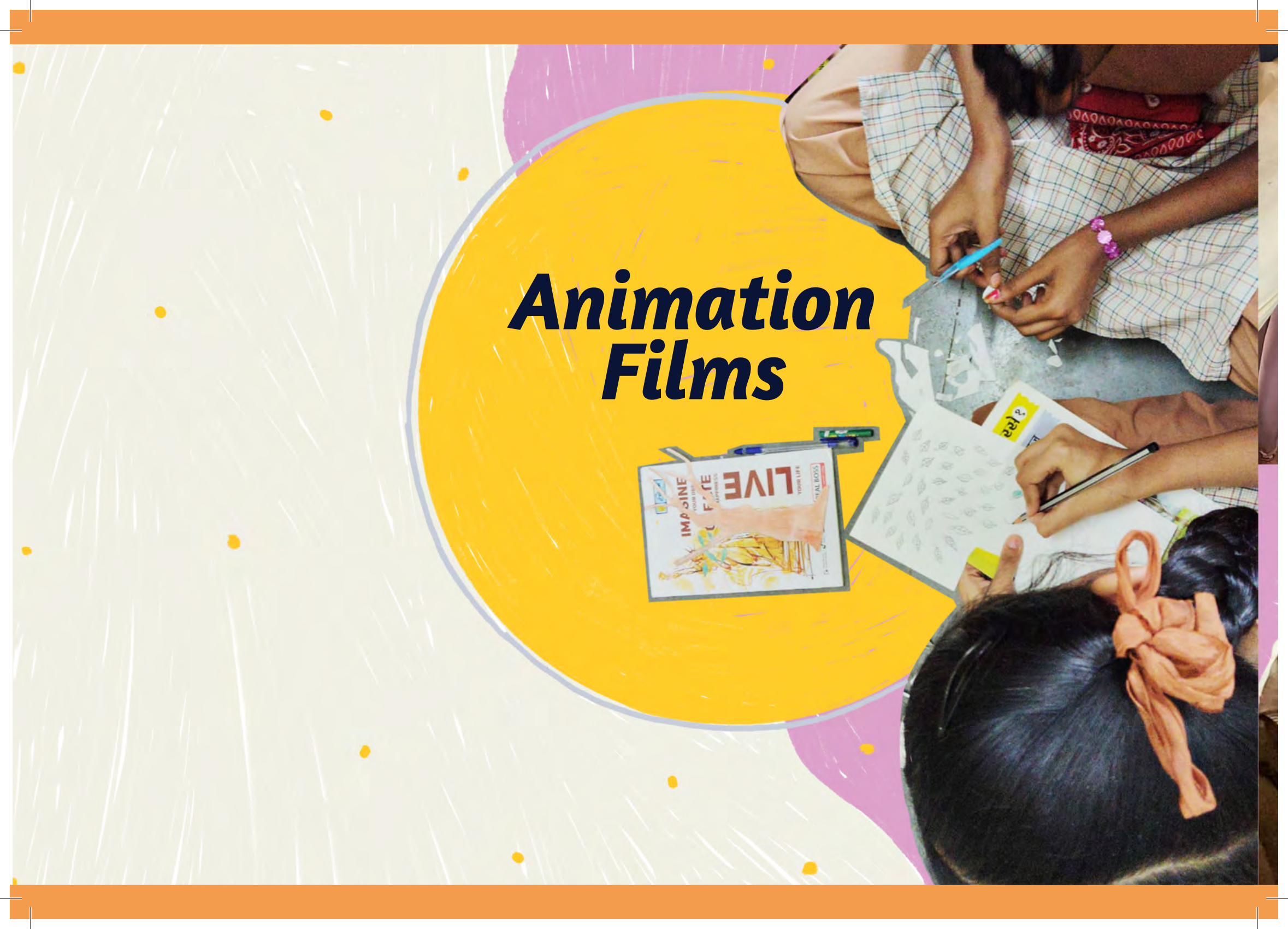
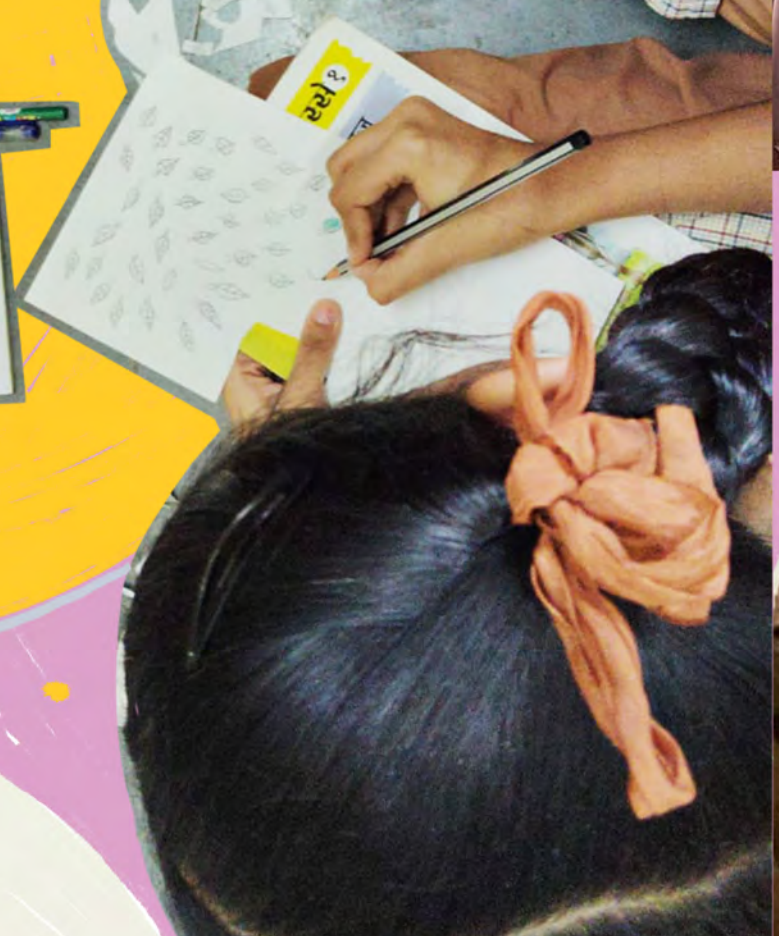
 SMT PKG Hindi School

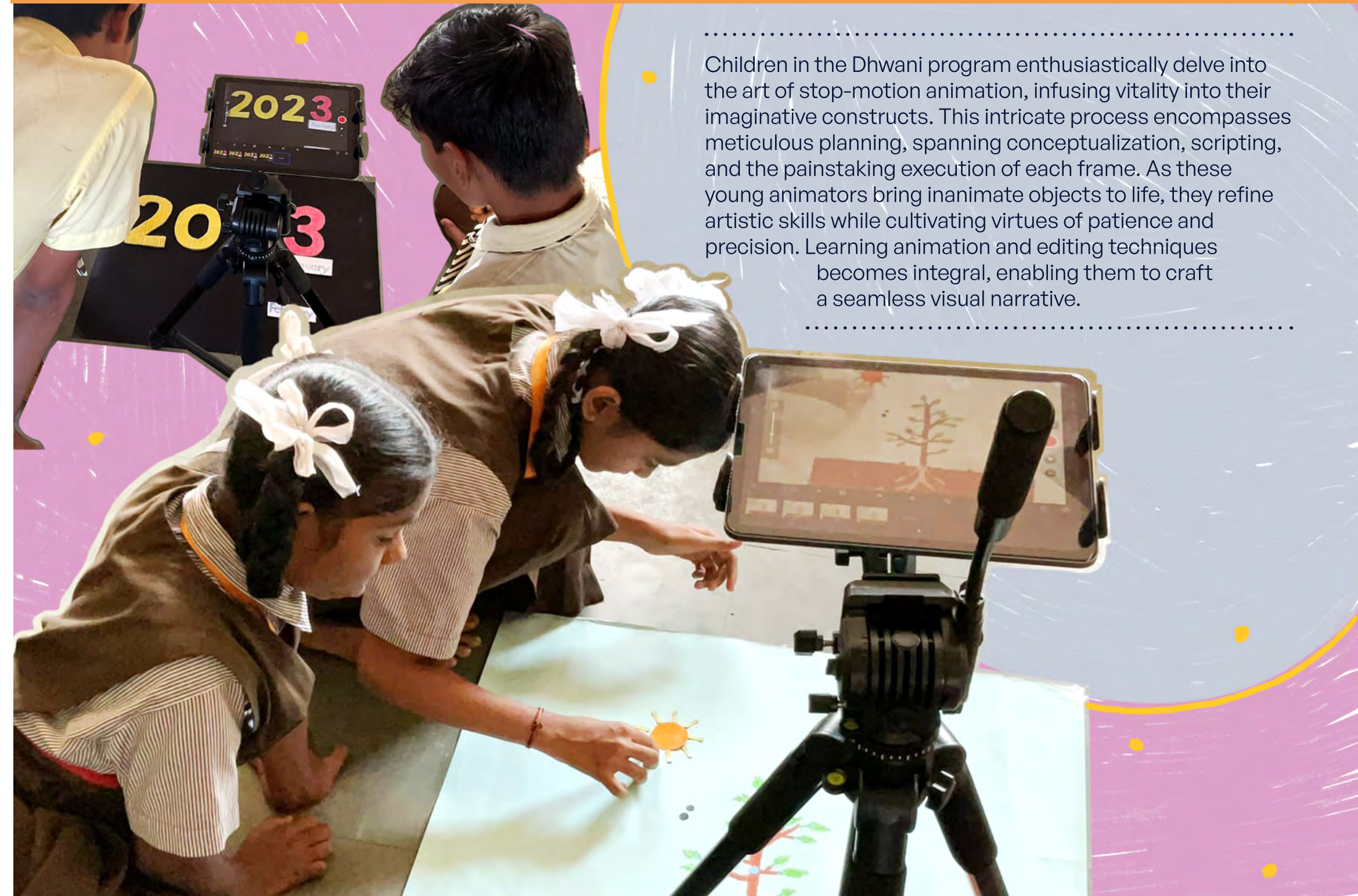
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# ***Animation Films***





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- Children in the Dhvani program enthusiastically delve into the art of stop-motion animation, infusing vitality into their imaginative constructs. This intricate process encompasses meticulous planning, spanning conceptualization, scripting, and the painstaking execution of each frame. As these young animators bring inanimate objects to life, they refine artistic skills while cultivating virtues of patience and precision. Learning animation and editing techniques becomes integral, enabling them to craft a seamless visual narrative.

.....

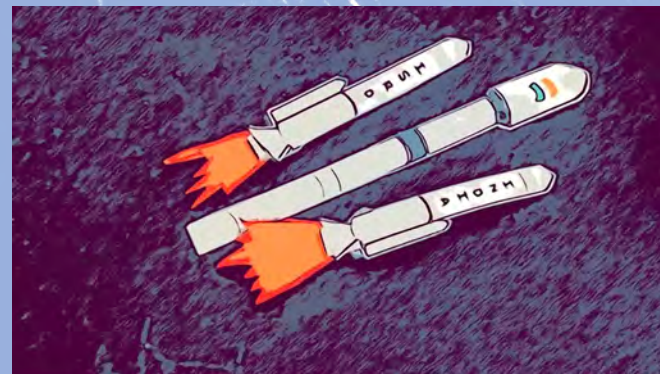
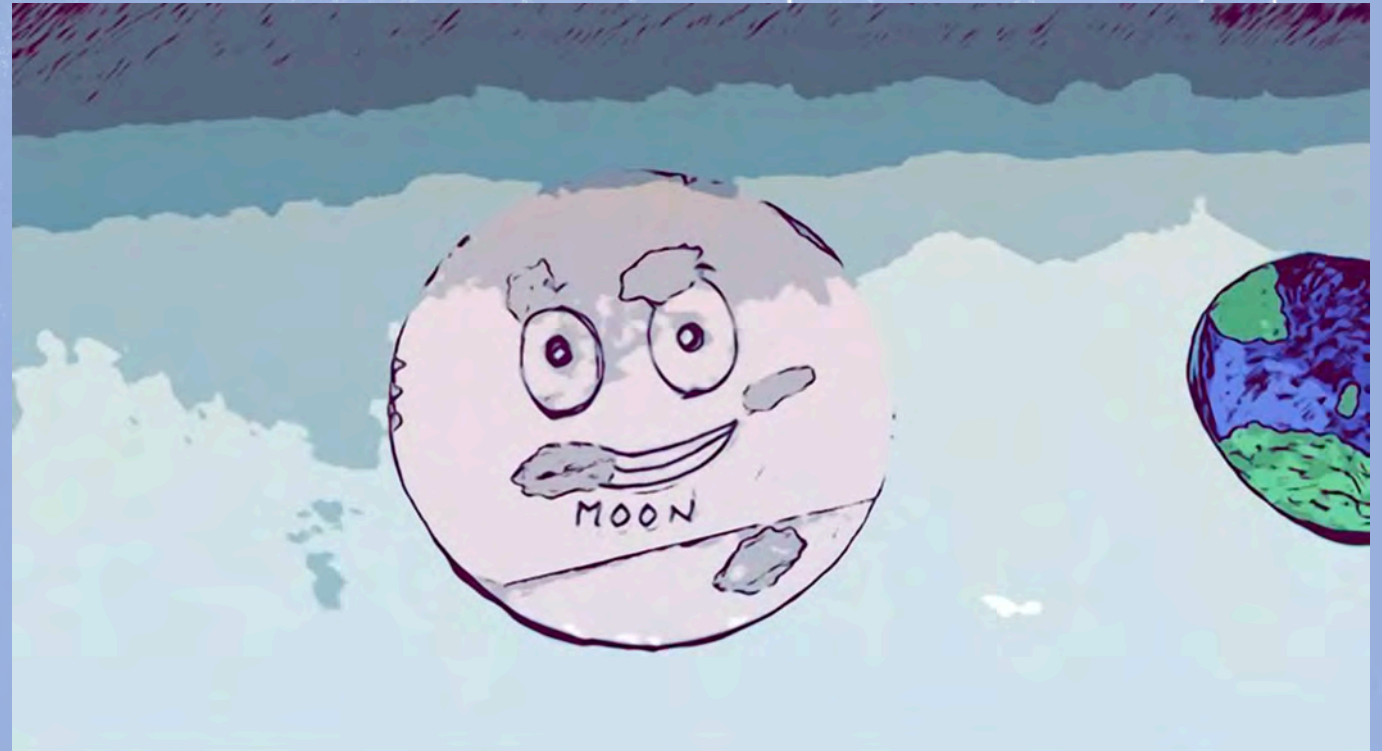


# Gracing the Moon's Stage

A celestial dance on a silvery canvas

Created by  
Swareet Chavan, Ansh Kori,  
Anupa Kori

 MPS Chunabhatti




# Dance the Day Away

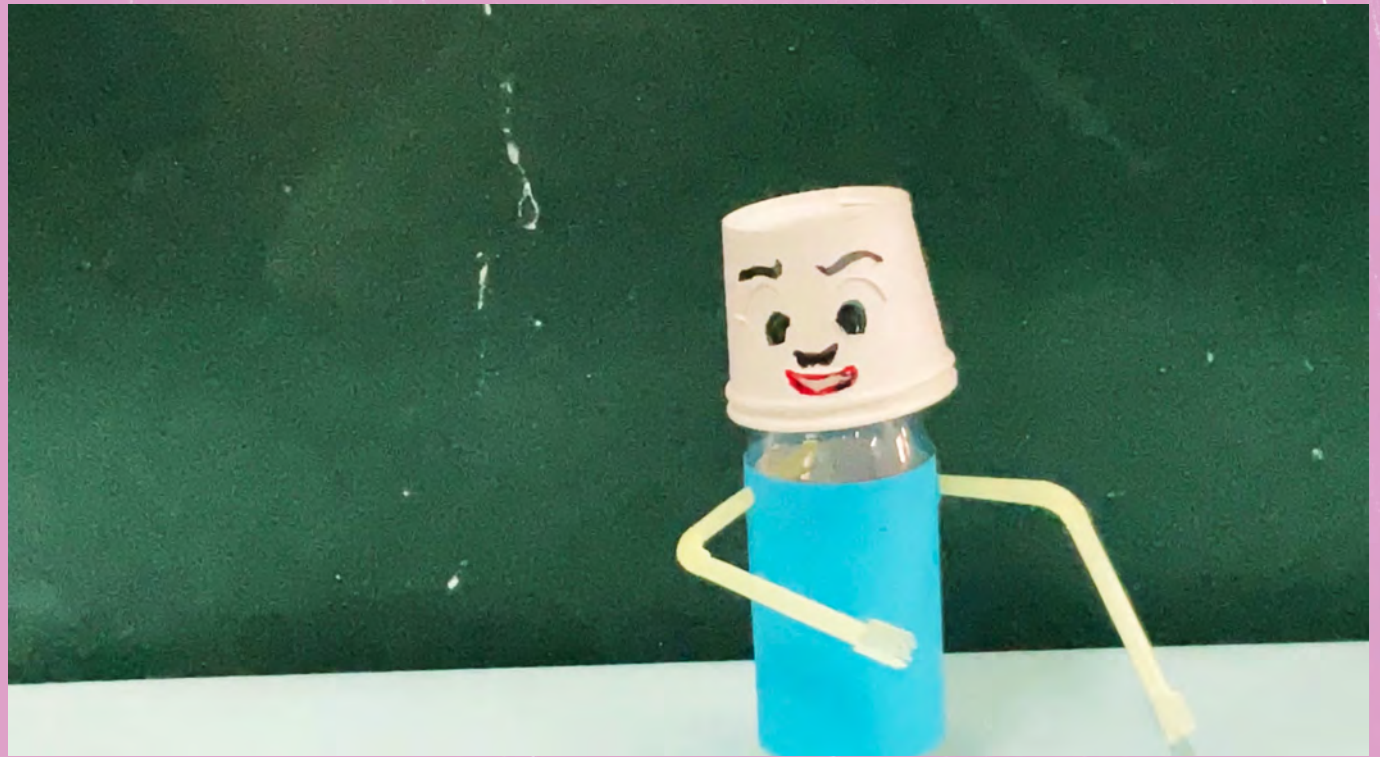
What does a pirouetting cup  
look like? Wonder no more!

---

**Created by**  
Mantasha Shaikh, Sneha Bothare

 MPS Neharu Nagar

---





# Rooted in Hope

Out with the axe, in with the environment

Created by  
Ganesh, Bhargavi, Nikita, Prachi,  
Anuradha

 VPM Vidyamandir



# Galactic Rotations

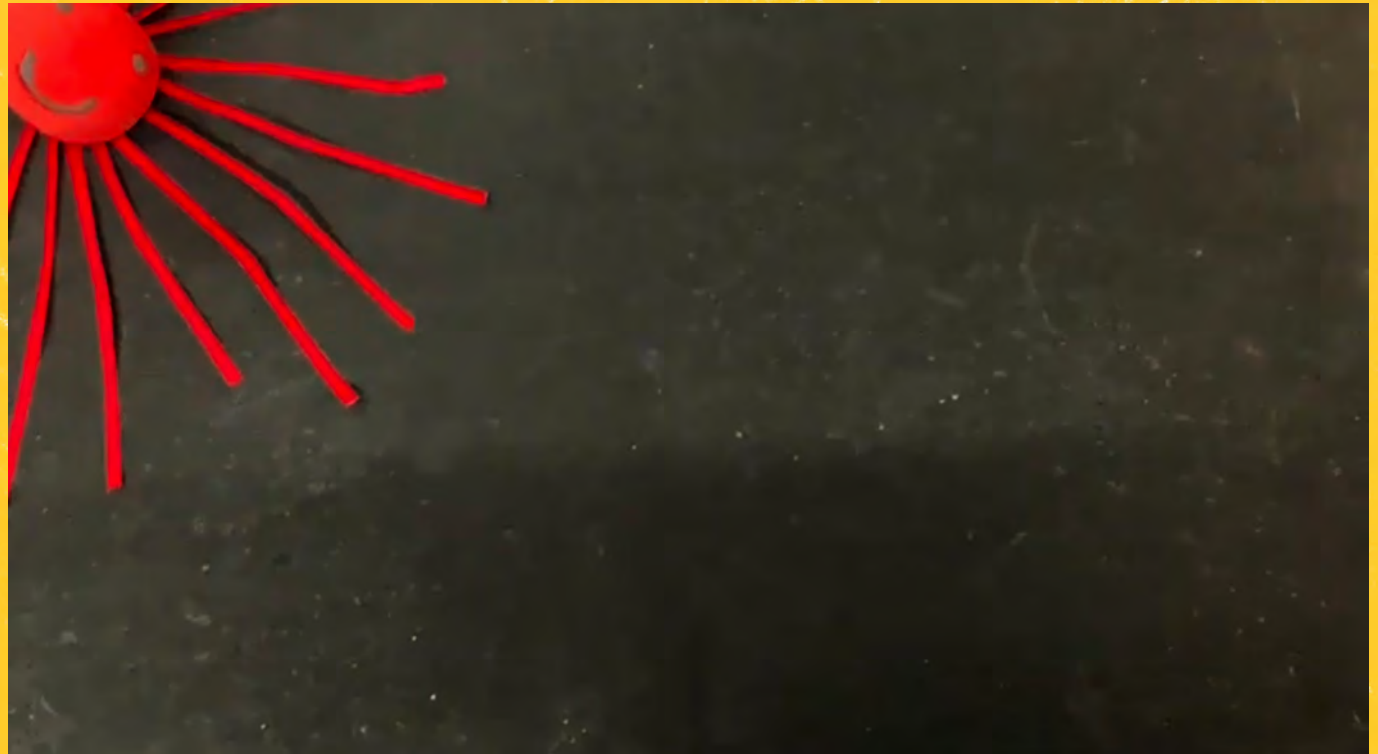
Animated constellations  
weaving a timeless tale

---

**Created by**  
Sonam Sharma, Geet Patel,  
Mohit Agrahari, Yash Rathod

 MPS Chunabhatti

---



# *A Diamond in the Depths*

A tale from the ocean floor

---

**Created by**

Dhruvi, Aleena, Aisha, Manasvi,  
Samiksha, Adiba

 Abhinav Vidyamandir

---



# Ancient Wisdom

Illuminating the path of  
enlightenment

---

Created by  
Manas, Shlok, Aary, Kunj

🏠 Abhinav Vidyamandir

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# Snakes on a Screen

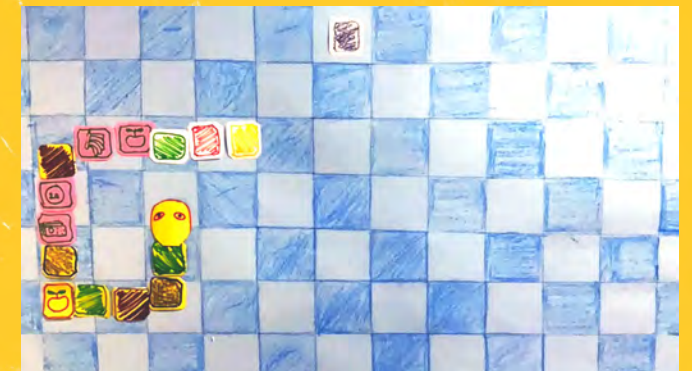
Navigating the pixelated maze

---

Created by  
Amar, Prem, Ajay, Alok

 Govandi Station MPS  
Marathi School

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# ***Kala Kootami***



.....  
*At the culmination of  
the Dhwani program,  
children eagerly  
anticipate the vibrant  
Kala Kootami fair, a  
celebration of their  
boundless creativity.*  
.....

Joined by peers, teachers, and community members, they come together to showcase their remarkable achievements. The fair hums with excitement as attendees explore the gallery space adorned with striking photographs, each telling a unique story captured through the lens. In the screening area, anticipation fills the air as the children's films unfold on the big screen, enthraling audiences with their imaginative narratives. Meanwhile, in the workshop section, young instructors lead engaging media-related activities, igniting the curiosity and creativity of visiting children.

The Kala Kootami fair is not just a showcase of talent; it's a vibrant tapestry of shared experiences, camaraderie, and the joy of creative expression, fostering a sense of pride and accomplishment among all involved. Here is a glimpse of this year's fairs.



**Kala  
Kootami**

Number of Kala  
Kootami fairs

**13**

Children  
reached

**8,349**















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