#### DECEMBER 2024



Official Newsletter of eVidyaloka Trust



## From Student to Teacher: Venkatraman's Inspiring Journey

In November, a young man, Venkatraman signed up to be a Volunteer Teacher with eVidyaloka. eVidyaloka has a legacy of valuing and celebrating the long-standing contributions of our Volunteer Teachers. But for this particular Volunteer, the sign-up itself called for celebrations filled with pride.



In 2017, the same Venkatraman sat in an eVidyaloka digital classroom as a sixth-grader in a small village called Anaibogi in Tamil Nadu, unaware of the profound impact it would have on his life. Growing up in a remote area with limited access to quality education, his world began to change when he began attending the online classes by eVidyaloka Volunteer Teachers at PUMS Anaibogi.

Between grades 6 and 7, Venkatraman was taught by a dedicated team of eVidyaloka volunteer teachers, including Nalini Mohan, Hema Srinivasan, Janaki Raghavan, and Shiyamali Sundararajan. Their innovative methods and constant encouragement not only helped him excel academically but also sparked inspiration within him. With their support, he achieved notable milestones: 69% in grade 10 and 70% in grade 12—achievements he once thought were beyond his reach.



Today, Venkatraman is a Mathematics undergraduate at Nandanam Arts College in Chennai.



This November, he took a life-changing step by registering as a volunteer teacher for the organization that once shaped his life. Soon, he will be teaching Science to sixth-graders at the PUMS Chettipunniyam center, completing a beautiful circle of learning and giving back.

When asked why he decided to return as a volunteer, **Venkatraman** shares: "The classes I attended as a student changed my life. Now, I want to give other children the same opportunity that I had."

As he prepares to inspire a new generation, Venkatraman embodies the essence of eVidyaloka's mission–empowering individuals through education.

## Strengthening Collaborations: Donors and Volunteers visiting our schools





#### Ada Grewal's Visit to KGBV Itava

Ada Grewal from WestBridge visited KGBV Itava, accompanied by eVidyaloka staff. Students extended a warm welcome with handmade bouquets and crafts. During the visit, Grewal interacted with students from grades 6 to 8 and observed a live class for grade 6, witnessing first-hand the experience of the classes.



#### **Visit to GHPS Belur: Expanding Horizons**

IIMB team member Amshrutha Rudresh, visited GHPS Belur, a newly onboarded school in Hassan District. Impressed by the program's potential, the donor representative expressed enthusiasm for expanding to other schools in the cluster and suggested exploring CSR funding opportunities to support the initiative.









## Cognizant Volunteers at GHPS Vimanapura

Cognizant volunteers visited GHPS Vimanapura and distributed stationery items and school kits. Their contributions brought joy to the students, while supporting their educational journey.

#### **Huron visits GHPS Basavanna Nagara**

At GHPS Basavanna Nagara, Whitefield, Karnataka, the donor team from Huron accompanied by eVidyaloka staff, interacted with the headmaster and students. They also observed a live class, gaining insights into the program's impact on enhancing rural education.





## Joy of Connect (JoC): Inspiring Sessions Across eVidyaloka Centres

The **Joy of Connect (JoC)** sessions connect students in eVidyaloka's rural government school centers with enthusiastic and inspiring individuals from diverse walks of life. These interactive sessions not only allow volunteers to connect with students but also witness enriching exchanges between the students and the volunteers. Here's a glimpse of recent JoC sessions, along with the impactful topics covered:



#### Nakarkote Centre, Jammu & Kashmir

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Venkat, the cofounder of eVidyaloka Trust, engaged with students, discussing the **Power of Gratitude**, complemented by a guided meditation session.

#### **UPG HS Karudih, Jharkhand**

LTIM Volunteer Teacher Malavika Hegde shared her experiences in **Running**, **Trekking**, **and Outdoors**, encouraging students to embrace an active lifestyle.



#### **ZPHS Thappelamorse, Andhra Pradesh**

Anumu Venkatramana, an LTIM Volunteer Teacher, inspired students with the topic **Aim High to Fly High in Life**, fostering aspirations and determination.

### ZPHS Induvasi Muthyalu & Vajragalu Centres, Telangana

LTIM Volunteer Teachers conducted sessions on Positive Mindsets During School Life and Respecting Elders, Loving Peers, and Younger Ones, emphasizing the importance of a positive and respectful attitude.





Each session brought unique perspectives, leaving students motivated and excited to apply these lessons in their daily lives.

### eVidyaloka at Dhwani Foundation's South India Partner Meet 2024

eVidyaloka proudly participated in the **Dhwani Foundation's South India Partner Meet,** held on **November 26th and 27th** in Bengaluru.







Representing eVidyaloka, Cofounder & Trustee, Venkat Sriraman and Chief Program Officer, Nityanand C shared valuable insights during distinguished panel discussions that delved into the evolving landscape of the social sector.



# Inspiring Innovation: eVidyaloka students at the India International Science Festival (IISF), 2024

Four students–Imrana Begum (Class 9) and Rumina Khatun (Class 8) from KGBV Bechimari, along with Surja Bhanu (Class 9) and Muktza Khatun (Class 9) from KGBV Dalgaon Sialmari–participated in the India International Science Festival (IISF)

Rukshana Parbin, now a Class Assistant at KGBV Bechimari under eVidyaloka's EmpowerED program, grew up in Bechimari village, Darrang, Assam, with a passion for science fueled by her involvement in Aryabhatta Science Centre (ASC) activities such as model-making and national observance events.

In recognition of her dedication, Rukshana was selected as a Guide Teacher for the India International Science Festival (IISF) 2024, held at IIT Guwahati from November 30 to December 3. to accompany the students.





#### **A Festival of Discovery**

IISF, organized by the Ministry of Science and Technology and Vijnana Bharati, is a premier event celebrating innovation and science. For many students, this was their first opportunity to explore science on such a grand scale. Hosted at IIT Guwahati, the event featured interactive sessions on subjects like Chemistry, Physics, and Maths, alongside vibrant cultural programs showcasing India's heritage.

The festival was inaugurated by Hon'ble Chief Minister of Assam, Dr. Himanta Biswa Sarma, and left students inspired by the potential of science and technology to transform lives.

#### **Igniting Curiosity**

Reflecting on the experience, Rukshana said:

"This journey was transformative for the students and me, sparking new ideas and deep curiosity. IISF demonstrated the power of science to address global challenges. I am grateful to eVidyaloka for enabling us to experience such an event."

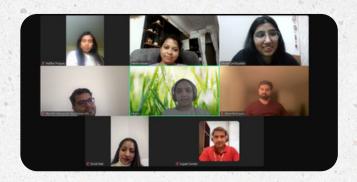




## USA Chapter Meet 2024



The USA Volunteer Chapter Meet of eVidyaloka Volunteers was held virtually on **16th November**, bringing together volunteers for an enriching exchange of experiences and inspirations. Volunteers shared heartfelt stories from their journey of educating rural children, highlighting the transformative impact of their efforts.



The meet featured engaging interactions, fun activities, and the introduction of two exciting initiatives: the **Volunteer Referral Program** and a **Fundraiser Activity**, aimed at furthering eVidyaloka's mission.

**Despite time zone challenges**, the unwavering dedication of our volunteers continues to inspire, reinforcing their commitment to making quality education accessible to every child.

## eleVate Webinar Series for eVidyaloka Volunteers

We have three more chapters added to eleVate.

As part of eVidyaloka's commitment to delivering quality education to children in rural India, eleVate provides volunteers with the knowledge, skills, and resources they need to thrive in a digital classroom.

Through a range of expert-led sessions, volunteers will gain insights into innovative teaching methods, classroom management techniques, and student engagement strategies.



# A week-long celebration of Children's Day at eVidyaloka

#### A creative day with 'Art & Craft'

Day 1 of our Children's Day celebrations featured a vibrant Mandala Art session led by Volunteer Teacher Nalina Sivakumar.
Children from across the country unleashed their creativity, crafting beautiful designs with enthusiasm and boundless imagination!



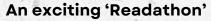






### A fun 'Magic Show'

Our Day 2 celebrations featured a captivating Magic Show by Magician Sridhar. The children were mesmerized by his tricks, their laughter and amazement lighting up the session. A truly magical experience that brought joy to all!



Our Day 3 Children's Day celebrations featured an engaging Readathon led by Volunteer Teacher Suguna Mohan. With a special message from Mrs. Sudha Murty and insights from chief guest Veena of Signify Innovation Labs, the session inspired curiosity and joy!









### **A Puppet Show**

Day 4 of our Children's Day celebrations featured a delightful Puppet Show by the talented Lata. The colorful puppets and lively stories captivated the children, filling the session with laughter, creativity, and unforgettable joy!



#### Student interaction session

Team eVidyaloka interacted with students and celebrated the day with fun banter, music and dance.





## Embracing the Future: A New Chapter in Learning

In the quiet village of Rajaun, Bihar, a transformative journey is unfolding at HS Rajaun School. With the recent introduction of basic computer education and Artificial Intelligence (AI), a spark of excitement has been ignited in this rural school, opening doors to new possibilities for students and teachers alike. What was once a distant dream is now a reality, proving that innovation knows no boundaries.



To read the full story, click here

## Teaching and Learning: A Journey of Mutual Growth at eVidyaloka

At eVidyaloka, teaching isn't just about lessons—it's a journey of mutual growth and inspiration. Volunteer teachers like Dr. Asha Vijai Rao and Archana B N have discovered the joy of shaping young minds while learning invaluable life lessons themselves. From breaking barriers to celebrating milestones, their stories reflect the power of education to transform lives.





To read the full story, click here

## Bringing Stories to Life

This Children's Day at GHSS Lashkarpur, Madhya Pradesh, was nothing short of magical! Dr. Asha Vijay Rao, an eVidyaloka Volunteer Teacher, brought the story "The Faithful Mongoose" to life through an enchanting performance filled with costumes, expressive storytelling, and heartfelt lessons. The students' laughter and excitement lit up the room, proving how creativity can turn education into an unforgettable adventure.







## CELEBRATING WORLD TELEVISION DAY WITH EVIDYALOKA STUDENTS IN ASSAM

On **November 21st**, eVidyaloka students across KGBVs in Assam celebrated **World Television Day**, marking the anniversary of the first World Television Forum held in 1996. The students showcased their creativity by performing television advertisements, making the day both educational and enjoyable.







#### The celebration focused on:

- Developing 21st-century skills in students.
- Demonstrating the power of effective advertisements to capture audience attention.
- Enhancing acting and presentation abilities.
- Encouraging teamwork and collaboration.
- Building confidence by reducing stage fear and preparing students for the future.



The event highlighted the students' enthusiasm and creativity, empowering them to learn, grow, and shine on stage and beyond.

eVidyaloka is able to transform the educational landscape of rural India with access to quality education because of the unwavering support of our patrons and volunteers.

You too can join us in this mission.

**Donate** 





