

Curriculum and Training: Our People and the Future

At Birla Open Minds, we've always believed that education and curriculum are not static, it's a living, breathing entity that must grow with the times while staying rooted in strong values. The curriculum we design is never a final product; it is an evolving framework, constantly shaped by the needs of the learner, the demands of the world, and the insights of our incredible educators.

But even the most forward-thinking curriculum is only as effective as the teachers/educators who bring it to life. That's why every new direction we take is matched with rigorous, thoughtful training programs for our teachers. Our Training Team works tirelessly on the ground, ensuring our educators are not just informed but empowered, not just trained but inspired. I often recall a piece in one of our workshop in Eastern India where a new teacher, nervous and unsure told us by the end of the session, "I finally feel like I belong in this space." That's the kind of transformation we aim for.

Our curriculum is ambitious: it's designed to encourage critical thinking, creativity, and compassion. But it also needs constant nurturing. This is where our Principals come in, our true change makers. They're not left to navigate these changes alone. Whether it's implementing a new assessment strategy or interpreting a fresh policy update, our Academic Team ensures ongoing handholding and guidance. As one Principal shared after a particularly a curriculum rollout, "I knew I could call the academic team at any hour. And I did!" That trust is what makes Birla Open Minds a strong academic family.

Of course, no conversation about curriculum today is complete without touching on AI.



Yes, it's exciting. AI tools can support personalized learning, automate mundane tasks, and bring a world of information to our classrooms. But as we embrace this wave, we also remain vigilant. Too much reliance can dilute the human touch so vital to education.

Our approach is balanced. We teach our educators and students to see AI as an ally, not a replacement. In one of our recent sessions, a teacher shared how ChatGPT helped her generate creative prompts for poetry but the real magic happened when her students turned those prompts into soul-stirring verses. AI provided the canvas, but our students painted the story.

What Sets Us Apart: Initiatives with Heart

Education must go beyond the textbooks and we walk that talk every day. Some of our standout initiatives this year include:

➤ **We Care** – our comprehensive child safety program that ensures every learner feels safe, seen, and supported.

➤ **Sugar Board** –

- A visually engaging board (in a prominent place: canteen, corridor, assembly area).
- On the board, reflecting: daily sugar limit, examples of sugar content in foods/drinks, risk factors of excess sugar, healthier swaps.
- Conduct seminars/workshops to reinforce the messaging.
- Tie in this effort to overall nutritional & health literacy in the school environment.

➤ **Learner-Led Conferences** – where students take ownership of their learning and proudly present their progress to parents and teachers. These are not just meetings—they're celebrations of growth.

➤ **Art-Integrated Projects** – blending creativity with academics to deepen understanding and promote cross-disciplinary learning.

Even our textbooks aren't just books. They are tools to develop skills and support holistic learning, carefully designed to spark curiosity, not just deliver information.

In Gratitude

None of this would be possible without the twin pillars that support our academic excellence: our **Training Team** and our **Curriculum Team**.

From long hours of content development to on-ground workshops and feedback sessions, your dedication is the heartbeat of Birla Open Minds. You don't just teach how to teach you teach how to lead, how to care, and how to grow.

As we continue to evolve, may we always remember that curriculum is more than content, it's connection. And change, when held with courage and compassion, becomes our greatest teacher.

Satwant Palekar
Head of Academics

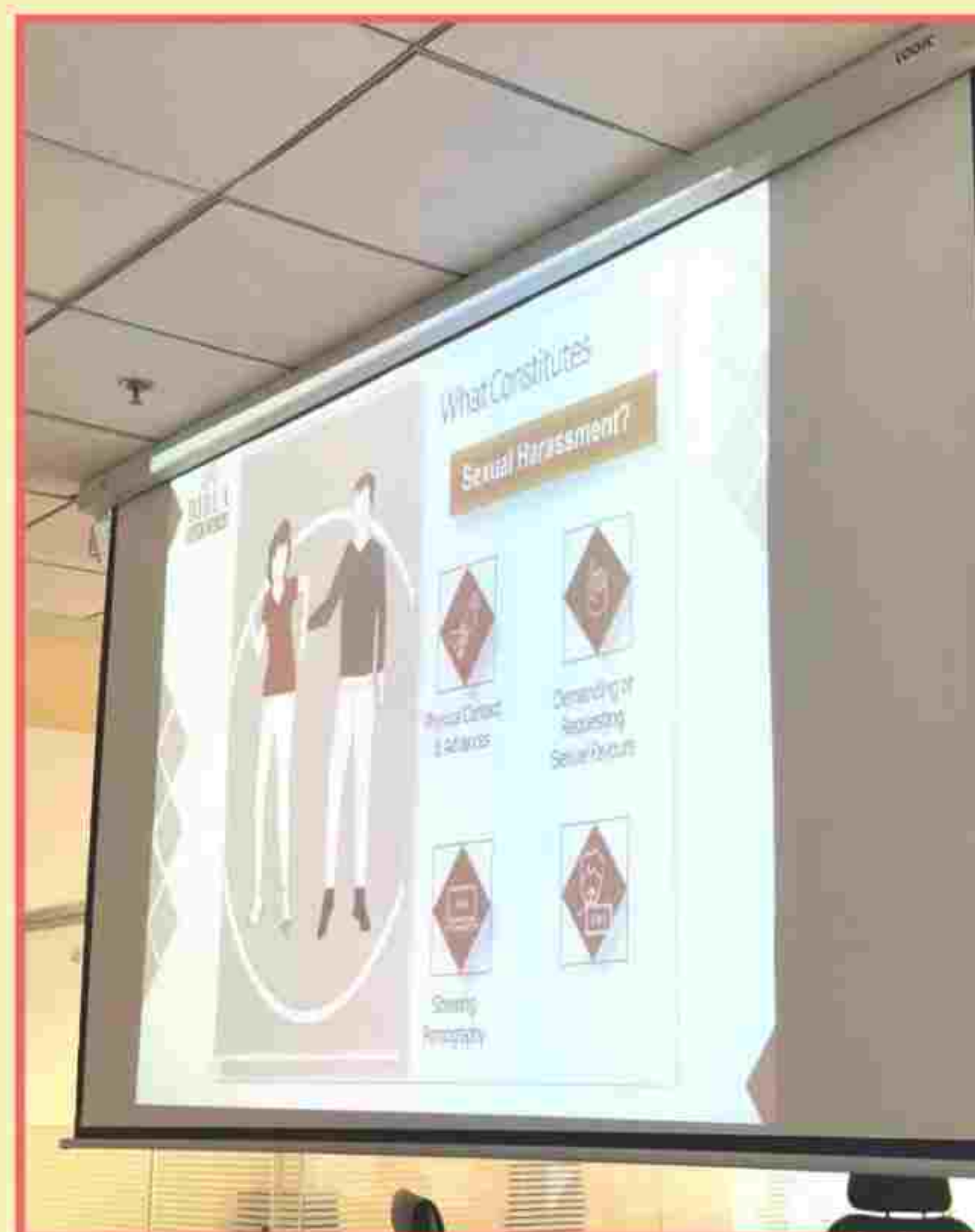




POSH (Prevention of Sexual Harassment)

As part of our commitment to fostering a safe, respectful, and inclusive workplace, a **POSH (Prevention of Sexual Harassment)** awareness session was conducted on 22nd July 2025 at Birla Open Minds Head Office.

The POSH Act aims to ensure a secure and dignified work environment for all employees by preventing and addressing incidents of sexual harassment. The session helped employees understand their rights, responsibilities, and the procedures for raising concerns in a safe and confidential manner.



World Mental Health Day

As part of **World Mental Health Day** observed on 10th October 2025, a session on Mental Wellness was conducted at the Head Office.

The session aimed to promote a positive, respectful, and healthy work environment among employees.

World Mental Health Day is observed globally to raise awareness about mental health issues and to encourage efforts in support of mental well-being. It serves as a reminder of the importance of caring for one's mental health and supporting others in creating a compassionate and understanding workplace.





Experiential Learning Books – Turning Classrooms into Innovation Labs

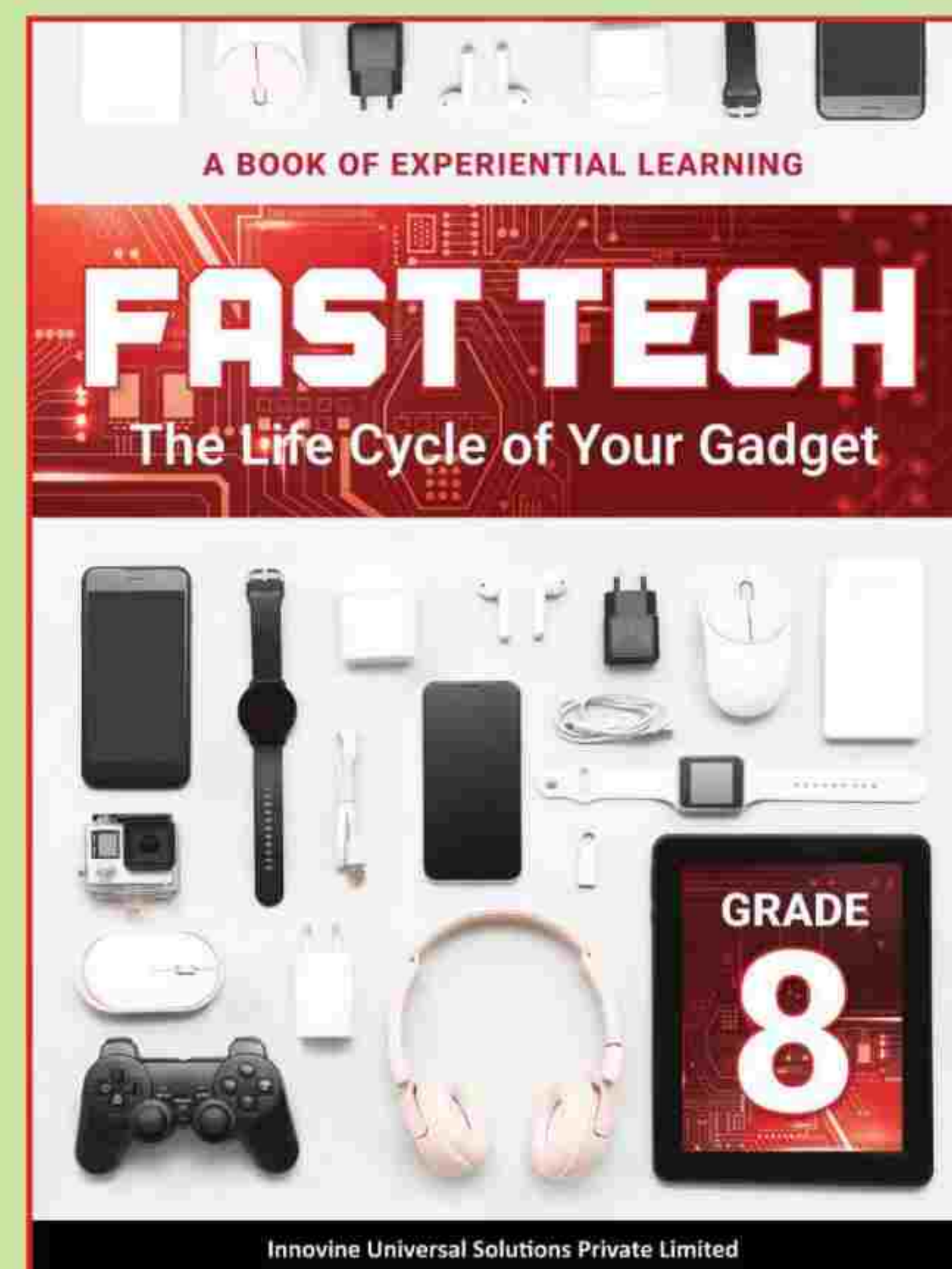
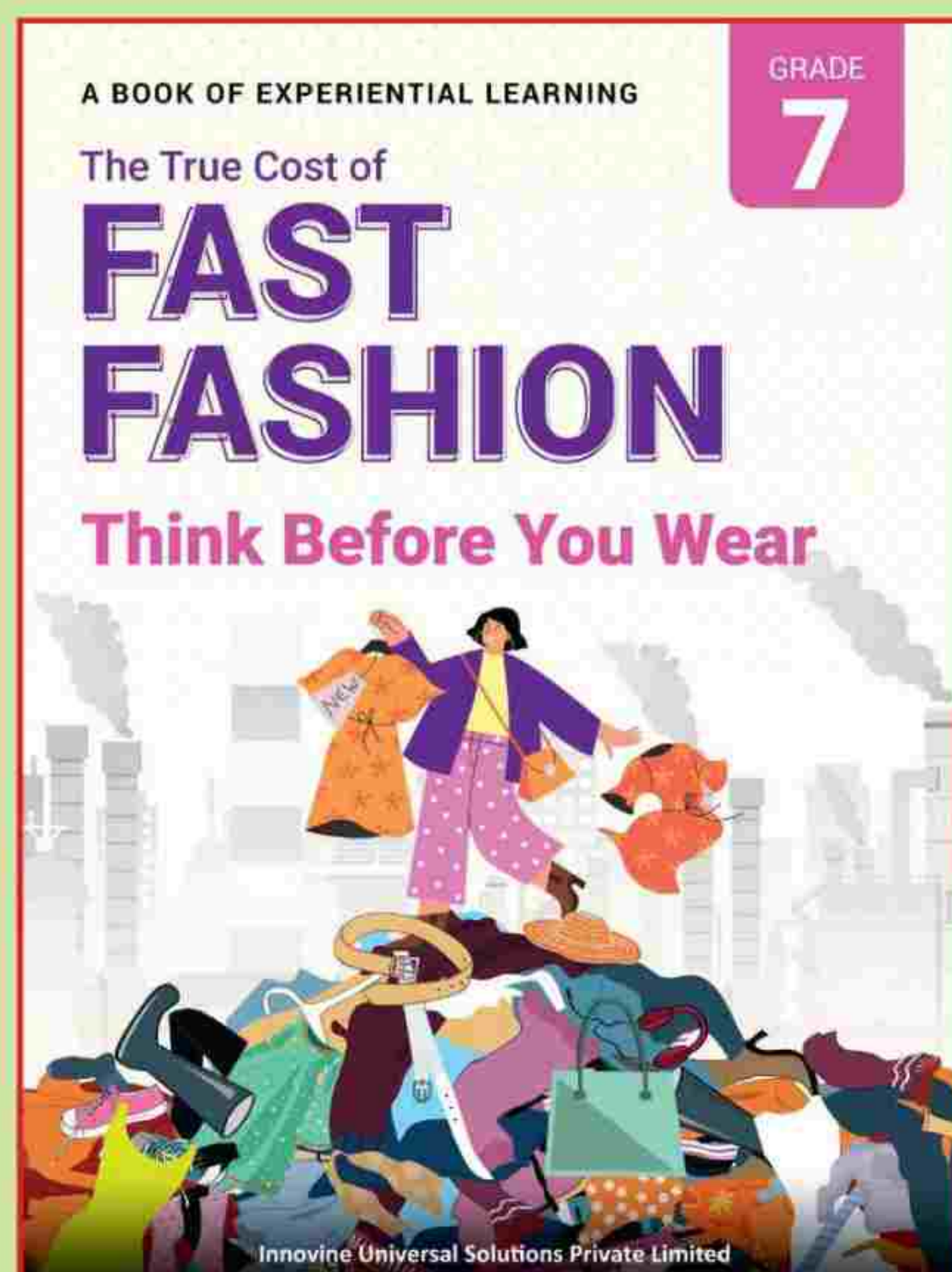
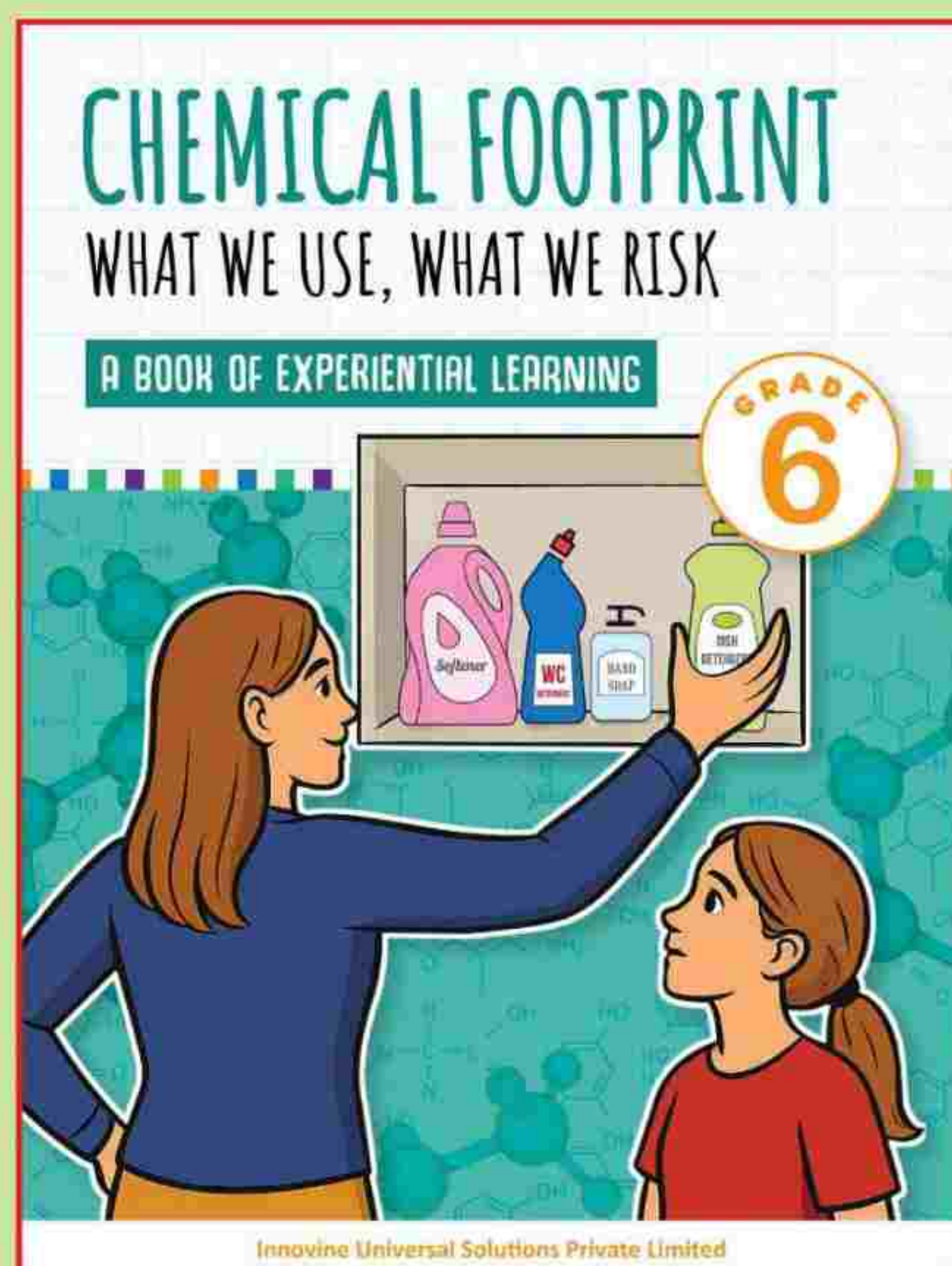
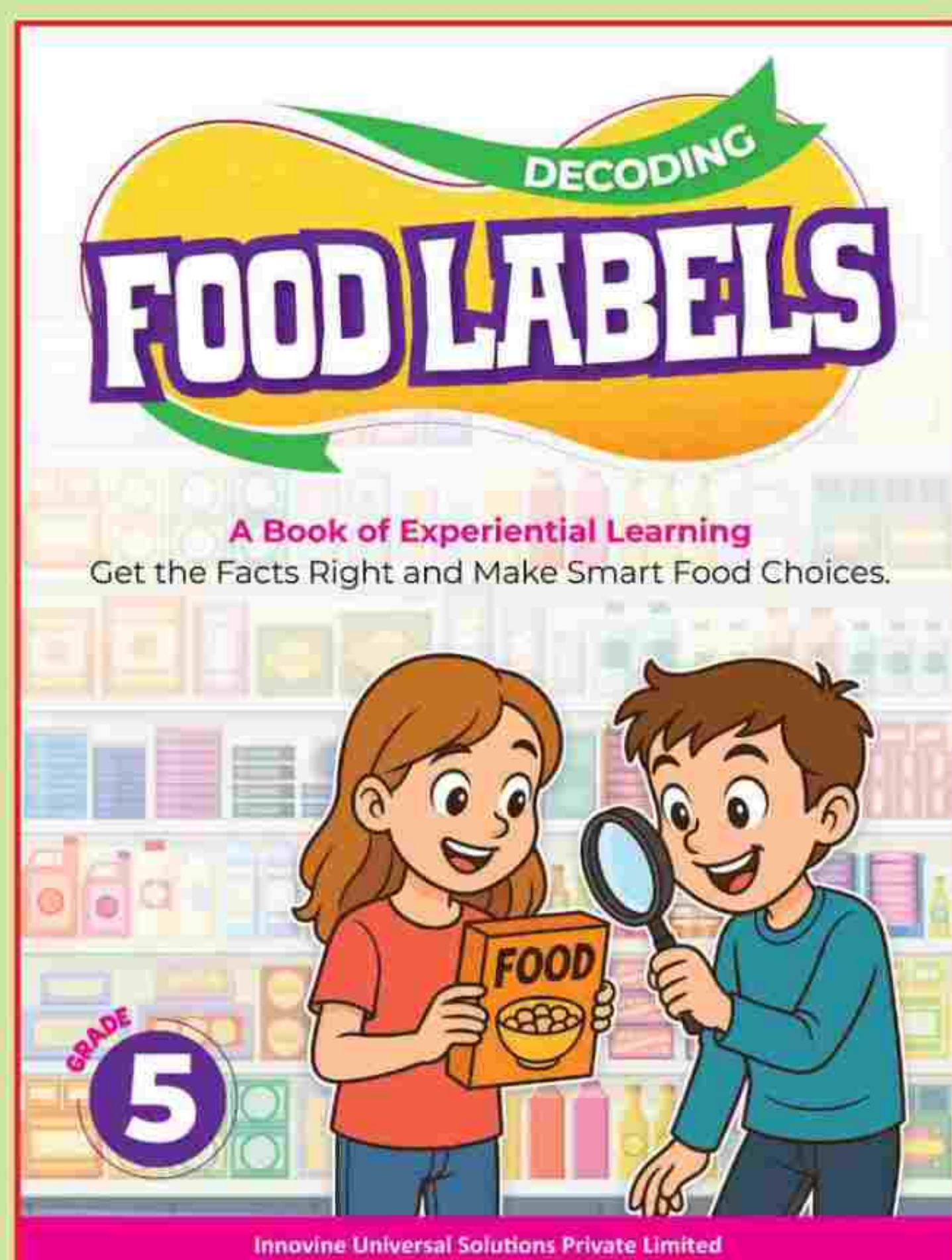
Imagine a classroom buzzing with excitement—students debating ideas, testing prototypes, investigating mysteries, and connecting what they learn to the world beyond their school walls. That’s the power of experiential learning, and it’s exactly what our newly launched **Experiential Learning Books** aim to achieve.

Rooted in David Kolb’s Experiential Learning Cycle and guided by the NEP 2020 vision for inquiry-based, hands-on education, these books transform lessons into real-world adventures. They empower students to do, reflect, and create—bridging the gap between knowing and understanding.

For teachers, these books offer a fresh, structured approach that simplifies lesson delivery while enriching classroom dialogue. Each activity encourages observation, collaboration, and critical thinking, making teaching more interactive and rewarding. For students, the experience is nothing short of transformational—learning becomes joyful, meaningful, and deeply personal.

From decoding hidden sugars in food (Grade 5: Decoding Food Labels), to exploring chemical footprints in daily life (Grade 6), to questioning fast fashion (Grade 7), and uncovering the story of gadgets (Grade 8), every theme nurtures awareness, empathy, and innovation.

As Benjamin Franklin said, “Tell me and I forget. Teach me and I remember. Involve me and I learn.” These books are built on that belief—inviting every learner to think, question, and create the future.



Sheetal Singh
General Manager- Academics





Fostering the Love of Learning in the 21st Century

Education today goes beyond textbooks and exams; it is about nurturing curiosity, creativity, and character. At BOMIS Ambikapur, experiential and inquiry-based learning has replaced rote memorization, helping students become confident, empathetic, and resilient. Real-world problem-solving, collaboration, and open classrooms encourage children to think independently. While technology supports learning, it can never replace human connection. A teacher's warmth, encouragement, and values like kindness, integrity, and empathy remain central. True education is not just about success—it is about building responsible, humble, and compassionate individuals. Our greatest achievement as educators is inspiring a lifelong love for learning.

Mr. Manoj Karmakar
Principal,
Birla Open Minds International School,
Ambikapur



***अज्ञानतिमिरान्धस्य ज्ञानांजनशलाकाया।**

चक्षुरुन्मीलितं येन तस्मै श्रीगुरुवे नमः॥*

Meaning: Salutations to the Guru who opens the eyes of the one blinded by ignorance with the ointment of knowledge.

From ancient times, the spirit of India has always been illuminated by the wisdom of its Gurus. In the sacred tradition of the Gurukul, learning was not confined to books or classrooms but was a lifelong journey of awakening the mind and refining the soul. The Guru was the light that dispelled ignorance, just as the shloka reminds us 'अज्ञानतिमिरान्धस्य...', the one who opens the eyes of those blinded by darkness with the ointment of wisdom.

Though that traditional culture of Gurukul may have faded with time, its timeless essence still flows through institutions like Birla Open Minds, where education is not merely a pursuit of knowledge but a shaping of character, values, and inner clarity. Here, teaching transcends instruction; it becomes inspiration. Learning is not memorisation; it becomes transformation.

Our educators carry the same sacred responsibility that once rested with the Gurus — to nurture curiosity, instill resilience, and ignite the spark of independent thinking. Every interaction, every lesson, and every act of guidance should reflect the purity and purpose that define true teaching.

Let us, as a community of learners and guides, preserve this eternal spirit. In every child's question lies the seed of possibility, and in every teacher's patience shines the grace of the Guru.

A true Guru does not merely instruct — he awakens. At BOMIS - Ballari, we thrive to sustain that sacred connection with our ancient roots, where learning is an experience of both intellect and inner growth.

Ms. Arthi Sirwar
Director,
Birla Open Minds International School,
Ballari

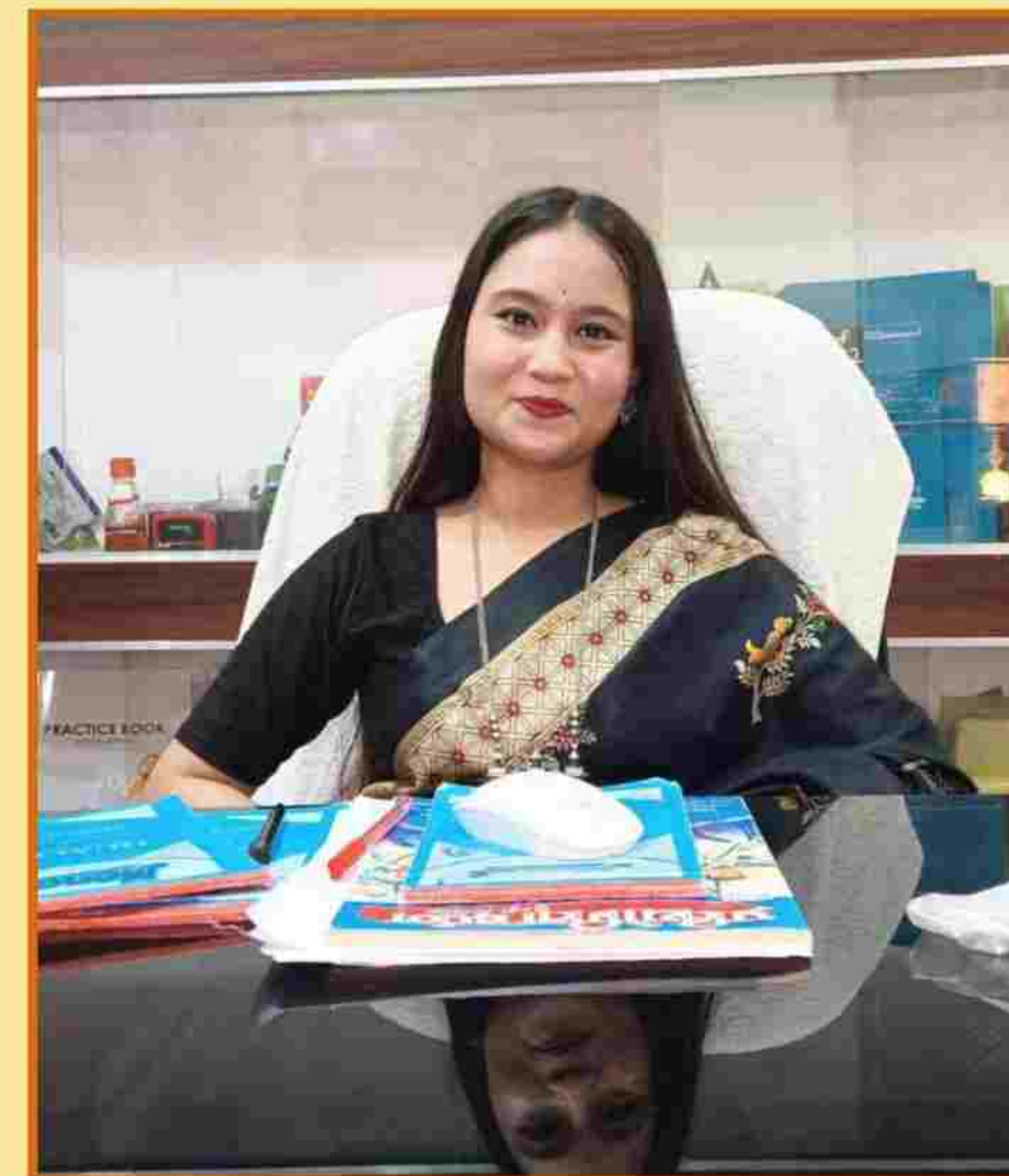




Education Beyond ABCs and 1,2,3s

Education in the early years lays the foundation for a child's lifelong learning journey. Preschool is not only about letters and numbers, but also about developing curiosity, creativity, and confidence. When children are given opportunities to explore, question, and express themselves, they build the skills needed for problem-solving and teamwork. Teachers act as facilitators who nurture values, communication, and independent thinking. A balanced environment of structured learning and free play ensures holistic growth. By focusing on social, emotional, and cognitive development together, we prepare children not just for school, but for life itself.

Ms. Gauri Nanda
Centre Head,
Birla Open Minds International School,
Akhilesh Nagar



Why should we send the child to preschool in early years ?

Yes I do feel that sending the child to preschool at an early age as early as 18 to 24 months is very important and vital for the overall development of the child .

In this era we are surrounded by so many electronic gadgets which are terribly impacting the minds and lives of tiny toddlers .

If they attend school at the right age it enhances their capability of socialising .

The preschool also provides an opportunity to interact with other kids of the same age group through learning many activities with each other .

The preschool years also help in developing self confidence , emotional intelligence, cognitive development and prepares the child to attend kindergarten .

It's a stepping stone in a child's life which inculcates behavioural discipline and basic manners and etiquette too .

Dr. Honey Singh
Principal,
Birla Open Minds Preschool,
Boring Road & Patliputra



Nurturing Young Ones

Little minds are fertile, absorbing whatever they encounter. Good input fosters good behavior; bad input leads to negative traits. This responsibility lies not just with schools but also with parents, society, and the child's environment. Parents' actions, words, and behavior profoundly influence their children. From experience, I've observed children from broken, quarrelsome homes often display aggression, while those raised in loving, calm settings remain peaceful and balanced. Children need care, love, and guidance alongside academics. Our focus should be holistic development—nurturing them into good human beings who discern right from wrong. Like plants, they grow as we nurture them. Let's raise them with love to spread positivity.

Mr. Ishfaq Ahmad Dar
Director,
Birla Open Minds Preschool,
Chadoora, J & K





Padho, Padho, Padho... Bas Padho!

Since childhood, we've often heard — "Padho beta, padhai hi sab kuch hai." But sometimes I wonder — why is academics considered the only path to success?

If that were true, how did Sachin Tendulkar become a legend despite not completing Class 10?

How did Lata Mangeshkar, without a formal degree, become the voice of a nation? And why do so many successful entrepreneurs begin working at such a young age?

I've seen people with multiple degrees still struggling to earn ₹10,000 a month, while a street vendor or a small business owner earns much more with skill and determination.

Still, I study sincerely. I work hard, even if my marks remain average. Yes, at times it makes me question — is success only about marks?

Perhaps not. Maybe education isn't just about grades —

It's about learning discipline, resilience, and how to think differently.

And that's what keeps me going — to learn, to grow, and to discover my definition of success.

Sukhman Tuteja, Grade 8

**Birla Open Minds International School,
Dewas**



Mobile Phones: Advantages and Disadvantages

What is a Mobile Phone?

A mobile phone, also known as a cell phone, is a portable device that allows users to make cell calls, send text messages, access the internet, use applications (app), and perform a wide variety of tasks.

Modern smartphones combine the functionality of a telephone and a computer, making this powerful tool in the palm of our hands.

Advantages of Mobile Phones

There are many advantages of mobile phones like instant communication and educational support.

Educational support is another big advantage. With mobile phones, students can learn new things using apps and videos. For example, we can watch fun videos about science or math on YouTube. During school holidays, we can even do online classes if needed. Phones also have dictionaries and maps to help with homework.

Disadvantages of Mobile Phones

But mobile phones also have some disadvantages. One big problem is that they can be harmful to health. Looking at the screen for too long can hurt our eyes, and using them a lot may cause headaches. Also, the radiation from phones might not be good for our body if we use them too much.

Lastly, phones are expensive, and if we lose them, it can be a big problem. Not everyone can afford a good phone, so it creates a gap between rich and poor people.

Ananya Prakash, Grade 5

**Birla Open Minds International School,
Munger**





The Character of a Woman

Woman, this is your story — milk in your lap and tears in your eyes.

When a woman becomes a mother, everyone eagerly waits for the news of a baby boy. Yet, deep inside, she worries that if a girl is born, her family might be disappointed. For centuries, society has considered girls weak and treated them unfairly. In the past, cruel practices like child marriage, the sati system, and slavery caused immense suffering to women. Though those dark days have passed, even today, some people still see women as objects rather than as equals.

In modern times, women have proved their strength and capability. They stand shoulder to shoulder with men in every field, achieving success through hard work and determination. Yet, despite progress, women continue to face challenges to their safety and respect.

A woman is a creator and nurturer — a loving daughter, sister, wife, and mother. She carries the weight of two families, spreading love and care wherever she goes. From birth, she is known by her father's name; after marriage, by her husband's — yet she remains strong and selfless.

I feel proud and grateful to be a girl, for my parents taught me that being a woman is a blessing.

Rabya Kumari, Grade 4
Birla Open Minds International School,
Shree Banshidhar Nagar, Garhwa



Soil's Favourite Food

Once upon a time, there was a girl named Nitya. She was playing in the soil and talking to it. She said to the soil, "Let's talk about our favourite food." She asked, "What is your favourite food?" The soil replied, "I only like to drink water." Then Nitya said, "You should try some seeds or grains — you might like them!" She gave some seeds to the soil, and the soil liked their taste. From that time, the soil started eating seeds and growing plants. From those plants, we get beautiful flowers and healthy, delicious fruits. Do you know how plants grow? First, the soil takes in the seed, then it sprouts. After that comes the seedling, then the young tree, and finally, we get a grown tree with flowers and fruits.

Nitya Vipul Grawande, K2
Birla Open Minds Preschool,
Akola





Leela and the Battle of Junk Food

Once there was a girl named Leela. She loved eating junk food like chocolates, chips, and burgers. She hated healthy food and said it was boring. She also didn't like to exercise. Leela even got upset with her mom for giving her only healthy meals. So, she secretly ate junk food with her friends and lied about it to her mother.

One day, Leela got a bad stomach ache, toothache, and high fever. Her mom gave her medicine and told her to rest. While sleeping, Leela had a strange dream. She saw all her organs — heart, lungs, stomach, liver, intestines, muscles, and bones — sitting sadly in front of her. The heart was crying, the lungs were tired, the stomach was angry, the intestines were constipated, the muscles were weak, and the bones were cracked. All the junk foods were laughing loudly at her and her sick organs!

Those junk foods contained harmful ingredients like maida, palm oil, sugar, artificial colors, and preservatives, which were damaging Leela's body.

Suddenly, the healthy foods — fruits, vegetables, grains, and pulses — entered wearing superhero capes. They fought bravely with the junk food and finally won! They repaired Leela's organs by giving them protein, fiber, calcium, iron, vitamins, and minerals.

Leela woke up, hugged her mom, and promised to eat healthy food and exercise daily.

Moral: Eat healthy, stay strong, and say no to junk food!

Sahiba Rajput, K1 A
Birla Open Minds Preschool,
Sec 114 .Mohali



Doctor Ant's Adventure – Caring for Little Creatures

On a bright Sunday morning, little Anaisha was enjoying her breakfast when she noticed something unusual — a mommy ant carrying her baby in her arms. The tiny baby ant seemed to be in pain and couldn't walk! Anaisha's curious eyes followed them closely. "Maa, look! The baby ant isn't walking!" she exclaimed.

Without wasting a moment, Anaisha decided to help. Wearing her little doctor's cape, she became **Doctor Fix-it**, ready to care for her tiny patient. "Come in!" she said warmly as the worried mother ant and her baby entered her imaginary clinic. The baby ant, shy and in pain, hid behind his mother. After learning that he had hurt his leg while playing peek-a-boo, Doctor Fix-it gently examined the leg and applied a cute little cast. Soon, the baby ant smiled, admiring his new bandage. "Thank you, Doctor Fix-it!" he said with a giggle.

Later, Anaisha's mother asked, "Why did you choose to treat this patient?"

Anaisha replied, "Because the baby was crying — I had to be quick!"

"And what makes a good doctor?"

"They have to be very good at heart," she said sweetly.

Her mother smiled, proud of her daughter's kindness and compassion.

Anaisha Banerjee, Nursery
Birla Open Minds Preschool,
Durganagar





Poem - The wheels on the bus

The wheels on the bus go round and round
 Round and round
 Round and round
 The wheels on the bus go round and round
 All through the town.
 The wipers on the bus go swish, swish, swish
 Swish, swish, swish
 Swish, swish, swish
 The wipers on the bus go swish, swish, swish
 All through the town.
 The people on the bus go chat, chat, chat
 Chat, chat, chat
 Chat, chat, chat
 The people on the bus go chat, chat, chat
 All through the town.
 The horn on the bus goes beep, beep, beep
 Beep, beep, beep
 Beep, beep, beep
 The horn on the bus goes beep, beep, beep
 All through the town.
 The babies on the bus go waa, waa, waa
 Waa, waa, waa
 Waa, waa, waa
 The babies on the bus go waa, waa, waa
 All through the town.

Sourced by
Rishit Gupta, K1
Birla Open Minds Preschool,
Katihar





Hospital Visit – A Touch of Kindness

Held on 30th August 2025

Students carried warmth and smiles to those who needed them most. The visit became a lesson in empathy, teaching that small acts of care make big differences.



School Camp – Discover, Learn, and Lead

Held from 11th to 13th September 2025

An adventurous escape that taught teamwork, courage, and leadership. Students explored their potential through activities that shaped confidence and discipline.



Birla Open Minds International School, Lawaypora, Srinagar

BOMIS Model United Nations Conference (BMUNC)

The BOMIS Model United Nations Conference was an exciting and enriching experience for our students. Young delegates stepped into the shoes of world leaders to discuss and debate pressing global issues with confidence and diplomacy. The event featured various committees such as the General Assembly, IMF, WHO, UNICEF, ECOSOC, and UNSC, where students represented different countries and presented their views with well-researched points. The conference helped students enhance their public speaking, teamwork, and critical thinking skills, while also understanding the importance of global peace and cooperation. It was truly inspiring to see our young minds voice their ideas for a better world!



Birla Open Minds International School, Mogappair

Durga Puja

Durga Puja which is also called Navratri means nine nights of worshipping our Divine goddess nine form in nine nights of devotion. It is also called Durga Puja. Durga Puja is one of the most important festivals in the Hindu calendar. It celebrates the victory of good over evil, and honours the goddess Durga, who is believed to be the embodiment of strength and power. Durga Puja is one of the most important festivals celebrated by Bengalis all over the world. It is a ten-day festival that commemorates the victory of Goddess Durga over the demon Mahishasura. Dedicated to the Hindu goddess Durga, the festival is celebrated in the Hindu month of Ashvin, which typically falls in September or October. The festival is celebrated with much fanfare, and people from all walks of life come together to celebrate it.

Birla Open Minds Preschool, Dasratha





At Birla Open Minds Primary School, Indore, we believe in nurturing holistic growth through engaging and meaningful activities. Throughout the year, students participated in various events such as the Annual Dental Check-up, Animal Planet Activity, Mother's Day Celebration, and creative coloring and painting sessions. These activities not only bring joy and excitement to learning but also play a vital role in developing children's social, emotional, and cognitive skills. By providing such enriching experiences at an early age, we aim to build confidence, creativity, and empathy among our young learners, laying a strong foundation for lifelong learning and overall development.

Birla Open Minds Preschool, Indore



At Birla Open Minds International School, Kahalgaon, students celebrated Teacher's Day with heartfelt performances, speeches, and handmade cards expressing gratitude towards their mentors. Friendship Day was filled with joy as children exchanged friendship bands, shared treats, and participated in fun games promoting love and bonding. Throughout the quarter, various engaging class activities were conducted, including art and craft sessions, storytelling, science experiments, and group learning projects that encouraged creativity and teamwork. These events not only brought smiles to young learners but also strengthened values of respect, cooperation, and curiosity — reflecting the school's vision of holistic development.

Birla Open Minds Preschool, Kahalgaon





Festive Fever: A Celebration of Culture at Birla Open Minds, Samastipur

Birla Open Minds International School, Samastipur is committed to foster curiosity and respect for Indian cultures, consistently providing opportunities for students to learn about and celebrate our vibrant festivals.

The spirit of togetherness shone brightly with our Raksha Bandhan celebration, commenced on 8th August 2025. Students enthusiastically participated in Rakhi Making Activity and tying rakhis, symbolizing the beautiful bond between all the students. It created a genuinely heartwarming atmosphere of unity across all grades.

This was swiftly followed by the joyous frolic of Janmashtami on 14th August 2025. Our youngest students came dressed as Radha and Krishna for a delightful fancy dress activity. Their innocence and mischievous smiles reminded us of the playful spirit of the festival.

Everyone eagerly awaited to enjoy the grandeur of Navratri which took place on 27th September 2025. Students chanted Sanskrit verses devoted to Goddess Durga. It was followed by their picture perfect colourful Garba and Dandiya steps. This festival culminated in a beautiful day, showcasing our students' talent and zeal to preserve our rich traditions.

Birla Open Minds International School, Samastipur



Navratri

Navratri and Sharadiya celebrations are joyful festivals that bring excitement and devotion to schools. These festivals honour Goddess Durga and her victory of good over evil. During this time, schools are decorated with flowers, lights, and colourful rangolis. Students present dances, songs, skits, and art based on the nine forms of the Goddess. They learn about Indian culture, traditions, and moral values through these activities. Teachers and students come together to celebrate with great enthusiasm and unity. Such celebrations help children build confidence, teamwork, and respect for cultural heritage. Navratri and Sharadiya festivals fill the school with happiness, devotion, and festive spirit, teaching the importance of goodness, courage, and togetherness.

Janmashtami

Janmashtami is a joyful festival celebrated to mark the birth of Lord Krishna, the eighth incarnation of Lord Vishnu. It is celebrated with great happiness and devotion all over India, usually in August or September. People clean and decorate their homes and temples with flowers and lights. Devotees sing bhajans, offer prayers, and observe fasts. Butter, milk, and sweets are offered to Lord Krishna, as they were his favourite foods. In many places, people celebrate Dahi Handi, where young boys form human pyramids to break a pot filled with curd. In schools, children dress up as Krishna and Radha and take part in dances, songs, and plays showing Krishna's life. This festival teaches children the importance of truth, love, kindness, and joy. Janmashtami brings people together and spreads the message of peace and goodness in everyone's heart.

Birla Open Minds International School, Singur





Janmasthan Celebration

The school celebrated Janmashtami with devotion and enthusiasm. Learners came dressed as little Krishnas and Radhas, adding color and charm to the occasion. The celebration began with a soulful prayer, followed by a cultural programme including bhajans, dances, and a short skit on Lord Krishna's childhood. A highlight of the event was the traditional Dahi Handi, which was enthusiastically enjoyed by students and teachers alike. The festival emphasized the values of love, friendship, and righteousness. The joyous occasion not only showcased the cultural heritage of India but also encouraged learners to imbibe Krishna's teachings in their lives.



Independence Day Assembly

The Grade 2 learners presented a patriotic and colorful assembly on Independence Day. Students confidently delivered speeches about India's freedom struggle and the sacrifices of our leaders. A group of children performed a lively dance to patriotic songs, while others recited poems expressing love for the motherland. The assembly instilled a sense of pride and responsibility among the learners. It was a heartfelt tribute to the nation and inspired everyone to cherish the values of freedom, unity, and diversity.



Birla CP Goenka International School, Walkeshwar

Independence Day and Janmashtami

Birla Open Minds International School, Punpun, celebrated Independence Day and Janmashtami with great enthusiasm and patriotic spirit. The celebration began with the hoisting of the national flag, followed by songs, dances, and speeches that filled everyone's hearts with pride for the nation. Students also dressed as freedom fighters, showcasing their respect for India's heroes. On the occasion of Janmashtami, the school was beautifully decorated, and children came dressed as little Krishna and Radha. They performed delightful dances and songs, spreading joy and devotion. These celebrations helped students learn the values of unity, tradition, and cultural pride.



Birla Open Minds International School, Punpun





Dussehra Celebration

Children were engaged in an interactive story session that beautifully conveyed the moral of “Victory of Good over Evil.”

Fun Activity: The kids participated in a playful yet meaningful game – “Throw the Ball on Ravan and Defeat Evil” – making the festival spirit come alive.

Gandhi Jayanti Celebration

A visual story biopic of Mahatma Gandhi was narrated to the children, word by word, helping them connect with Bapu’s life and values.

Creative Activity: Little hands enjoyed Charkha making as a symbol of self-reliance.

Unity Activity: The kids also joined a Peace March, spreading the messages of Truth and Peace.

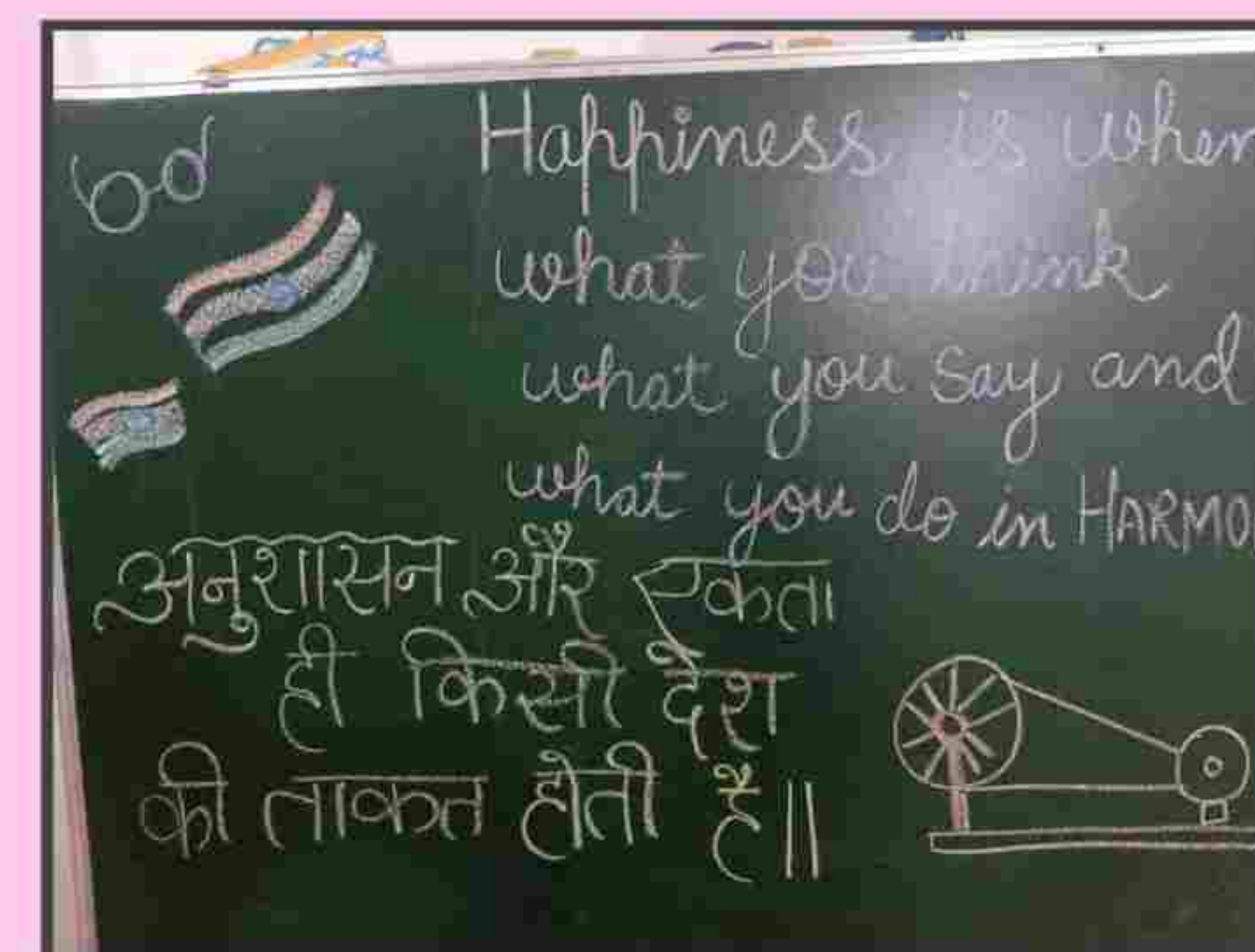
Moral of the Day:

Always speak the truth.

Live with peace and harmony.

Good always triumphs over evil.

Birla Open Minds Preschool, Mhow



With every festival, our objective at BOMPS, Ulwe is to provide fun, and engage students in activities that will teach them about diverse cultures, traditions, and values. This also plays an important role in preserving our traditions and culture, and handing it on to the future generations, that knows the importance of our culture and traditions. Through crafts, stories, songs, and interactive learning, children will experience the joy of togetherness, foster empathy, and build a strong foundation for cultural understanding and community. These experiences are vital for developing well-rounded, respectful, and inclusive citizens who appreciate the rich tapestry of traditions around them. Festivals offer a window into the world, teaching children about different customs, beliefs, and histories in a hands-on way.

Birla Open Minds Preschool, Ulwe





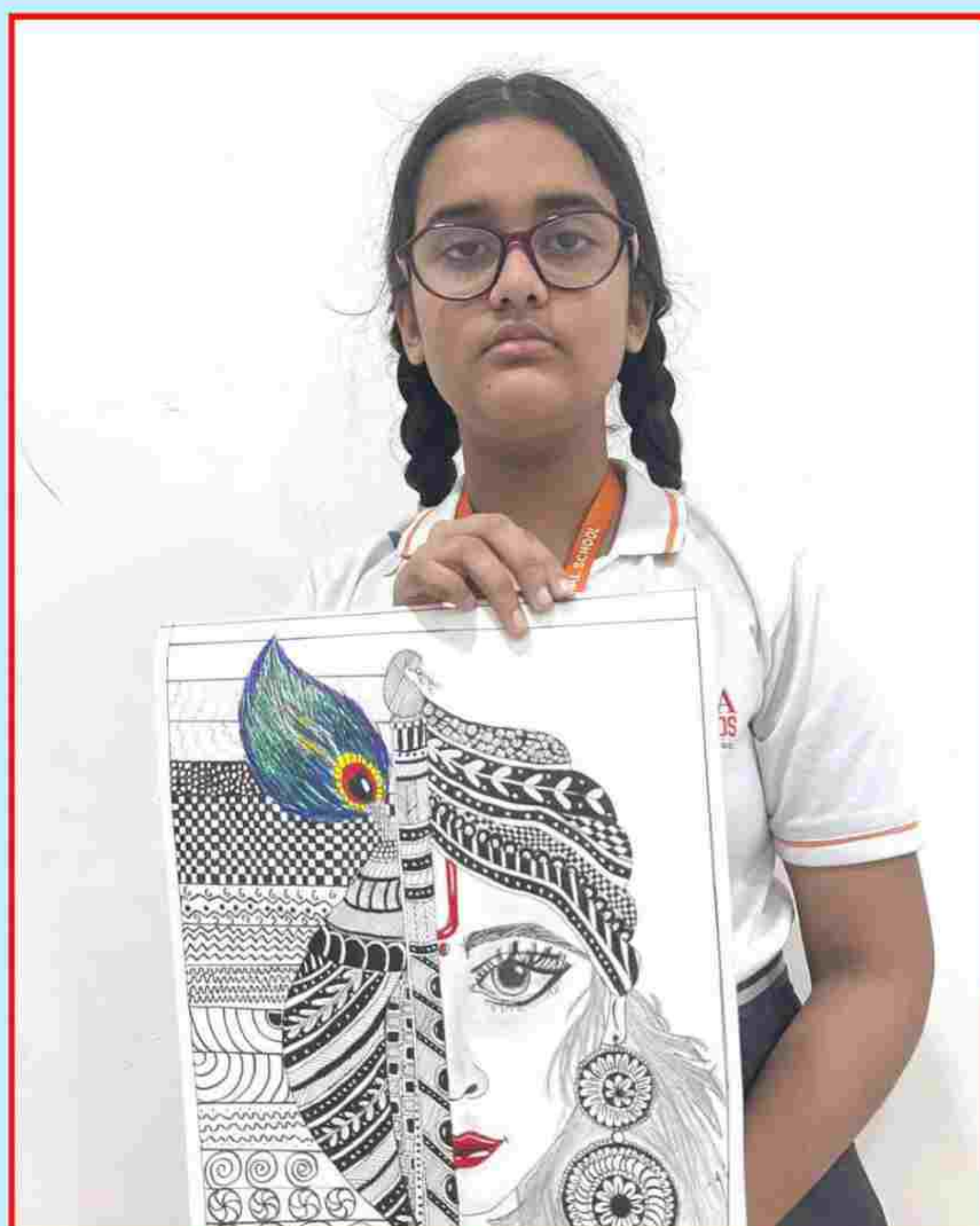
Birla Open Minds Preschool, Sagar, celebrated the festivals of Raksha Bandhan and Ganesh Chaturthi with great enthusiasm and joy. The little angels showcased their creativity and talent by making beautiful handmade Rakhis during the Raksha Bandhan celebration at school.

During the Ganesh Chaturthi celebration, the children lovingly crafted adorable clay idols of Lord Ganesha, expressing their devotion and artistic skills. These young learners never hesitate to display their creativity and actively participate in all school activities and celebrations.

At Birla Open Minds Preschool, we believe in nurturing the rich cultural heritage of India from an early age. By celebrating festivals with such enthusiasm, we aim to instill in our children the values of love, respect, and tradition, helping them carry forward this legacy as they grow.

Birla Open Minds Preschool, Sagar



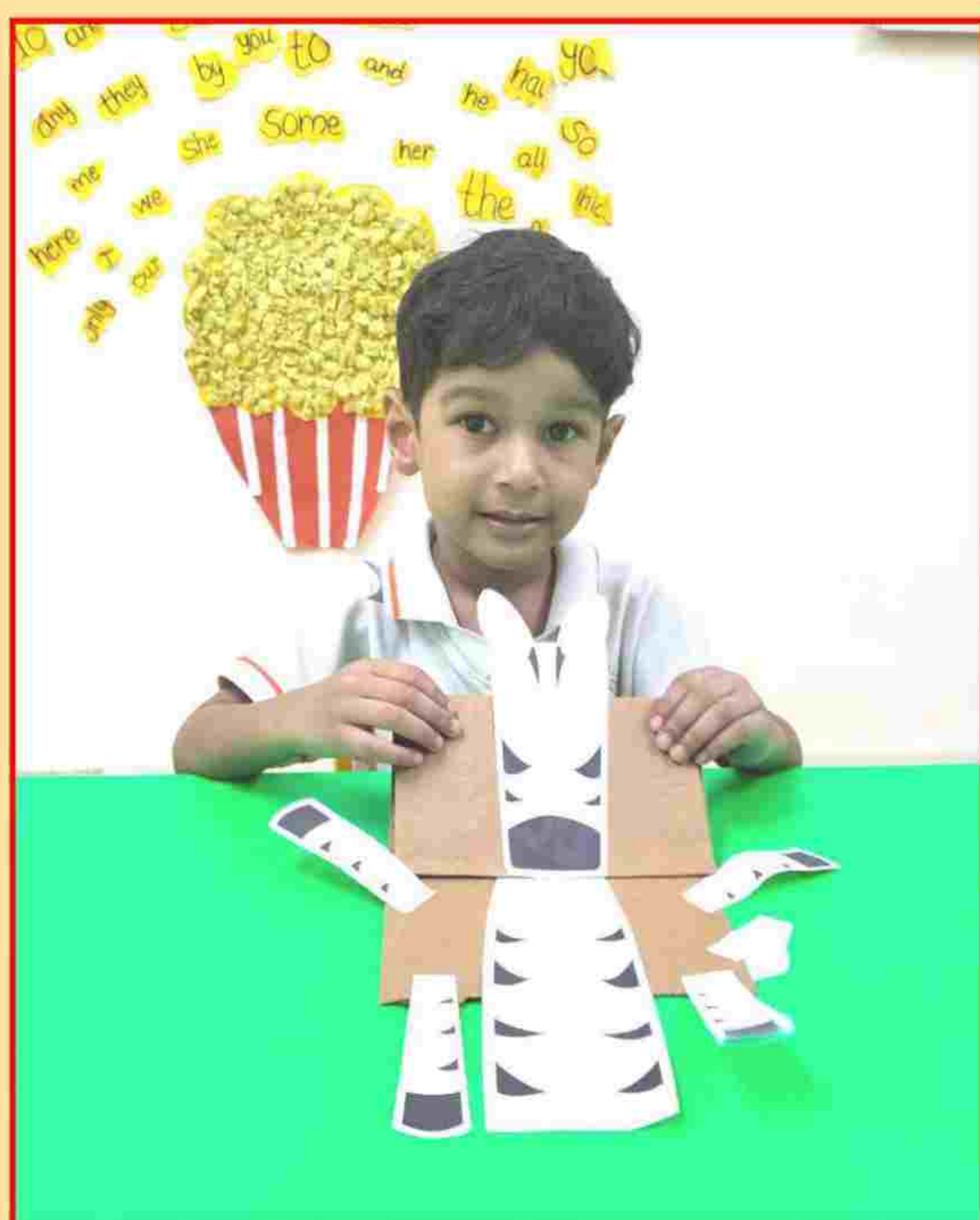


Birla Open Minds International School, Mopka, Bilaspur



Birla Open Minds Preschool, Alambagh, Lucknow (UP)



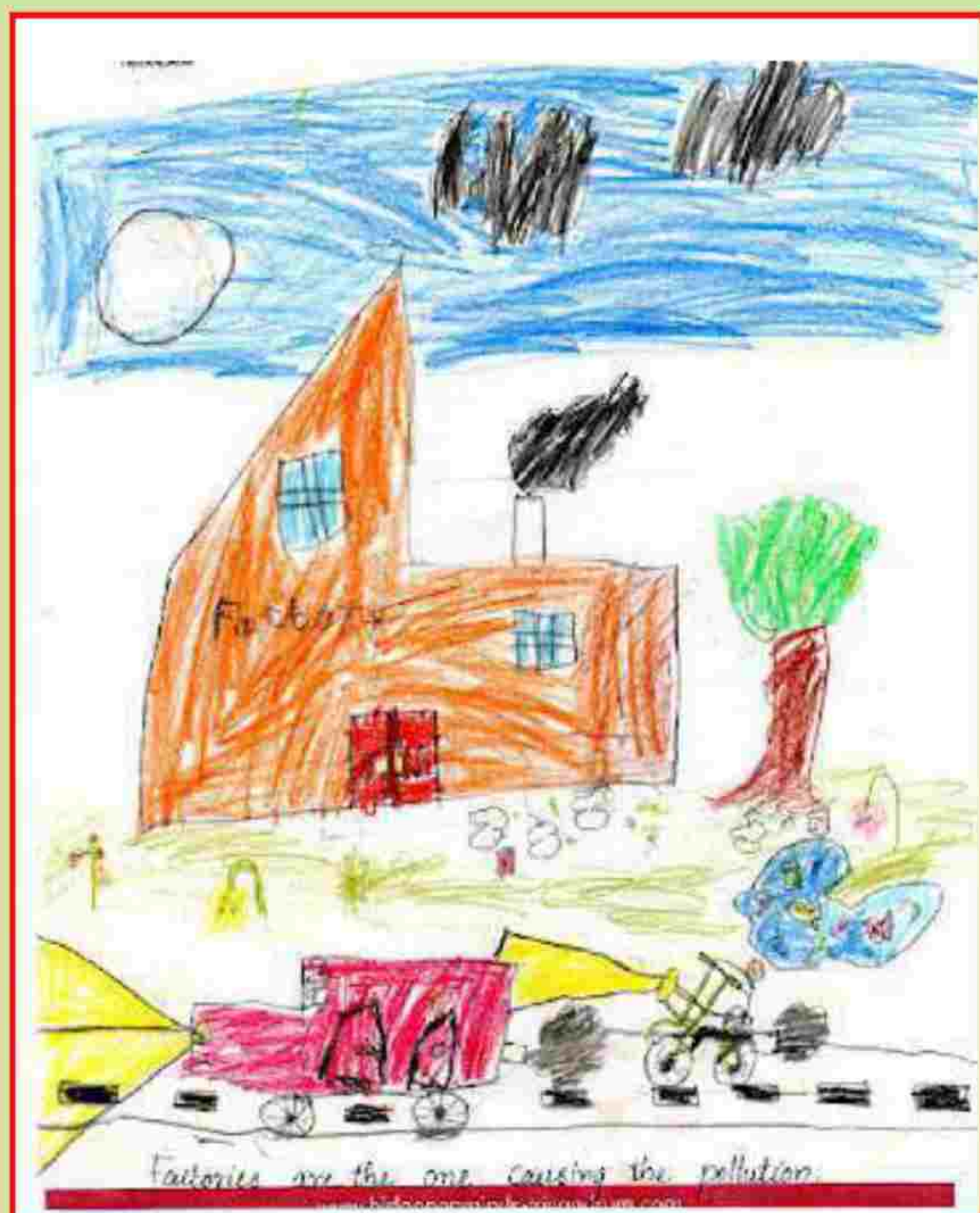
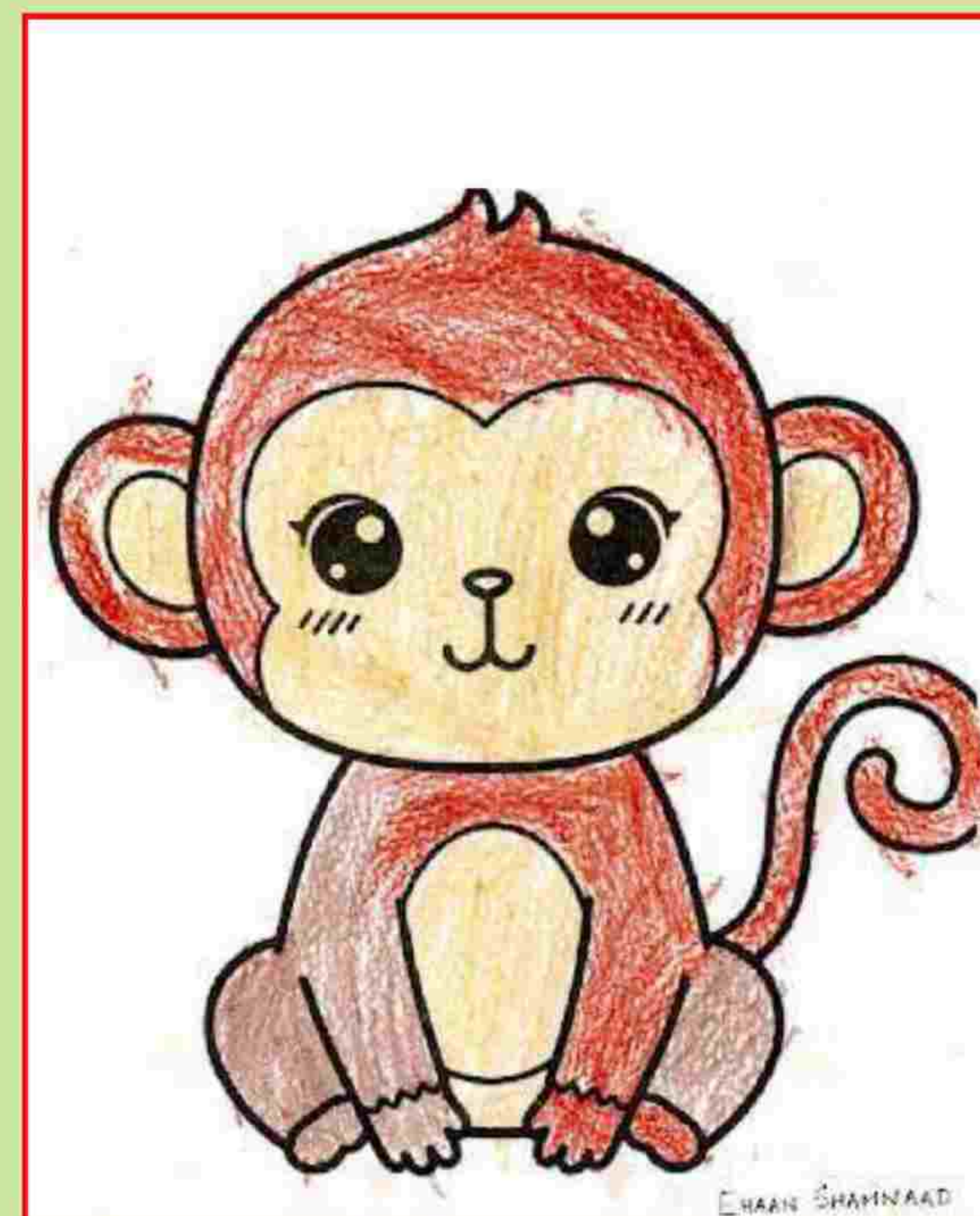
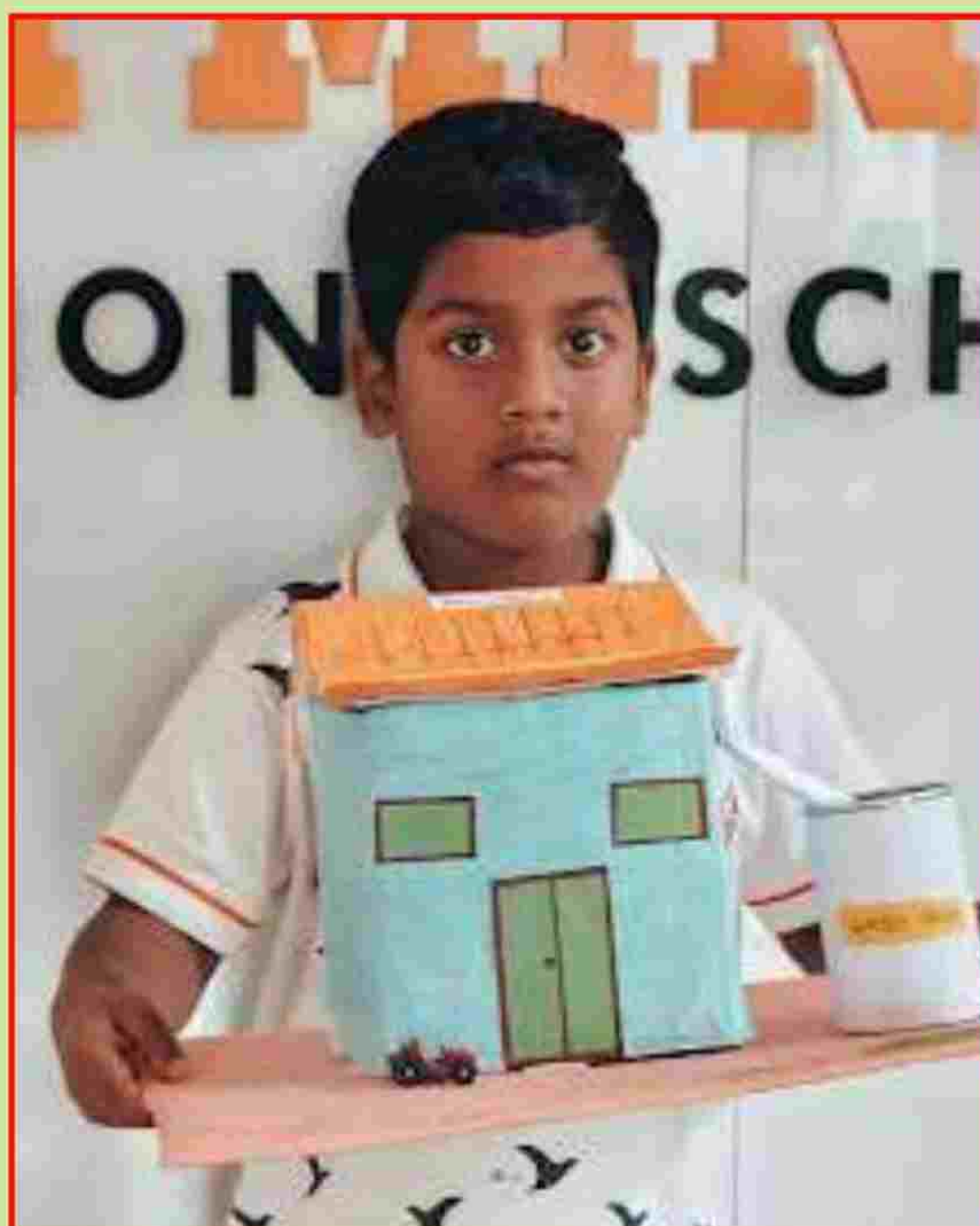


Birla Open Minds International School, Punpun



Gopi Birla Memorial School, Mumbai





Birla Open Minds International School, Trivandrum



Fun Facts About Diwali and Dussehra:

Did you know that Dussehra (also called Vijayadashami) and Diwali are like two chapters in the same epic tale from the Ramayana? Dussehra celebrates Lord Rama's triumphant victory over the demon king Ravana after a fierce 10-day battle, symbolizing good conquering evil—often marked by massive effigy burnings of Ravana that light up the night sky like a blockbuster finale.

Fast-forward 20 days, and Diwali rolls in as the joyous homecoming party for Rama, Sita, and Lakshmana after their 14-year exile, with homes aglow in diyas (clay lamps) to guide their way and fireworks bursting like a royal welcome.

Fun Winter-Themed Riddles

Riddle

1. I crackle and dance in the night sky so high, around me we sing as the cold days say goodbye. Warm hands and stories, what festival am I?

2. I fly with the wind on a bright winter day, pulling strings high in Gujarat's playful way. Colorful and free, what am I?

3. Boiling in a pot with rice so white and fine, fresh from the fields, a Tamil harvest sign. Overflowing joy, what festival's dish am I?

4. Misty and thick, I blanket the morning streets, making school buses late on chilly retreat. What am I in Delhi's winter?

5. Black and tiny, I warm you inside, roasted with salt on a wintertime ride. What seed am I?

Answer

1. LOHRI BONFIRE

2. MAKAR SANKRANTI KITE

3. PONGAL

4. FOG

5. BLACK CHANA (ROASTED CHICKPEAS).

Winter Activities for Students

Winter in India brings misty mornings, cozy bonfires, and vibrant festivals like Lohri, Makar Sankranti, and Pongal. These activities blend cultural traditions with fun learning, using affordable local materials. They're adaptable for Indian classrooms (K-12), focusing on regional flavors from North to South. Perfect for every city!

Activity	Description	Grade Level & Subject	Materials Needed
Lohri Bonfire Storytelling Circle	Simulate a safe indoor bonfire with LED lights or paper flames. Students share Punjabi folk tales around it, singing Bhangra beats or reciting Lohri songs. Discuss harvest themes and community bonds.	K-5 / Language Arts & Culture	LED candles, printed stories, dholak app on phone.
Makar Sankranti Kite-Making Challenge	Craft eco-friendly kites from newspapers and bamboo sticks, then "fly" them in a breeze (fans on!). Explore aerodynamics while learning about Uttarayan kite festivals in Gujarat/Rajasthan.	3-8 / Science & Art	Old newspapers, sticks, string, glue.
Pongal Pot Painting & Rice Art	Decorate clay pots with kolam(rangoli) designs, then create edible Pongal (sweet rice pudding). Tie in Tamil Nadu's harvest rituals, discussing solar cycles and gratitude.	1-6 / Art & Home Science	Clay pots, rice/flour colors, jaggery, milk.