


CONTENTS

NBT-India's Fun-Filled Summer Camp 2024!	1-6

Storytelling Session Organised @ NBT-India Headquarters	6


The Importance of Books: Perspectives from Visually Impaired Students	8

Students Explore India's First Universal Design Centre for Reading	8




Books available in 23 LANGUAGES

ReP is the first of its kind **FREE** digital library for non-academic books



PICK OF THE MONTH



The Lost Heroes of Kodagu
Aalia Chondamma
ISBN 978-93-549-1885-8 | ₹ 240.00

NBT-India's Fun-Filled Summer Camp 2024!

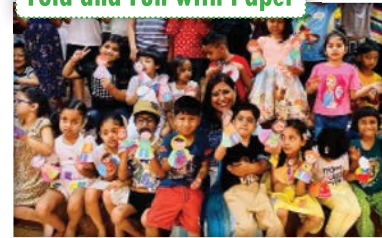
The National Centre for Children's Literature, the children's wing of NBT-India, organised its second Annual Summer Camp from 20 May to 3 June 2024. This year's camp offered a variety of educational activities aimed at promoting reading and nurturing the imagination of young minds. The age groups of children were 5 to 14. The summer camp was full of many engaging sessions like calligraphy, yoga, storytelling, puppet making, creative writing and many more.

Each session was designed to foster a love of reading and enhance creative skills. The camp also included competitions such as quizzes and drawing contests, promoting teamwork and healthy competition. Highlights of the camp included interactive sessions with PM Yuva authors and a performance by YUGM Band, which concluded the camp on a high note. The 15-day camp aimed to create an enriching environment, encouraging children to develop lifelong learning habits.

DAY 1 The Summer Camp started with an engaging storytelling session where children were introduced to classic and contemporary tales. Following this, they participated in math games that made learning arithmetic fun and interactive. The day ended with a Madhubani art workshop, where children learned about this traditional Indian art form and created their own colourful paintings.

DAY 2 The day began with a hands-on origami workshop. Children were taught the intricate art of paper folding, creating animals, flowers, and other shapes. Next, a nameplate design session allowed them to personalize their

Fold and Fun with Paper



Origami Carnival



Portrait-making Workshop



Poster-making Workshop



Drawing and Painting



space with creatively designed nameplates. The day concluded with a quiz competition that tested their knowledge on various subjects, encouraging teamwork and friendly competition.

DAY 3 Theatre took center stage with a workshop that introduced children to basic acting techniques. They learned about voice modulation, body language, and stage presence. This was followed by a debate competition where children practiced their public speaking and reasoning skills, debating various topics with their peers.

DAY 4 The caricature workshop was a hit, as children learned to create caricature of their peers, all the while having fun and sharing laugh. They were guided through the basics of caricature art, allowing their creativity to flow. An interactive

science session later in the day made learning about the human body and the five senses exciting and engaging.

DAY 5 Creativity soared in the mask-making workshop. Children designed and decorated their own masks using various materials. This session allowed them to explore different artistic techniques. A storytelling session followed, where they listened to enchanting tales that spurred their imagination and creativity.

DAY 6 was a break for all on account of National Voting Day.

DAY 7 A relaxing yoga session started the day, teaching children the basics of yoga poses and breathing techniques to help them relax and focus. Later, they participated in a creative writing workshop, where they penned their own stories and essays, enhancing their writing skills and expressing their thoughts creatively.

Madhubani Art



Puppet Making



Planting a Tree



Mandala Creation



Yoga Session



Animal Craft Fun



Design Your Name Plate with Chhota Bheem and POGO



Calligraphy Workshop



Open Mic



Fun with Vedic Maths Session



Astronomy Session



Storytime with Kids



Mural Wall Art Activity



Ganga-Biodiversity Conservation



Career Counselling Session



Caricature Workshop



Mask Making



Theatre Workshop



Dance Time



DAY 8 The puppet-making workshop was both fun and educational. Children created their own puppets and learned how to bring them to life through performance. The day also featured a fun with science session, where they explored basic scientific concepts through hands-on experiments, making learning science both fun and informative.

DAY 9 The talent show was a highlight, with children showcasing their skills in music, dance, and other talents. It provided a platform for them to express themselves and gain confidence. A DIY decor workshop encouraged them to create beautiful items from waste materials, teaching the importance of recycling and creativity.

DAY 10 The day started with a calligraphy workshop where children improved their handwriting skills, learning different

styles and techniques. A poster-making workshop followed, allowing them to design posters on various themes, enhancing their artistic and conceptual skills.

DAY 11 An astronomy session fascinated the children, as they learned about stars, planets, and the universe. The session was followed by a greeting card making workshop, where they crafted personalized cards, combining their artistic skills with thoughtful messages.

DAY 12 Fun with Vedic maths made complex math concepts simple and enjoyable. Children learned ancient techniques that made calculations faster and easier. The day continued with a mural wall art activity, where they collaborated on creating a large-scale mural, fostering teamwork and collective creativity.



Puppet Show



Fun with Science



Learning about the Moon

Tom and Jerry from Cartoon Network



DAY 13 On June 1, the Summer Camp started with an engaging storytelling session by Ms. Jayishree Sethi, highlighting a family's daily struggles and resilience. This was followed by a mathematics quiz session with Mr. Vivek Kumar, teaching arithmetic tricks through interactive games. In the afternoon, Mr. Indu Kumar led a calligraphy session, introducing children to beautiful writing techniques. The day concluded with a slogan writing session, raising awareness about environmental issues like "Save Water" and "No Pollution".

DAY 14 On June 2, the Summer Camp began with a "Let's Plant a Tree" workshop where children learned about maintaining a healthy ecosystem and planted various plants, naming them as part of an initiative for a better world. This was followed by a captivating Rajasthani puppet show by Team "Puppet Kala," bringing joy and laughter to the children. In the afternoon, they participated in a mural wall art activity, writing titles on the spines of books they had coloured to foster a love for literature. The day concluded with a slogan writing session on topics such as "Save Environment," "Save Trees," "Women Empowerment," "Sustainable Living," "Food Wastage," and "Say No to Wars," enhancing the children's creative abilities.

DAY 15 On June 3, we had a special PM-YUVA Authors' Meet with Ms. Prapti Sharma and Ms. Aarushi Maheshwari. They



discussed literature as an art form and writing as a profession, engaging the children with insights into the writing process and the craft of creative writing.

The camp concluded on a high note with a performance by the renowned Yugm Band. Known for their original songs featured in Netflix series, Yugm is an independent folk-fusion band that has performed at over 300 events and festivals. Their music serves as a powerful medium for social commentary, addressing issues such as water scarcity and the taboo surrounding menstruation.

During the 15 days of NBT-India's unique summer camp, children were engaged in various activities, learning new skills, and expanding their creativity – all through learning with fun. Sessions like the Caricature Workshop, Theatre Workshop, and Storytelling Sessions made the camp a hub of learning and fun. The participation of about 400 children made this Summer Camp truly special.

A highlight of the camp was the visit from Tom and Jerry, courtesy of Cartoon Network. The children were thrilled to see their favourite cartoon characters come to life. Tom and Jerry danced, played, and participated in activities with the children, making it a dream come true for many.

Our summer camp has successfully concluded, bringing joy and learning to all our young participants. The camp was free for all children, with registrations available online through our website and social media channels. Throughout the camp, numerous activities and workshops kept the children engaged and inspired. We were delighted to award certificates to all participants, recognizing their enthusiasm and achievements. The grand finale featured a special performance by the YUGM Band, making it a memorable end to this enriching journey. We thank everyone who participated and supported us in celebrating the spirit of creativity and learning.

Storytelling Session Organised @ NBT-India Headquarters



A storytelling session was organised by NBT-India on 4 May 2024 at its Headquarters in New Delhi. Students of Bal Bharati Public School, Noida attended the session. The event aimed to encourage reading and writing among children, as part of NEP 2020 guidelines. Ms. Seema Wahi Mukherjee narrated a story about the beauty of unity, using voice modulation and props to engage the children. The students actively participated in the interactive session, and used the given props to illustrate their story and adding their own creative

twists. The students were then divided into teams and they shared their own endings to the story presenting their unique creative skills. The session was aimed at promoting reading, as well as fostering creativity and teamwork among the children. After the session, the students visited the NBT-India Bookshop and the NCCL Library and browsed through a world of wide array of books. NBT-India's mobile book exhibition was also stationed inside the campus, where the young readers explored and purchased various titles.

Book Excerpt

The Ailing Forests of India

NBT-India celebrates the World Biodiversity Day (22 May 2024) with the “Be the Part of Plan”. The following excerpt is taken from NBT-India’s publication, “The Ailing Forests of India” by C.K. Karunakaran.

In pre-historic days, the forests extended over the entire country. The original inhabitants mostly lived as denizens of the forest. With the practice of agriculture, came shifting cultivation and gradual destruction of forests for farming and pasture. Later on, greed, and a growing population led to progressive shrinkage of our forest cover and to inevitable consequences in the form of erosion, floods and drought. In addition to making an attempt to trace the history of our forests, this book analyses the human interference leading to the highly degraded status of the same today and suggests measures for its eco-restoration.

The first category of forests were those generally situated on hill slopes, the preservation of which necessitated protection from the devastating action of hill torrents on the cultivated plains below.

The second category included the great tracts from which our supply of the more valuable timbers-teak, sal, deodar, and the like-is obtained. These forests were to be managed mainly on commercial lines as valuable properties of, and sources of revenue to, the state. It was further laid down “...wherever an effective demand for culturable land exists and can only be supplied from forest area, the land should ordinarily be relinquished without hesitation and if this principle applies to the valuable class of forests under consideration, it applies a fortiori to the less valuable classes which are presently to be discussed (i.e. c) Minor forests and d) Pasture lands. When cultivation has been established, it will generally be advisable to deforest the newly settled area. But it should be distinctly understood that there is nothing in the Forest Act or in any rules or orders now in force, which limits the discretion of Local Governments, without previous reference to the GOI (though, of course, always subject to the control of that Government) in diverting forest land to agricultural purposes even though that land may have been declared reserved forest under the act.

The intention of the British Raj is quite evident from the above provision and no wonder that the period subsequent to the policy statement which witnessed two world wars as well accelerated the denudation and degradation of the forests.

The third category of forests included those tracts which, though true forests, provided only the inferior sorts of timber or the smaller growths of the better sorts.

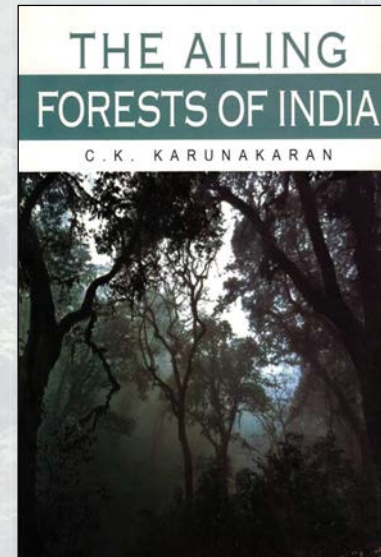
In some cases, such forests fell more properly under the second category, as they supplied fuel for manufacturers, railways and like purposes.

The fourth category referred to, were the pastures and grazing grounds proper, which were generally forests only in name. These lands were neither strictly subjected to any system of conservation nor placed under the management of the Forest Department.

National Forest Policy, 1952 has been stated at the outset that the enunciation of 1952 policy arose from the need for a re-orientation of the forest policy in the light of the changes which have taken place since the pronouncement of the old policy (1894), but the fundamental concepts underlying it still hold good.

A welcome provision (though practiced only in its breach) was the laying down of proportion of areas to be kept under forest. Para 19 of the policy says—

“The proportion of land to be kept permanently under forests would naturally vary in different regions. Practical consideration-suggests, however, that India, as a whole, should aim at maintaining one-third of its total land area under forests. As an insurance against denudation of much larger percentage of the land, about 60 per cent should be kept under forests for their protective functions in the Himalayas, the Deccan, and other mountainous tracts liable to erosion. In the plains, where the ground is flat and erosion is normally not a serious factor, the proportion to be attained should be placed at 20 per cent; and in view of the pressure of agriculture, effort at the extension of tree lands should be concentrated on river banks and other convenient places not suitable for agriculture.



The Ailing Forests of India

C.K. Karunakaran

ISBN 81-237-6568-1

₹ 200.00

The Importance of Books: Perspectives from Visually Impaired Students



RNI-39456/82
Postal Regd. No. DL-SW-01/4076/21-23
Licenced to post without prepayment.
L.No. U(SW)-21/2021-23
Mailing date: 5/6 Same Month
Date of Publication: 01/05/2024
Posted at LPC, Delhi RMS, Delhi-110006
Total number of pages: 8



from Delhi University. A discussion took place on the changes in reading and studying books through digital means.

Professor Medha Kumari, a Hindi professor at Satyawati College, Delhi University, introduced visually impaired students to new techniques related to books. She explained that new technologies, such as audiobooks, will make studying books more accessible for visually impaired students. The students also recited their poems during the programme. At the conclusion of the event, Braille books were distributed to the students.

On Friday, 10 May 2024, a programme on “The Importance of Books: Perspectives from Visually Impaired Students” was held at the National Book Trust, India’s bookstore at Vishwavidyalaya Metro Station Gate No. 4. The event was organised by Ms. Aarti, a research scholar

NBT Newsletter is the house magazine of the National Book Trust, India — an autonomous organisation of the Ministry of Education, Department of Higher Education, Government of India.

The views expressed in the signed articles do not necessarily reflect the official views of the Trust.

Editor: Kanchan Wanchoo Sharma
Editorial Associates: Gaurav & Simran Kalsi
Production Officer: Narender Kumar



NATIONAL BOOK TRUST, INDIA
Ministry of Education, Government of India
5 Institutional Area, Phase-II Vasant Kunj,
New Delhi-110 070
E-mail: office.nbt@nic.in
Website: www.nbtindia.gov.in

Readers are requested to write to the editor expressing their views about the NEWSLETTER.

Printed and published by Anuj Kumar Bharti on behalf of National Book Trust, India and printed at First Impression Corporate Services Private Limited, E-114, Sector-63, Noida-201301, Uttar Pradesh and published at National Book Trust, India, Nehru Bhawan, 5 Institutional Area, Phase-II Vasant Kunj, New Delhi-110 070.

Typeset and designed by Akansha Jain

Students Explore India’s First Universal Design Centre for Reading

On 9 May 2024, students from Pine Hall School, Grace Academy, Oxford International School, Green Lawn Academy, and Model School NIEPVD visited India’s First Universal Design Centre for Reading, developed by the National Book Trust, India (NBT-India) at the NIEPVD campus in Dehradun. This pioneering centre features a bookshop offering a diverse collection of print and Braille books, catering to readers of all age groups. The visit was an enriching experience for the students, who explored the wide range of books available and learned about the centre’s inclusive design and its significance in promoting accessibility in reading for all individuals.



You can also find the e-Newsletter on our website www.nbtindia.gov.in

If undelivered please return to:
National Book Trust, India, Nehru Bhawan, 5 Institutional Area, Phase-II, New Delhi-110 070