

Print Rich Posters to achieve Learning Outcomes

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The assessment and evaluation of the National Achievement Survey (NAS)-2017 reveals that the learning outcomes of students at the elementary stage in Puducherry are below the national average. The genesis of print rich posters was an analysis of the NAS-2017 results for the Union Territory. Consultative meetings and post-NAS intervention workshops were held, in which experts inferred that the dismal performance was due to the lack of reading comprehension skills in the students. Thereafter, in the meetings

held at both the district and State level, suggestions for including print rich posters in primary government schools of the area were made.

An estimated budget for the development of posters was included in the Puducherry Annual Work Plan and Budget, which was granted by the Ministry of Human Resource Development. The posters were conceptualised and developed in a three-day workshop. The posters were further refined through a 10-tier system of designing and verification.

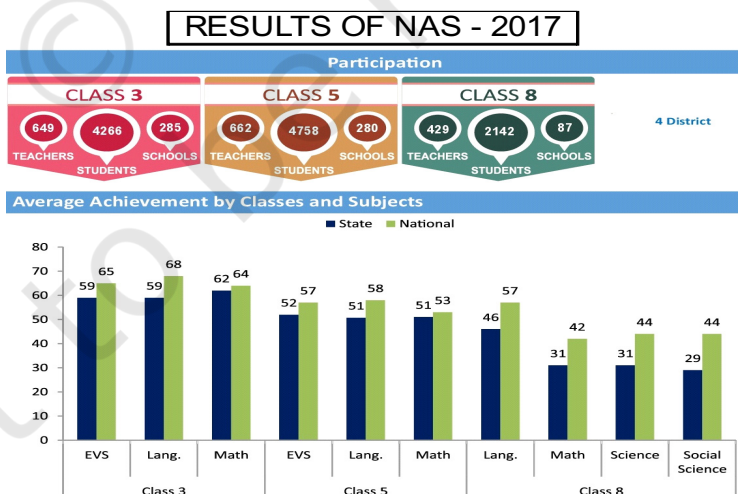


Figure 1: The NAS-2017 results indicate that the learning outcomes of students at the elementary stage in Puducherry are below the national average.

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The major role in this exercise was performed by block resource educators. All content carried in the posters was finalised by a core team, consisting of teachers from pre-primary and primary stages, school principals, block resource educators, officials in the District Institute of Education and Training (DIET) and *Samagra Shiksha*.

PRINT RICH POSTERS

A print rich environment is one, in which young learners interact with many forms of printed material, such as wall stories, word displays, murals, poems, etc. In order to improve the learning outcomes of students at the elementary stage, an action plan was prepared and print rich posters were designed and developed by the *Samagra Shiksha*, Directorate of School Education, for students of pre-primary to Class VI based on the learning outcomes in English, mathematics and environmental science.

The novel approach aims to exhibit these posters in schools from the year 2018. This has been specifically done to enhance the literacy skills of students at the pre-primary and primary stages.

Aim of the posters

The posters have been developed as per the learning outcomes of each class and subject. They aim to foster quality education. However, with the usage of attractive illustrations, they are capable of catching the attention of the young learners automatically. While studying, the learners may connect

these posters with the topics being taught in their respective classrooms. These posters will, thus, help them focus on a certain idea, fact, event or process.

About the posters

The size of each poster is 24×36". There is an aluminium strip at the top and at the bottom to ensure stiffness and facilitate display.

Posters have been provided for each class in all primary government schools of Puducherry, ensuring a colourful, attractive and enriching learning environment. Each school has been provided with a complete set of 63 posters, titled ‘print rich material posters’. Some posters emphasise the significance of the area like ‘Our Puducherry’ (Figure 2).



Figure 2: A poster emphasising the significance of the area

Nine posters have been developed per class per subject — three each for English, mathematics and environmental studies. Each poster has been numbered (e.g., Poster-1) and carries the class and subject name on the top left corner.

The posters have two unique features. Each poster is based on one learning outcome. The teacher’s role in facilitating the achievement of the learning outcome is elaborated in one of two lines, as shown in Figure 3.

The second feature is the inclusion of a QR code on the top right corner of each poster. This feature will enable teachers and parents to scan the code(s) on their mobile phones so that the learners are able to see the posters.

The posters have also been uploaded on the portal of school education, Puducherry, (<https://schooledn.py.gov.in/ssarinsa/learnindicators.html>). A watermark has been put in place to ensure that the posters remain the intellectual property of the *Samagra Shiksha*, Puducherry.

CONCLUSION

It is, thus, hoped that these innovative posters would engage students, especially, at the primary stage, in active learning, and boost their creativity, which would further better their scholastic and non-scholastic performance.



Figure 3: A poster elaborating teachers’ role in facilitating the achievement of learning outcomes