



## **REPORT OF WEBINAR ON CBSE READING MISSION**

**DATE: 20<sup>th</sup> September 2021**

**TIME: 3:00-4:30pm**

*Reading is to the mind what exercise is to the body. —Joseph Addison*

Central Board of Secondary Education has launched a new initiative CBSE Reading Mission with the aim to build the culture of reading amongst the students of classes 1 to 8. The programme is in association with Pratham Books' Story weaver and supported by the Central Square Foundation. A webinar was held on 20<sup>th</sup> September 2021 for all the educationists to announce the launch of the mission. Grade 1 and 2 teachers and Language (English-Hindi) faculty of Primary Department attended the webinar.

- Mr. Manoj Ahuja (chairperson CBSE) initiated and announced the launch of the two-year Reading Mission. Releasing a poster, he highlighted the aim of the mission, laying stress on the need of the hour to replace the modern-day electronic gadgets like video games and mobiles with books.
- Eminent scholars and panelists like Ms. Rukmani Banerjee, CEO Pratham Books expressed their delight on the availability of well-organized grade wise thematic multilingual books which can be accessed by the learners across the country. She also highlighted the need to bridge the gap between the books and the students by a two-way channel- taking the books to the students and bringing the students to the books.
- The educationists were motivated to join the programme and comprehensive guidelines on how to join the mission were provided by the panelists. The webinar ended on a happy note with Ms. Rohini Vij reading out a story 'Bheema: The Sleepy Head' in the most interesting manner with expressions, excitement and voice modulation to motivate the teachers on how to read a book in a captivating manner. Her art of story telling left the participants spellbound and motivated.

The webinar was informative, interesting and inspiring for the educators as it focused on enhancing students' vocabulary and derive connections between the stories and real life. Many benefits of storytelling and building a culture of joyful reading were reiterated. The participants were encouraged to take a deep dive into the fanciful world of age-appropriate books. The books are not only a source of knowledge but also recreation. The ways to create a robust culture of reading were also elucidated. The art of storytelling and reading a book with a pause, emphasis, repetition, expressions, excitement, voice projection and eye contact were also highlighted. Through the webinar, educators were guided and stimulated to avail the repository and benefit their learners.

### **Objectives of the CBSE Reading Mission**

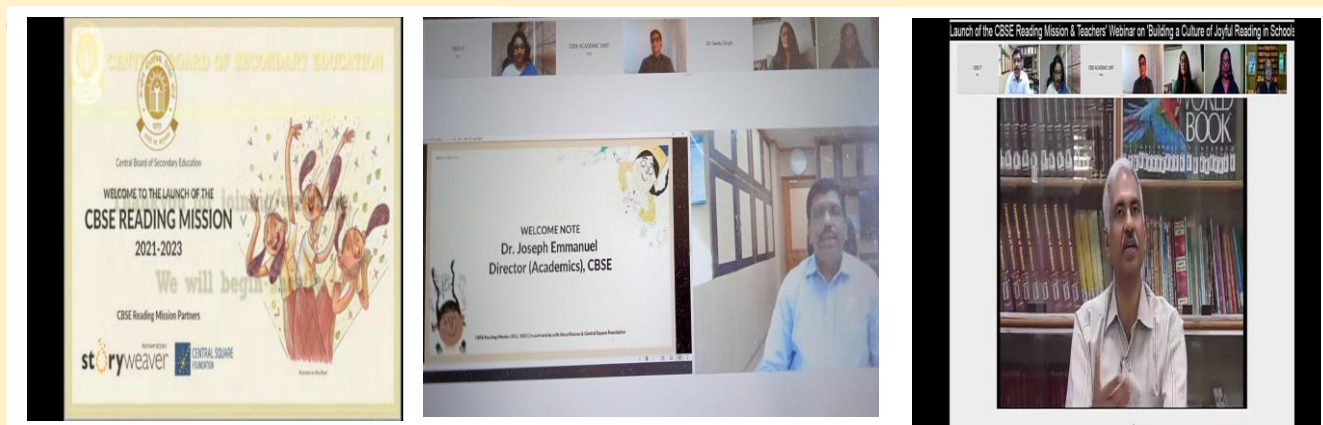
- The aim of the Reading mission is to attain the goal of foundational literacy for all children by the year 2025.
- Availability of grade wise organized age-appropriate stories and relevant literature in all local languages to build a culture of reading across the country.
- Vocabulary building and developing connections between culture through stories and present day lives.
- Enhance the communication, analytical and thinking skills of the learners.
- Under the Reading Mission, CBSE schools and teachers will have access to a large repository of relevant quality children's literature via the Pratham Books Reading Programme.
- The Programme offers 144 beautifully illustrated multilingual age-appropriate storybooks that provide a rich reading experience to all the learners.

- Make reading a joyful experience by taking the books to the learners or bringing the learners to the books.
- Certification of teachers after completion of the programme and opportunities to the teachers to share their anecdotes of students' progress to be celebrated as reading Heroes.
- To empower the teachers with training materials on conducting engaging virtual reading sessions and activities through periodic 'Teacher Connect' interactions where teachers can discuss best practices, showcase their work and share inputs on Programme design.

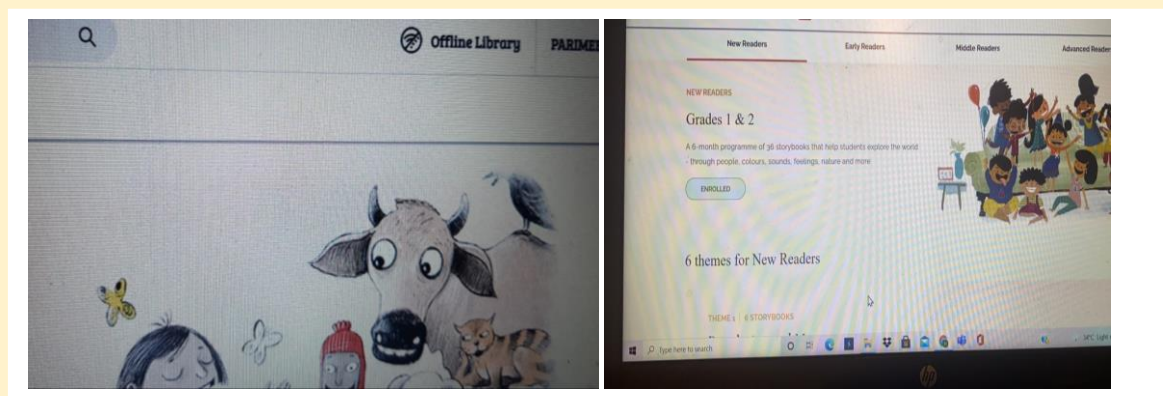
## **FOLLOW UP ACTION**

Primary Department faculty has enrolled for the CBSE Reading Mission and joined the programme. The story books will be regularly read out to the students on weekly basis and critical thinking fun activities will also be conducted during the online classes. Data of the books used and read by each teacher in the classes will be compiled and presented on monthly basis.

## **FEW GLIMPSES OF THE WEBINAR**



## **GLIMPSES OF DIGITAL LIBRARY**



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