

Puppetry In Classroom
A Three-Day Capacity Building Workshop

Date: 17.05.2023-19.05.2023

Time: 8:30 am -2:00 pm

Resource Person: Ms. Seema Wahi Mukherjee- Experiential Education Consultant, storyteller, and Storytelling Coach, Toy Based Pedagogy Expert, Puppeteer, and Puppet Maker

Venue: Bal Bharati Public School, Noida- Senior Library.

Attended by: Primary educators of BBPS NOIDA (32 Teachers)

BBPS Ganga Ram (4 teachers)

BBPS Manesar (4 teachers)

BBPS Pitampura (4 teachers)

BBPS Brij Vihar (4 teachers)

Puppetry has been one of the most vibrant and long-thriving theatrical forms in India. A puppet may be defined as any inanimate figure given life by the will and the spirit of man and this whole act is known as puppetry.

The magic of puppetry was brought to the Senior Library of Bal Bharati Public School, Noida by Ms Seema Wahi Mukherjee. The three-day workshop focused on learning how to make and operate puppets and conduct puppet shows in the classroom. The aim of the workshop was to bring laughter, fun, and effective learning to the classroom.

Day- 1

The workshop began with a warm welcome to Ms. Seema Wahi Mukherjee by Mrs. Vinaya Pujari (Headmistress Primary. BBPS Noida). As an icebreaker activity, Ms. Mukherjee introduced the human puppet activity. In pairs, teachers had to act out a puppet show.



Welcoming Ms. Seema Wahi Mukherjee.



The activity provided teachers with knowledge of various techniques like puppet hold, control, and implementation.

Introduction of different kinds of puppets- Ms. Mukherjee introduced bag puppets, string puppets, hand puppets, ladle puppets, etc.

The teachers were enlightened about fluid puppets, stiff puppets, and fluid-stiff puppets.

Introduction of different kinds of puppets.

A practice session on how to handle the puppets was provided to the teachers. Ms. Mukherjee also provided educators with effective script-writing techniques.

The Day 1 session ended with the division of groups and planning the script for the next day's puppet-making and presentation.



Planning the script and puppets.



Day-2

Ms. Mukherjee educated the teachers about the importance of the placement of puppets and their movement. A few points like setting up the backdrop, the introduction of characters, understanding the audience, arrangement of scenes, etc, were focused upon.

Pinku, the Emu meets the educators.

One major takeaway was to involve the students in the puppet show by taking the puppets amongst children to ensure proper engagement.



Placement of puppets and props.



Making our puppets.

Educators then continued puppet-making for the presentation. Ms. Mukherjee guided each group about script writing and provided help in the puppet-making process. The process of creation was a fun learning experience for educators.

Day -3

On the third day, educators were given time to practice and bring their puppet show to life. All the groups prepared a puppet show each and presented it in front of Ms. Mukherjee and other educators. All the presentations were recorded and enhanced by editing. Towards the end of the session, all the educators learned to make string puppets.



Getting ready for the presentation.



Making String puppets.

The three-day workshop was fun but also a new and refined experience. This workshop provided educators with multiple new tools that can be used in the classroom for a more effective teaching-learning process. The workshop ended with the aim that when the school reopens, puppets will already be there to welcome our young learners.



Ready to spread the magic of puppetry.

Report submitted by:

Ms Dhanya P
Ms Alka R

Mrs Vinaya Pujari
(Headmistress Primary)

Mrs Asha Prabhakar
(Principal)