



Education Endures

COVID-19 Response by Room to Read India



We don't develop courage by being happy every day. We develop it by surviving difficult times and challenging adversity.



FOOTPRINTS

10,00,000
Children/households
reached

40,000
Teachers, wardens
and government
officials reached

RISING TO THE CHALLENGE

Covid-19 pandemic has affected the education systems globally; various estimates show that 9 out of 10 children are out of school worldwide. This pandemic has exposed children to increased risk of learning loss.

In India, children, teachers and parents, particularly from the vulnerable and hard-to-reach communities have faced the brunt of the crisis most, including the lack of appropriate mediums to access distance learning programs.

Room to Read is trying its best to provide engaging learning material through various alternative platforms of remote learning with an objective to limit any disruption of education.



DEVELOPING E-CONTENT

Literacy Program

Digital content was created for children, parents and teachers with an objective to provide age-appropriate thought-provoking content for learning.



Click



वह बहुत खुश है। सोच रही है कि डेड में आराम से रहेगी।

Click



Anokha Ghosla By Dr. Kiran Bedi and Saina Bharucha

103 Flip Books are developed in Hindi, Marathi, Kannada and Telugu

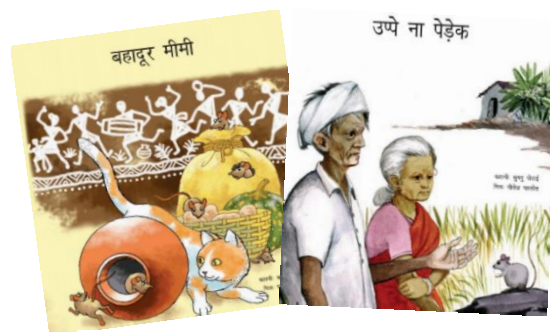
63 Read Aloud Stories are developed in Hindi, Marathi, Kannada and Telugu. These also include read alouds by famous personalities

74 Audio Games are developed in Hindi, Telugu and Marathi based on the literacy components of phonological awareness, vocabulary, comprehension, oral language development, writing, etc.

48 Flip Reading Cards are developed in Urdu and Marathi

E-Content in Home Language

Click



Flip books in Gondi

Multilingualism is the reality of India. In order to cater to the needs of children whose home language is different, various local language materials have been developed.

So far, nearly **50** Flip Books have been developed in Gondi Dantewada and Gondi Kanker for tribal children in Chhattisgarh and Nimadi and Bareli for tribal children in Madhya Pradesh.

Click



Flip Books in Nimadi and Bareli

[Click here to visit Literacy Cloud](#)

Essentially a digital repository with over **300** digitized story books, **Literacy Cloud** provides free access to tailor-made educational lessons/videos for teachers, parents, authors, writers and publishers.

Recently, *Samagra Shiksha*, Uttarakhand joined hands with Room to Read to encourage children and parents across the state to avail resources on Literacy Cloud.

Literacy Cloud being an open access platform is available for all including state governments and NGOs.

Books Reading Lists Videos Read Alouds Resources ? Donate Q Log in Sign up



DEVELOPING E-CONTENT

Girls' Education Program

Digital content was created for adolescent girls, parents, teachers and wardens with an objective to provide thought-provoking content for learning.

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6 E-newsletters each in Hindi, Telugu and Marathi for girl scholars and wardens. These newsletters help girl scholars develop a broader perspective on a wide range of topics from science to superwomen.



GEP scholar enjoying the podcast while completing her assignments



8 parent champion podcasts in Hindi and Telugu are success stories of those families where the girl scholars continued to pursue education against all odds. These Podcasts motivate girls, parents, teachers and wardens in creating an enabling environment for girls to study and ensure no dropouts or early marriages.

179 Self-Reflection Worksheets based on Life Skills is created in Hindi, Telugu and Marathi to be practiced by girl scholars from Grades 6 to 12. These worksheets help girls practice life skills by their own and reflect on different aspects of life skills.

Click



Part 1

Part 2

Click



Jeevan Kaushal Pitara, a month-long capacity building series for Teachers and Wardens of all the Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas, Porta Cabins and Ashram Shalas in collaboration with Tribal Welfare Department and Samagra Shiksha, Chhattisgarh.

The 1st Edition of this series consists of **2 flip books** on "What are Life Skills."

Today Room to Read has a repository of all the response material created so far We will be happy to share these resources for larger dissemination.

MULTIPRONGED APPROACH TO ADDRESS DISTANCE BARRIERS

Various distribution channels are being explored to reach beneficiaries. These include, sharing material on government web portals and WhatsApp groups, Room to Read social media pages and various low-tech mediums such as community radio, interactive voice recording over telephone, and television channels .

Government Portals

In addition to preparing E-Material, dissemination was done through exclusive WhatsApp and Telegram groups of government officials, teachers/ wardens and parents.

Government of Chhattisgarh recently provided open access to Room to Read to upload our content on their web portal cgschool.in.

In Madhya Pradesh, under Government's DigiLEP initiative, Room to Read's Flip Books are being shared on this platform every Sunday for children and teachers across the state.

Remote Mentoring Sessions

Mentoring sessions for girl scholars intend to provide emotional support and encouragement to them utilizing virtual modes such as, WhatsApp or calls. Through mobile mentoring nearly 71% of the girl scholars (out of approx. 14,000 girls) under direct program are being coached.

Girl scholars also have access to E-Newsletters and podcasts; the material has also received positive responses from various stakeholders including parents, teachers and government officials.



Children enjoying stories on Kumaon Vani Radio Station, Nainital

Community Radio

Room to Read has a strong presence in the Himalayan state of Uttarakhand. Due to limited mobile penetration and internet accessibility, it was getting challenging to reach children and teachers in the far-flung areas of the state. Accordingly, we changed our strategy to focus on using Community Radio.

More than **8 Lakh households** from **62 blocks** of Uttarakhand have been reached through 6 Community Radio channels. These community radios are helping to disseminate audio stories and audio games for children.

Similarly, we are also reaching out to our **girl scholars and wardens** from **14 villages** of Uttarakhand through discussions on using Life Skills for coping up with the current situation.

Plans are on the anvil to explore reaching tribal population in Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh through radio.

Interactive Voice Response

Where internet services are minimal, Room to Read has decided to use IVR technology for reaching parents and children with relevant content.

The first pilot has been done in Uttarakhand wherein the parents were reached across all districts with specific messages and instruction on the various initiatives being taken by Room to Read in collaboration with the Department of Education in the state.

In immediate future, the plan is to use IVR in the states of Delhi, MP, UP, and Chhattisgarh.



Click



Cable TV

More than **8,000 households** from Bageshwar, Uttarakhand are being reached through CCN Channel to telecast Read Aloud Stories and Audio Activities for children.

Due to a limited access of technology in many of our operational areas, we are in the process of developing offline worksheets and self-learning material that can be shared with children and girl scholars through alternate delivery channels.

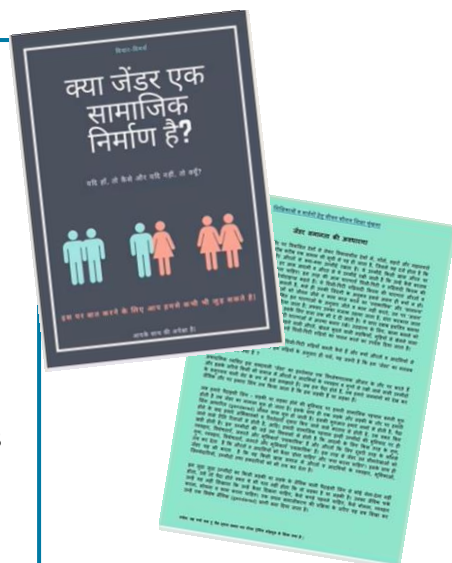
STRENGTHENING CAPACITIES

Early Literacy Initiative Course was introduced to strengthen the culture of continuous learning of our internal **Literacy Program** team. This 6-week long course intends to create a holistic virtual learning experience leading to understanding of concepts through readings, white papers, guiding notes, online videos and case stories.

Similarly, training support is being provided to internal team of our **Girls' Education Program** through virtual mediums. The training focuses on understanding the concepts of self-esteem, body image, gender stereotypes, body talk/comparison, etc. Apart from this, training is being delivered on communication, facilitation, critical thinking, etc.

Girls' Education Program has started providing task-based training inputs to teachers and wardens through posters, resource sheets, videos, response material and weekly conference calls.

We also plan to develop a capacity building courses/modules for Literacy Program teachers in the near future.



Resources for GEP Teachers

IN CONVERSATION

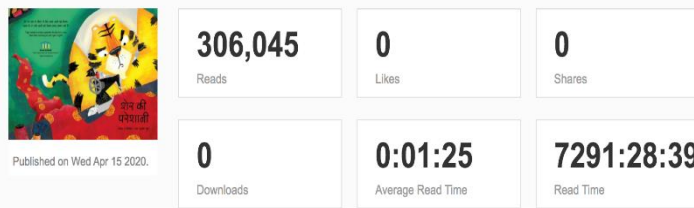
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Sourav Banerjee, Country Director, Room to Read India participated in **Charcha 2020** on May 15.

As part of a panel of experts, Sourav helped decode the future of the education sector and the role that Non-Governmental Organisations will have to play in the Post-Covid world.

LEARNING NEVER STOPS



Publication Performance

The Performance Statistics of Rtr Storybook *Sher Ki Pareshani* reveal that after being released at the state level through DigiLEP initiative, a huge spike was noticed in the number of readers for this book.

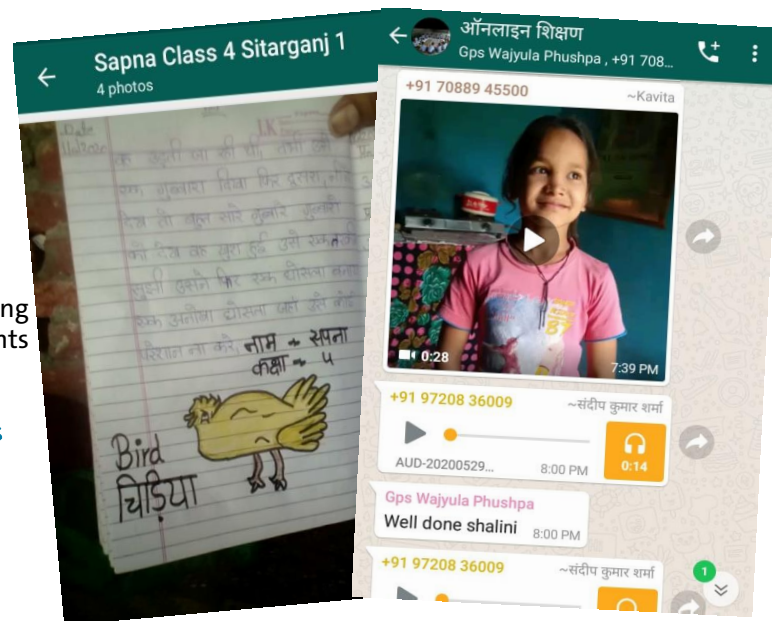
Within a week of releasing the book, over **3 lakh readers** enjoyed the story.

Click



Room to Read was invited by **DD News Live** on May 2nd for an engaging storytelling session on *Kids Time*.

Children responding to the assignments shared by their teachers through **WhatsApp groups**



During lockdown, Urmila's education became dependent on the only smartphoen in her family. But then her brother took it away.

Aided by her Room to Read social mobilizer, Urmila used her life skills to convince her father of the importance of a smart phone for her education. Urmila's father intervenet and convinced his son to let Urmila use the smartphone to learn.

Her **#EducationEndures**



“
लॉकडाउन है बहुत बड़ा,
जाने कब होगा यह खत्म,
घर में बैठे बड़े बोर हम,
जाने कब जाएंगे स्कूल।...
फिर होंगे अपने सारे सपने पूरे,
जब हो जाएगा लॉकडाउन खत्म।
”

A song by Chandani Thakur, a Grade 6 GEP Scholar from Maharashtra where she is yearning for opening of school post lockdown

Contact Us

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