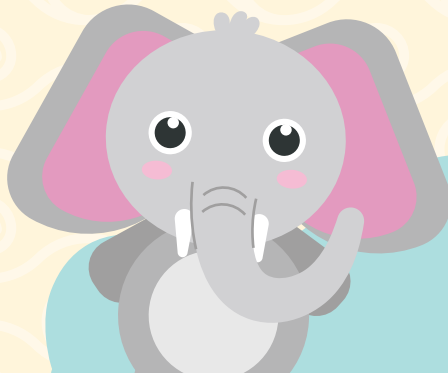




# gutargoo

An early literacy and arts initiative  
for children in Anganwadis

Supported by



## What is Gutar Goo?

Gutar Goo is an early literacy and arts initiative of NalandaWay Foundation piloted in Noida's Aganwadis with the support of HCL Foundation. The objective of this programme is to introduce story-telling and arts to 3-6 year olds to achieve foundational literacy and numeracy.

## Why Focus on Early Education?

Children's brains and bodies grow rapidly between the ages of 3 and 6 years, referred to as early childhood. During this critical period, any investment made in terms of time, skills and attention would have the most impact throughout their lives. Here are the four major areas that need nurturing:

### Physical-motor development

- Gross motor skills (using their large muscles for running, jumping and riding bicycle)
- Fine motor skills (using fingers and thumb to hold pencil, scribble and string beads)



### Cognitive development

- Thought processes and intellectual abilities such as attention, memory, imagination and problem solving



## Early childhood

### Language and communication

- New vocabulary
- Ability to string simple sentences
- Express complex ideas
- Receptive and expressive language
- Pre-reading skills that precede the ability to read printed text

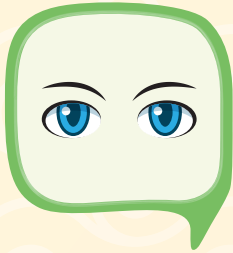


### Socio-emotional development

- ▲ Sense of self-knowledge and understanding
- ▲ Expression of emotions
- ▲ Interpersonal skills
- ▲ Empathy
- ▲ Form friendships and begin to understand relationships

## Why Arts based education?

The methodology derives from NalandaWay's philosophy of using arts for education and emancipation. Through introducing children to the arts at an early age, we wish to inculcate a sense of curiosity and develop a child's interests in the world around them. Our program equips the children to express themselves authentically while also helping them negotiate the world around them.



### Visual

Fuel thought process through images



### Kinesthetics

Enhance learning through dance and movement



### Auditory

Create an audio rich environment using songs, stories and music



### Destress

Using crayons and art materials helps children unwind



### Emotions

Enable children to externalize their feelings through images and colour



### Scribble

Scribbling can improve hand-eye co-ordination while strengthening their finger muscles



### Trust

Group art projects encourage teamwork and trust



### Teach

Art makes it easy to teach and learn math and language



### Values

Theatre and play-acting inculcate values like respect and tolerance

## The Research behind our Program

recommendations of the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) and the Singapore National Curricular Framework for Early Learning. Developing a positive attitude towards learning is an important aspect of this curriculum. This can be achieved through creating a joyous and creative learning environment that places the child at the centre of their own learning. We also incorporated recommendations made by the Center for the Developing Child, Harvard University.

A substantial review of literature was undertaken in order to understand the learning and developmental needs and processes of children aged 3-6. The traditional philosophers of early education such as Piaget and Vygotsky were studied. We also undertook a study of the

## So how does it work?

### We will be using

- Story-telling
- Richly illustrated print materials like flash cards and workbooks
- Art implements like crayons, chalk and paint
- Fundango - a technology-led smart teaching device
- Music, Songs and Rhymes
- Dance and Movement

### To develop

- Language
- Number concepts
- Observational skills
- Positive attitude towards learning
- A joyous and creative learning environment for the children

### So that children

- Have improved listening and speaking skills
- Are more print aware
- Can use art for meaning-making and early representations of the world
- Are school ready



## About NalandaWay

NalandaWay has been helping children raise their voices and issues through theatre, visual arts, music, dance, radio and films for 15 years. Over 50,000 children are benefited every year. Our endeavour is to improve learning abilities, reinforce positive behaviour and help children soar high by enabling them to be creative and expressive through arts.

## About HCL Foundation

HCL Foundation (HCLF) was established in 2011 as the CSR arm of HCL Technologies. It is a value-driven, not for-profit-organization, that contributes towards national and international development goals, bringing about a lasting positive impact in the lives of people, through long term sustainable programs. It focuses on Education, Health, Livelihoods & Skilling, Environment and Disaster Risk Reduction & Response. Child protective strategies, inclusion and gender transformative approaches remain central in all initiatives of the HCL Foundation.



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