



**KT GLOBAL SCHOOL**

**TRANSFORMING MINDS**

# PRAGYAN

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# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK .....</b>	<b>02</b>
<b>CAMPUS ROUND-UP .....</b>	<b>03-04</b>
<b>TEACHER'S INSIGHT .....</b>	<b>05-07</b>
<b>MYTH BUSTER .....</b>	<b>07</b>
<b>CREATIVE CORNER .....</b>	<b>08</b>
<b>A SUMMER WELL SPENT .....</b>	<b>09</b>
<b>HEALTH AND WELLNESS .....</b>	<b>12-13</b>
<b>LIFE HACKS .....</b>	<b>14-15</b>
<b>DIY CORNER .....</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>INSPIRING TALES .....</b>	<b>17-23</b>



**Dr. Deep Khare**

As an educator, I firmly believe that education should empower individuals to tackle real-world challenges, contribute positively to their communities, and make a difference globally. However, from my experience, our education system often emphasizes the “What” and “How” of learning, overlooking the fundamental question- “Why?” In an era where the value of grades is diminishing and skills

are taking centre stage, understanding the true purpose of education is more important than ever. It’s not just about schooling; it’s about providing the right education that truly matters.

To address the “Why,” we must align our teaching practices with the genuine purpose of education. Each subject should have clear learning outcomes aimed at developing essential skills, competencies, and attitudes. For instance:

- Science education should cultivate curiosity, observation, synthesis, and analytical skills.
- Mathematics learning should foster flexibility, reasoning, logic, patience, and perseverance.

Sometimes, short-term goals (like exam preparation) lead to memorisation without understanding. However, learning can be enjoyable and meaningful.

For example, rolling tennis balls on the floor can teach relative velocity, and playing with a suspended stone illustrates frequency and its influencing factors.

As we continue our educational journey, let’s remain committed to understanding the “Why.” At KTGS, curiosity is our foundational thread. We embrace storytelling, inviting students to weave their experiences and insights into the fabric of their learning. Their questions about sparkling diamonds, thunder, or ballpoint pens reflect boundless curiosity- the true fuel for learning. Together let’s nurture this curiosity, empowering our students to become lifelong learners and innovators who will shape a better future for us all.

# CAMPUS ROUND-UP

## International Labour Day Celebration

KT Global School celebrated International Labour Day, recognising workers' contributions worldwide. It was a day to honour their hard work and dedication.



## Farewell to French Volunteers

KTGS bid farewell to four of the French volunteers Alice Faracci, Iris De Laporte, Camille Letexier-Roux, and Tom Oswald with a simple yet heartwarming felicitation ceremony. These young and dynamic volunteers were closely involved in various school activities, enriching our students' learning journey with their innovative ideas.



## Virtual Mother's Day Celebration

KTGS organised a virtual Mother's Day celebration, featuring an assembly where students expressed their love and gratitude for their mothers. It was a heartening experience.



## International Day of Light

A special documentary was screened to commemorate the International Day of Light. Students learned about the significance of light in various aspects of life.



## International Yoga Day

KTGS observed the International Yoga Day promoting physical and mental well-being through yoga sessions. Students and staff practised yoga together.



## Memorable MoU Signing Ceremony

KTGS in partnership with Templecity Institute of Technology and Engineering (TITE), has signed a MoU with Young Indians (Yi) to introduce the Thalir project, offering initiatives for children. The signing was attended by Chairman Dr Arun Prakash and other dignitaries from KTGS, TITE, and Young Indians.



## Sustainability Session: Back to the Roots

Mr Jitu Mishra and Ms Rosalin Dash, founders of SARNA Organisation, Bhubaneswar, led an insightful session on sustainability. They emphasised the importance of connecting with our roots for a sustainable future.



## A Culinary Adventure

Ms Saroja Chaudhury, of Rosy's Kitchen fame, hosted an event at our school where children explored nutrition and culinary skills. She also shared about her impactful work with the underprivileged and promised exciting internships and workshops for our learners.



## Camera Day 2024

A creative and fun-filled day dedicated to photography and visual storytelling was organised at KTGS. Students captured moments, and perspectives, and created memories through their lenses.



## Rainy Season Self-Care Tips

The school conducted an awareness session to educate students on self-care during the rainy season. The session headed by the Vice Principal focussed on cardinal aspects of health, hygiene, and safety precautions during the rainy season.



# TEACHER'S INSIGHT

## UNDERSTANDING PASTORAL CARE AND STUDENT BEHAVIOUR

An Interview with

### Mr R Rayappan

Faculty of English and Boarding House In-charge, KT Global School

#### Q1. What do you believe is the role of pastoral care?

I believe the role of pastoral care in schools is to provide a comprehensive support system that addresses the students' physical, emotional and social welfare. While it is crucial for every student, I would emphasise its relevance even more for the boarders who stay on our campus. The key aspects of pastoral care at KT Global School are:



- Providing an environment where children feel safe and comfortable
- Creating an inclusive community which fosters belongingness and nurtures relationships
- Offering empathy, support and reassurance during challenging times
- Empowering our students to build resilience, self-confidence and strong interpersonal skills
- Providing ethical guidance and value-based education to



navigate moral dilemmas and make informed decisions

The pastoral support at KTGS aligns with our vision to shape future leaders who are not just academically proficient but also emotionally intelligent and socially responsible.

#### Q2. How do you ensure that students feel safe and supported?

In pastoral care, creating a safe and conducive environment for students is the foremost priority as it crucially impacts their overall well-being and academic success. At our school, we ensure this by emphasising the following key factors:



- Building positive and respectful relationships with our students so that they feel valued and included
- Maintaining consistency in

rules and procedures which clearly define expectations from students

- Creating a culture which encourages open communication and empathy, helping to validate students' feelings and experiences
- Following a no-tolerance policy for bullying and harassment. Implementing policies for the confidential reporting of incidents and swift resolution.
- Having provision for counselling services for students who might need additional assistance
- Actively listening to students' concerns and feedback, taking appropriate action to address the issues promptly
- Promoting inclusivity by respecting diverse cultures, identities and perspectives and incorporating them into our classroom discussions
- Ensuring a safe physical environment by timely evaluation and assessment of safety measures like equipment maintenance, emergency procedures, and accessibility

### Q3. How would you prioritize your workload in the pastoral field?

Prioritizing workload in the pastoral field requires balancing various responsibilities efficiently.



I achieve this by identifying urgent tasks and addressing them first, focussing on direct care and support, having a structured plan for upcoming pastoral activities like developing support plans or organizing educational workshops, and balancing administrative responsibilities while prioritizing direct pastoral care activities like counselling and crisis intervention. I also believe that continuous learning and self-care are imperative to maintain the effectiveness of pastoral care. Thus, I am always mindful about it. Last but not least, I also emphasise progress monitoring and seeking feedback to refine our approach to providing compassionate and effective support to our students' community.

### Q4. Can you share one successful pastoral initiative that you have implemented in the past?

**Buddy-Friends Group** for students experiencing grief and loss has been one of my successful pastoral initiatives in the past. Here's how it unfolded.

#### Background:

I noticed several students were struggling with the loss of loved ones, whether due to death, divorce of parents, or other significant

life changes. Many of them were finding it challenging to cope with their emotions and maintain their academic performance. To heal their distress and help them cope with difficult situations I followed a structured approach:

#### • Individual Assessment:

Conducted one-to-one talks with students who had experienced loss to assess their needs and support mechanisms

#### • Proposal and Planning:

Proposed establishment of a grief support group with objectives, potential activities, and a facilitation plan to the school administration.



#### • Collaboration:

Collaborated with school counsellors, social workers, and relevant staff to plan the group's structure and resources.



#### • Group Formation:

Promoted the support group through announcements, posters, and direct outreach, inviting students to join voluntarily.

#### • Implementation:

Held weekly sessions with activities like sharing circles, guided discussions on coping strategies, creative expression (like art therapy), and learning about the



grieving process

#### • Evaluation and Adjustment:

Continuously gathered feedback and made adjustments to meet the group's evolving needs



#### Outcomes:

- Participants felt less lonely and valued sharing their feelings in a safe environment
- They learned practical skills and coping strategies for managing their grief
- The support group fostered empathy and understanding among peers with similar challenges.
- Teachers and counsellors observed improved academic engagement and overall well-being among participants

Overall, this initiative effectively addressed a specific need, offering meaningful support to grieving students and promoting emotional resilience and community cohesion.

### Q5. How do you handle challenging behaviour in the classroom?



To create a supportive learning environment, where all students thrive academically and socially, it is important to manage challenging behaviour systematically. I feel



it is imperative to stay calm and assess the situation to understand the root cause of such behaviour. I use positive reinforcement, set clear expectations and address disruptive behaviour promptly mainly through non-verbal cues or proximity control.

The key strategies to maintain a positive classroom atmosphere include redirecting students' focus by providing positive engagement opportunities, employing tailored behaviour management techniques and communicating effectively with students by listening attentively to them and validating their experiences. In case of persistent behaviour or escalation, I seek assistance from support staff like school counsellors or behaviour specialists. In such cases we document the incident, interventions used and outcomes. We also follow up with the students, their parents and guardians, to monitor the progress and adjust strategies as needed. I always try to empathetically bond with my students and build trust to reassure them that we are invested in their well-being and success.

**Q6. How do you promote inclusivity and diversity in your practice? Give an example.**

Promoting inclusivity and diversity in practice as an educator involves creating an environment where every student feels valued, respected, and represented. Here's an example of how we try to achieve this at KT Global School:

**Example:** Inclusive Literature Study

- Our main objective behind this literature study was to encourage students to explore different perspectives and cultures. We approached this

through the following steps:

- Helped students choose literature representing diverse backgrounds, cultures, identities, and experiences.



- Provided historical and cultural context for the selected literature
- Encouraged open discussions where diverse viewpoints are respected and valued.
- Engaged students in activities like role-playing, journal reflections, and small-group discussions that promoted empathy
- Encouraged students to reflect on their own cultural identity and the impact of the literature study on their understanding.



- Sought feedback from students to continuously improve the inclusivity of the curriculum.
- This inclusive literature study increased students' cultural awareness, fostered empathy and respect, and developed critical thinking skills by challenging stereotypes and biases through diverse narratives.

**MYTH BUSTER**

**Myth:** If you go outside with wet hair on a cold day, you'll catch a cold.

**Reality:** You may feel sick and experience symptoms like a runny nose, chills, and fatigue if you're outside all day in the cold or rain, but it's not because of a virus. It's because you can experience the same symptoms when you are chilled as when you are sick. Colds are caused by viruses, which you can't get just from being outside in the cold.

**Myth:** Cracking your knuckles causes arthritis

**Reality:** There's no evidence that knuckle cracking causes arthritis. Rather an interesting study by Donald L. Unger concluded that there is no apparent relationship between knuckle cracking and subsequent development of arthritis of the fingers. However, knuckle cracking can lessen one's grip strength because of repeated overstretching of the tendons.

**Myth:** Citrus fruits are linked to cough and cold

**Reality:** Contrary to popular belief that having fruits during a cold and cough can worsen your symptoms, the Vitamin C in citrus fruits like oranges, guava, lemons, and grapes builds immunity and helps you fight against bacterial and viral attacks.

## ବର୍ଷା

– by Laxmipriya Tripathy

ଅମାନ୍ତିଆ ବର୍ଷା ଟା ଭାରି ଜିଦି କରେ  
ଅବେଳାରେ ଲୁହ ପରି ଚପ୍ ଚପ୍ ଝରେ।

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ସେ ବର୍ଷା ରେ ଭିଜୁ ଆମେ ନିଜସ୍ବ ଇଚ୍ଛାରେ।



## My Freedom (Amar Mukti)

– Rabindranath Tagore

Translation of Rabindranath Tagore's  
Amar Mukti

by

**Gopikrishnan Rajeendranath,**  
PGT, English

In this radiance of the sky lies my  
freedom,

In every dust and every grass lies  
my freedom.

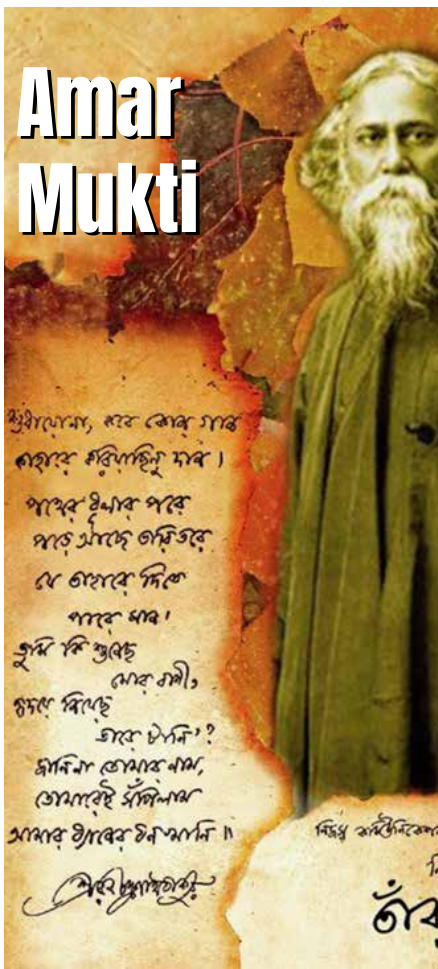
Released I Am in its tune and  
ascends,

Myself beyond Body and Mind  
Beyond.

My Freedom lies in every heart,  
Among the Selfless to whom,  
Perplexities and depressions are  
trivial.

It lies in the fire of Self Sacrifice,  
Ablaze on the Altar of the  
Empyrean.

For that Freedom,  
Sacrifice My Life I Shall.



## Nature

–by Srusti Biswal  
Grade 8

The Beauty of this nature,  
Gives the ultimate pleasure.  
We, the people are just a part of  
nature,  
Plants, animals and birds are the  
beauty of nature.

The rivers, oceans and the mighty  
seas,

How can we forget the huge trees  
They are living though they are  
not speaking

But they have feeling  
And they need proper caring

But the wants of people  
Growing and growing

Destroyed the beauty  
Without knowing the duty

Yes! We have broken the trust  
And ran to quench our thirst

Destroying everything with thrust.  
Now the man cries

Other one pacifies  
It is his nature to destroy his  
nature!



# A SUMMER WELL-SPENT

## Glimpses from KTGS Summer Camp- 2024-25

The KT Global School Summer Camp 2024 was a dynamic and engaging program curated for children aged 3 to 13. Held at

the picturesque KT Global School campus in Bhubaneswar, Odisha, the camp spanned seven days, from May 27th to June 2nd. Participants

explored a variety of activities, fostering creativity, physical fitness, and social connections.

### Indoor Pursuits

#### 1. Art and Craft:

Children unleashed their creativity through hands-on art projects. They experimented with colours, textures, and various materials, creating unique masterpieces.



#### 2. Best out of Waste:

Environmental consciousness met innovation as participants transformed recyclable materials into imaginative creations. The focus was on repurposing and sustainability.



#### 3. Graphic Designing:

Kids dipped their toes into the vista of visual communication. They learned about layout, typography, and basic design principles.



#### 4. Fireless Cooking:

Culinary adventures without flames! Young chefs whipped up delicious treats using safe, no-heat methods.



#### 5. Dancing:

The dance floor buzzed with energy as participants grooved to different beats. Expressive movement and rhythm were the order of the day.



#### 6. Swimming:

Water enthusiasts splashed, paddled, and perfected their strokes in the pool, guided by experienced instructors



### Outdoor Adventures

#### 1. Videography:

Children explored the art of capturing moments on camera. They learned about framing, angles, and basic editing techniques.



#### 2. Sports:

From soccer matches to relay races, the sports field echoed with laughter and friendly competition. Physical fitness and teamwork were emphasised.



Beyond the activities, the camp aimed to build character, resilience, and friendships. Cultural exchange programs allowed participants to connect with peers from diverse backgrounds, fostering a global perspective. The lush green

surroundings of the KT Global School campus provided an ideal setting for exploration and learning. KTGS Summer Camp 2024 left lasting memories, sparking curiosity and igniting young minds. Participants discovered

their passions, honed new skills, and embraced the joy of shared experiences. Parents and guardians can look forward to future editions of this enriching camp.

# SUMMER CAMP 2

Tinkering



# 2024-25



Sports

Best out of waste

## Obesity: The Growing Concern among Growing Kids

Until a few decades ago, playing outdoors was a daily routine for kids and fast food was a rare treat. Physical activity was a normal and integral part of the kid's growing up years. However, the reality has shifted from playgrounds to PlayStation and swings to screens giving birth to a new health crisis among growing kids.

As per a comprehensive study published in the world's leading medical and academic journal, 'The Lancet'; the prevalence of

obesity among Indian children and adolescents has been steadily on the rise between 1990 and 2022. This alarming trend is a wake-up call for all of us to stop and rethink our lifestyle choices before they cause irreparable damage to the next generation of our citizens.

### Understanding Obesity

Obesity is a medical condition characterised by excessive fat deposits that can impair health and negatively influence the quality of life by impacting aspects like mobility and sleep. This is diagnosed by calculating the Body Mass Index (BMI)

which is weight (kg)/height<sup>2</sup> (m<sup>2</sup>). The BMI categories for defining obesity differ by age and gender in infants, children and 'adults'. Typically for adults obesity is identified as a BMI greater than or equal to 30. In children aged between 5-19 years, obesity is defined as 2 standard deviations above the WHO Growth Reference Meridian.

However, the most interesting part is obesity doesn't compensate for the issue of malnourishment. Obese children might be consuming excess of calories but still lacking in essential nutrients due to poor dietary choices. In fact, obesity is also a form of malnutrition as it represents an imbalance between energy intake and energy expenditure.

### Alarming Findings from the Research

The Lancet study reveals that obesity rates among children and adolescents worldwide, increased four times from 1990 to 2022. Globally, the total number of children, adolescents and adults living with obesity has surpassed one billion. On our home front, the childhood obesity rates in India have tripled between 1990 and 2022 with more than 12.5 million children between 5 and 19 years of age found to be obese as against 0.4 million in 1990. This rising tide of obesity is more prevalent in the urban areas than rural pockets hinting at various factors responsible for this shift, ranging from dietary habits to lifestyle changes.



## Factors Contributing to Childhood Obesity

### 1. Drop in Physical Activity:

With technology invading our daily lives, kids' activities have shifted from the physical world to the virtual world. Children spend more time indoors glued to screens – televisions, computers, or smartphones. This sedentary lifestyle drastically reduces physical activities and leads to weight gain.

### 2. Shift in Dietary Habits:

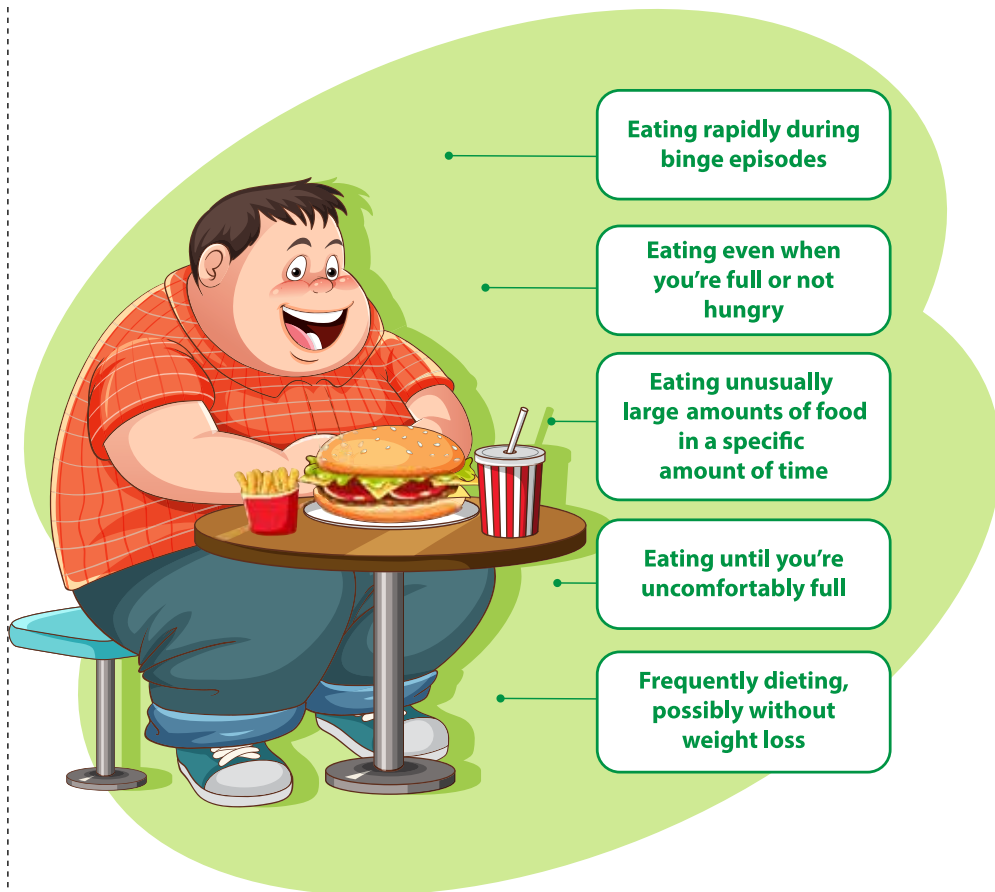
A fast-paced lifestyle and easy availability of processed foods have overshadowed our traditional and simple dietary practices and increased dependence on packaged foods resulting in unhealthy eating habits. Children are lured by sugary drinks and high-calorie snacks which affects their health in the long run.

### 3. Inadequate Awareness:

There is a significant lack of awareness about balanced diet and exercise. Most people in India are still not in the practice of reading labels of packaged foods to check for unhealthy ingredients.

### 4. Socioeconomic Factors:

Urbanization and a rising middle-class population with an overall increase in disposable income have brought about a shift in lifestyle that is inclined towards convenience rather than health. The dynamics of the family have also changed leading to opting for fast unhealthy meal options.



## Tips to Counter the Menace of Childhood Obesity

### 1. Build Healthy Eating Habits:

Children need to be educated about the importance of a balanced diet. Families have to ensure following dietary discipline and build healthy eating habits.

### 2. Promote Physical Exercise:

Children should be encouraged to engage in at least an hour of physical activity every day. This can include playing any kind of sport, outdoor games, cycling or brisk walking. Schools should make physical activity an integral part of their curriculum.

### 3. Lead by Example:

Children often imitate the society around them, so it is important for adults to act as role models by following healthy behaviour.

### 4. Build Awareness:

Adults should choose the food products carefully and learn to read labels to gradually decrease or eliminate unhealthy products from their pantry, thus letting children eat healthy and safe products.

### 5. Monitor Health Status:

Routine health check-ups can help catch childhood obesity in its early stages and thus facilitate timely intervention to prevent further health complications.

With adequate awareness and proactive intervention, the rising risk of childhood obesity can be tackled wisely. Each one of us can contribute to this fight by making small changes in our lives to accommodate healthy habits and inspiring others to do so. Let's work together to foster an environment where our children can thrive in good health.

Imagine your name being called out on stage to address a hall full of audience. As you are walking up to the podium, do you have a smile on your face and ideas in your mind or are you walking with butterflies in your stomach and a rapidly beating heart? If you relate

# MASTERING THE ART OF PUBLIC SPEAKING



more to the latter, we have some very useful tips for you which could come in handy in managing your stage fear and improving your public speaking skills.

Public speaking is one of the most important professional skills as it is used in nearly every industry. Whether it is a formal briefing to your office colleagues or pitching a business idea to a potential client, public speaking is a crucial skill that can significantly impact your ability to communicate effectively, persuade your audience and achieve your goals. Hence, it is wise to master this skill right from a young age.

Use the following tips and tricks to improve your public speaking skills and be the star speaker in every debate, presentation and school assembly

### Prepare Well:

Good preparation helps you deliver your speech confidently. Start by researching your topic thoroughly to understand your topic and collect relevant information. Organize your thoughts and create a structured outline for your speech. Knowing your subject matter boosts your confidence and helps you tackle unexpected questions efficiently.

**Practice for Perfection:** It is wise to practice your speech beforehand. You can rehearse in front of a small group of



friends or family members to get their feedback and identify areas for improvement. In the absence of any audience, you can also choose to practice in front of a mirror and do some self-assessment.

### **Know your Audience:**

It is better to have a general idea about your audience which can help you customise your speech. Know whether they are your classmates, seniors, teachers or a mixed audience so that you can make your content more relevant and adjust your language and tone accordingly.

### **Choose a Strong Opening:**

The first few seconds of your speech work like magic in grabbing the attention of the audience. Begin with an interesting statistic, a quote, a question or a short story. An interesting opening creates curiosity in your listeners and engages them.

### **Pay attention to your body language:**

Your non-verbal communication is as important as your spoken words to make your speech effective. Make eye contact with your audience, move your gaze rather than focusing on one spot, and make sure your facial expressions are in tandem with the subject matter. Avoid nervous gestures like shifting your weight from one foot to the other, fidgeting with your hand or touching your face. Stand in a relaxed and confident posture.

### **Structure Your Speech:**

It is important to organize your speech so that the audience can follow it easily. Use a clear structure with different sections

outlined well and one section logically leading to the next. Choose examples or data which are relevant and support the main subject.

### **Be Authentic:**

Avoid pretensions at all costs. Never try to be someone you're not. Let your originality and personality shine through. When you speak with conviction it resonates with your audience.

### **Speak at a Moderate Pace:**

Work on your diction and intonation. Do not rush through your speech. Speak clearly at a moderate pace to enable comprehension. Pause as needed, to emphasize points or to allow your audience to absorb the information.

### **Use audio-visual aids wisely:**

Choose to use audio-visual aids like graphs, charts or videos that will enhance your speech or engage your audience. Be careful to use them sparingly as too many of these can break the direct connection with your audience by distracting them. In the case of a PowerPoint Presentation, make sure you do not read word by word but rather use the visual elements

to make your presentation lively.

### **Create Engagement:**

A speech interspersed with anecdotes, stories, and examples captures the attention of the audience. Try to interact with your audience, ask questions, invite feedback and use humour to create better engagement.



# DIY CORNER

## Build your own simple Microscope at Home

This step-by-step DIY microscope is an easy and simple way to introduce kids to the magic of a microscope. Look at different objects under the microscope to learn how this simple device reveals things invisible to the naked eye.

What You'll Need:

- A plastic cup
- Cling wrap
- Rubber band
- Scissors
- Water
- And some interesting specimens to look at

## Step-by-Step Process to Make Your Microscope

- Using the scissors cut a hole in the bottom of the plastic cup. This does not have to be neat – it is simply an access point to get your specimens into the bottom of the cup.
- Stretch a piece of cling wrap over the top of the cup and secure it with a rubber band.
- Find a specimen and place it through your cut-out hole in the bottom of the cup.
- Pour a little water on top of the cling wrap – ideally you want a small pool of water.
- Look at your specimen through the water. The water acts as a lens and makes your specimen

look larger. This is the wow moment!!!

- Find more specimens and look at them. You will probably have to keep adding water to the top of the cup as it will spill over.
- This microscope is best used outside because of the water spillage. Getting outdoors with your microscope also gives you easy access to lots of nature based specimens.

### The Working Principle:

The pool of water on the cling wrap creates a convex lens. Convex lenses are thicker in the middle and thinner around the edges. They bend the light passing through them, making the object underneath appear larger.

STEP-1



STEP-2



STEP-3



STEP-4



## 10 Young Achievers with World Records



**Reyansh Surani**  
- The Kid Yogi

Yoga is an ancient discipline focused on bringing harmony between mind and body through a set of physical, mental and spiritual practices. A person who trains his/her faculties to achieve this perfect balance is called a Yogi. While many grown-ups fail to achieve the discipline needed to be a Yogi, Reyansh Surani did it even before he was 10 years old.

An Indian kid settled in Dubai, Reyansh started practising yoga when he was 4 years old. When he was 9.6 years old, he came down to Rishikesh, India and attended a Yoga Teachers' Training Course along with his parents. At the end of a month-long training session, Reyansh not only achieved the balance between his mind, body and inner self but also broke a world record and became **the youngest male certified yoga instructor**. Now this young Yogi gives some serious lessons to his students of all ages.



**Bella J Dark**  
- The Youngest Girl to Publish a Book

At an age when most kids listen to bedtime stories from their parents, Bella J Dark, a little girl from England, UK wrote a story from her imagination which was published, giving her entry into the Guinness Book of World Records as **the youngest published author (female)**.

Graced with a vivid imagination Bella started writing short stories when she was just 3. As a 5-year-old, she wrote a story about Snowy the Cat, in 5 days to teach other kids not to go out alone at night. This book titled 'The Lost Cat' took Bella a few months to complete as she also drew the pictures herself. This cute storybook has sold more than 1000 copies. Bella, a 7-year-old now, has already finished a second book about Snowy the Cat and has her third book in mind.



**Simeon Graham**  
- The Juggling Master

While most kids spend their time in bed when given time off from school due to sickness, Simeon Graham used this time to discover his passion which led his life in a new direction. When 7-year-old Simeon, from England, UK was sent home from school because he had chickenpox, he used this time off to learn juggling by watching YouTube videos.

Simeon got hooked on his newfound hobby, after which his parents found him a teacher to help improve his techniques and posture. In a few years, he started performing on stage and at the age of 15 years Simeon had broken 3 world records with the **most juggling catches in one minute with five, six and seven balls** respectively. With sheer determination, he dreams of being the best juggler one day.



**Pritish AR**  
- The Drumroll Dynamo

Pritish AR, a 13-year-old teenager from Australia holds the record for the most drumbeats in a minute using drumsticks. The record is for 2370 BPM which is almost 40 beats per second. Pritish expressed his love for music from a very young age making sounds with his toys.

His mother enrolled him on a kindergarten programme where the kids rode a bus full of musical instruments. Pritish instantly chose the drums and his drumming journey shaped up from there. He dedicatedly practices every single day and moved from one level to the next. After passing a high-level drum exam, Pritish started training for the world record on the advice of his mother. After 7 months of strict practice, Pritish finally earned the title of the world's **fastest drummer in 2021** breaking the previous record of 2,109 beats set by an adult.



**Brooke Cressy**  
- The Human Calculator

Nine-year-old Brooke Cressy from Kent, UK loves mathematics, especially the multiplication tables. She regularly practised on the Times Tables Rock Stars application and built her record-breaking speed gradually.

In November 2021 she competed against 400,000 other kids in the TTRS England Rocks Contest where they had to answer multiplication and division questions against the clock. **Brooke won the contest with 41,627 correctly answered questions in under four hours – a rate of 173 per minute!** She had a lead of 2,880 more questions than second place. At the age of 8 years, Brooke broke the TTRS record under the user name 'Heath Fox' with a score of 210 in one minute. Brooke aims to break her own record in future and would love to continue her association with mathematics when she grows up as well.



**Rafal Biros**  
- The Comet Hunter

While many of us might just appreciate the sight of a star-studded sky, Rafal Biros from Poland took it to the next level by hunting for comets. Inspired by his uncle who is also a comet discoverer, Rafal started looking for comets during the COVID lockdown and identified his first comet SOHO-4094 when he was 12 years 199 days old.

Being part of NASA's Sungrazer Project, a citizen-science project which lets regular people be a part of scientific research projects; Rafal got access to space pictures taken by the Solar and Heliospheric Observatory (SOHO). He studied these images and tried to spot the comet. He identified and reported a comet which was officially confirmed, earning him the title of **the youngest person to discover a comet**. Since then he has discovered 10 more comets and loves the adventure of astronomy.



**Zaila Avant-garde**  
- The Challenge Lover

Whether it is basketball or a spelling contest, Zaila loves any challenge that comes her way. 14-year-old Zaila from Louisiana, USA holds not one but 3 Guinness World Records for her basketball skills. That's not all, she is also the 2021 champion of the Scripps National Spelling Bee Contest.

Zaila started playing basketball at the age of 5. She currently holds the GWR for **Most basketballs dribbled simultaneously (one person), most basketball bounces in 30 seconds (four basketballs) and most bounce juggles in one minute (four basketballs)**. Zaila aspires to be a WNBA (Women's National Basketball Association) player and play professional basketball when she grows up.



**Dara McAnulty**  
- The Nature Lover

From a very young age, Dara McAnulty of the UK not only understood the importance of nature but also valued it and championed environment conservation. Dara who has autism expresses that the calm and focus required to watch wildlife feels therapeutic to him.

17-year-old Dara loves birds and is passionate about the environment. As a naturalist, writer and environment campaigner, he tries to teach others about the importance of environment conservation. He feels his efforts were appreciated and honoured when he was awarded the RSPB (Royal Society for the Protection of Birds) medal. Dara holds the Guinness World Record title for **the youngest recipient of the RSPB medal**.



**Gitanjali Rao**  
- The Young Innovator

Passionate about science, 15-year-old Gitanjali Rao from Colorado, USA shot to fame with her innovations to address the issue of contaminated drinking water. She holds the Guinness World Record for being **the first Time Magazine Kid of the Year**.

Gitanjali, a naturally curious kid is a keen observer of things and issues around her. She tries to use science to provide simple solutions that could meaningfully impact society. At a young age, she has introduced innovations which tackle issues like accessibility to clean drinking water, cyberbullying and much more. Gitanjali aims to study a combination of biology, engineering, and product development, hoping to develop her range of products and services.

# 10 Indian Teenagers Who Redefined Entrepreneurship



**Chinonso Eche**  
- The Football Freestyler

Thirteen-year-old Chinonso Eche from Nigeria is a passionate football player and has earned the reputation of ‘Amazing Kid Eche’ due to his Football Freestyle tricks. Eche holds the Guinness World Record for **most consecutive football (soccer) touches (111 touches) in one minute while balancing a football on the head.**

As early as 4 years old, Eche started playing with every round object. A fan of football stars Lionel Messi and Ronaldinho, Eche started freestyle soccer at the age of eight. His world record needed a lot of practice to perfect the techniques and achieve the required balance; which Eche mastered by dedication and hard work. He is determined to create many more records in future and advises other kids to believe in themselves and never give up.

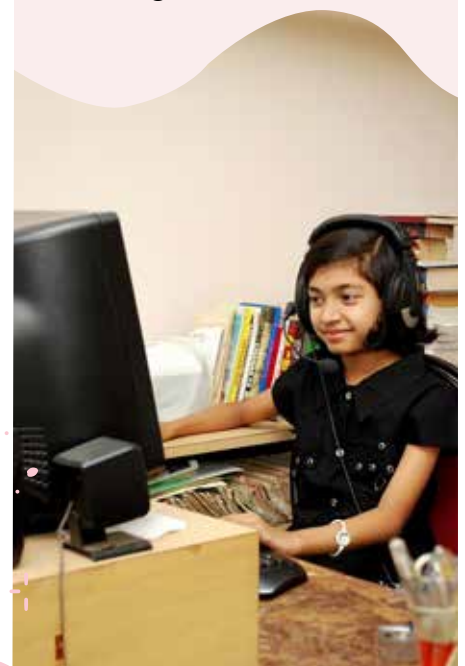
The teenage years are a beautiful yet crucial stage of life. While most teenagers grapple with self-discovery while navigating the physical, mental and social changes of this age; some trailblazers stand out by crafting a blueprint for their dreams and embarking on a journey with zero experience yet a hundred per cent conviction to give it their all. They dedicate their boundless youthful energy to driving their passion to success. These young visionaries demonstrate that age is just a number and with determination and focus, even the seemingly impossible can be achieved.

We present the inspiring stories of 10 young individuals from India, who challenged the status quo, leveraging their unique perspectives and boundless creativity to launch innovative businesses. Despite their young and inexperienced age, they have achieved success as entrepreneurs, significantly impacting the world around them.



**Sreelaxmi Suresh:**

Born in 1998 in **Kozhikode** Kerala, Sreelaxmi Suresh displayed a strong interest in computers at the early age of 3 years. She designed and developed the official website of her school when she was just 8 years old and at 11, she founded two companies “**Tinylogo**” a logo-based search engine and “**eDesign**” a web-designing company. She is the recipient of many National and International awards and is considered one of the youngest web designers and CEOs.





### **Vinusha MK:**

Do teenagers have sweet cravings? Of course! You might have come across many youngsters who love eating cakes and chocolates. Meet this one who bakes them. At 9 years old, Vinusha wanted to surprise her mother by baking a birthday cake for her and this led to the foundation of her enterprise Four Seasons Pastry. Vinusha's bakes are inspired by the four seasons. Her business has flourished and she has scaled it up by launching a baking kit comprising ingredients and recipes, homemade chocolates, sandwiches and other items.



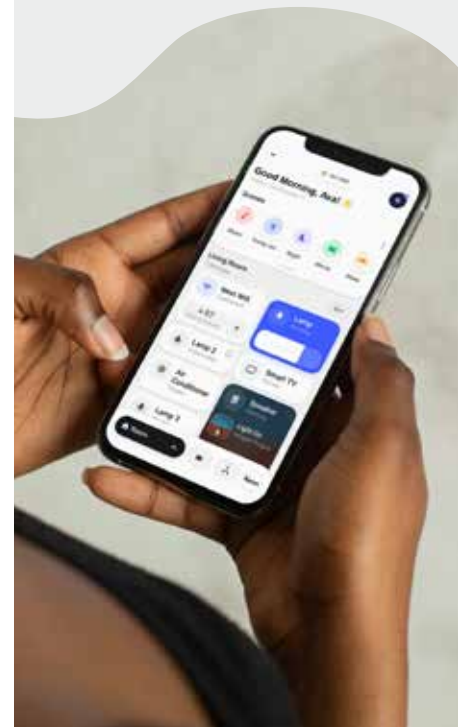
### **Nithin Kamath:**

At the age of 17 years when children still expect pocket money from their parents, Nithin had learnt many nuances of money management and had begun trading stocks. His acumen and passion gave birth to Zerodha in 2010 which is currently India's second-largest stock broking firm. Established with a vision to break all barriers of cost, support and technology that traders and investors face in India, the company has been named Zerodha which is a combination of Zero and 'Rodha' meaning barrier in Sanskrit.



### **Advait Thakur:**

19-year-old Advait Thakur is an Indian Tech prodigy who started using computers at the age of 6 and launched his first website at the age of 9 years. As a 12-year-old, he started his own Tech company named Apex Infosys which has now grown into a global technology and innovation company that specialises in IoT-related services and products, AI and Health Tech sectors. Advait is recognised as one of the youngest CEOs in the country and is also the youngest Google, Bing and Hubspot Certified Professional.





### Ritesh Agarwal:

A passionate traveller, Ritesh Agarwal revolutionised the hospitality sector with his disruptive business model of OYO (On Your Own) hotel rooms and app. Even as a teenager, he understood the pain points of travellers and the basic requirements of affordable rooms with standard facilities and provided a unique solution through his start-up which has now grown to a network of 2,200 hotels operating in 154 cities across India. Agarwal has won many awards and accolades for his work including the Business World Young Entrepreneur Award.



### Appalla Saikiran:

Inspired by the thought to celebrate and support young entrepreneurs, Appalla Saikiran conceived the idea for his company SCOPE at the tender age of 17 years. Appalla, an Ivy Early Entrepreneur recognised the challenges of economic inclusivity and understood the importance of finding the right mentors, investors and networking opportunities. Through Scope App, he provided a holistic platform that brought aspiring entrepreneurs, venture capitalists, investors and industry experts together. Saikiran has received many awards and accolades for his work and is dedicated to creating a more equitable start-up ecosystem.



### Rohit Kashyap:

While most 14-year-olds seek education from different sources, this teenager embarked on a journey to provide it. Rohit Kashyap, a young boy from a small town in Bihar with limited resources had intelligence and talent in abundance. By this age, he was winning multiple Olympiads and ranked in the top 1000 in the ICAI Commerce Wizard. So he decided to tutor others to help them achieve success. His efforts received an overwhelming response. Thus, he started the Maytree School of Entrepreneurship to help young achievers. Since its inception, Maytree has mentored more than 1,200 students worldwide and incubated more than 50 revenue-generating startups.







### Akhilendra Sahu:

Akhilendra embarked on his entrepreneurial journey at the age of 16 years and created not just one but a group of companies making his mark as one of the world’s youngest Serial Entrepreneurs. He is the founder and CEO of ASTNT Technologies Pvt Ltd, an IT Company and the parent organization of Technical Next, ASTNT Media, ASTNT Newswire, and StartUp199. He is also the co-founder of ScoopBeats Pvt. Ltd. an internet news media company. His latest venture InfintyFame is a fast-growing digital marketing agency. Akhilendra is a pro in social media marketing and has helped many individuals and brands get the best online exposure.



### Tilak Mehta:

Tilak’s success story is an example of turning a disappointment into an opportunity. 13-year-old Tilak’s idea to start a company which could provide same-day delivery services within the city was sparked when he failed to secure urgent delivery of a few books from his uncle’s place for his exam, due to high costs and unavailability of such services then. Thus, was born “Paper N Parcels” - a logistics start-up aimed at offering quick, efficient and cost-effective delivery services, inspired by the Mumbai Dabbawallas. The company has seen remarkable success and crossed a staggering turnover of over Rs 100 crore. Tilak is among the youngest Forbes panelists, a TEDx speaker and the Youngest Entrepreneur awardee in the Logistics Sector.



### Deepak Ravindran:

Deepak began his entrepreneurial journey as a high school student by making a website for small businesses. His early forays in this direction were Swades Solutions and just4sale.com. However, the venture that put him into the big league happened in his first year of college when he met like-minded friends and started Innoz Technologies with them. They launched an offline search engine called SMS Gyan by partnering with various knowledge providers including Wikipedia. Deepak worked tirelessly, and Innoz finally partnered with leading telecom operators such as Airtel, Vodafone, Idea, and Tata Docomo to integrate SMS Gyan into Value Added Services (VAS). Innoz is even listed in the Limca Book of Records as the largest offline search engine.

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