



Organized By – PAHAL JAN SAHYOG VIKAS SANSTHAN

Supported by – TERRE DES HOMMES [TDH]

Venue – Pahal's Educational center Borlay, Barwani

Date- 3rd August to 10th August

BAL MELA 2014

All over the country, various cultural, social, and even corporate institutions conduct competitions for children. Summer camps for children to engage in fun and frolic. But at the other hand deprived and tribe child labor rarely get a chance to participate in this type of activities.

PAHAL, in association with NCLP, is implementing a Educational Program for Child Labors, project named, “Bal Shram Punarvas kendra” at 2 village of Barwani District. To celebrate Rainy season , Pahal organized huge **Bal Mela** at **Pahal’s Educational center at Borlai ,Barwani.**

Pahal’s Bal Mela -August 3rd to August 9th

The special Bal Mela (camp for child engage in labors) is organized at community center of Village Borlai, which is just 12km from Barwani. Center was started with the aim to educate them for their basic rights, and better lives. Pahal started the Special School in March for child labors with the help of NCLP and TDH Pune. The group of child labors was selected by the local area, there are two villages Borlai and Anjad, where the centers are running by the organization. During the camp there were more than 45 children started learning so many new ideas like hygiene management, personality development by the day by day activities. Half of them were coming from Anjad to attend the camp with their teachers. Lack of resources they are not able to take education but they are very energetic, and wish to do something for themselves.

Objective of Bal Mela

Children are loved by one and all. They win over our hearts with their angelic eyes and innocent smiles. It doesn’t matter from where they are coming. Making “**learning by Fun**” a special treat and to add more frolic and fun through different competitions and learning games to children, a huge Bal Mela was planned under NCLP Project. The objectives of it can be specified below.

- Organizing an event which meant for children and giving each child a fun filled and memorable day.
- Providing an occasion to children for meeting, developing, observing, perceiving and creating potential through Co-curricular activities also known as Extracurricular Activities.
- Provide a platform for children to enhance social interaction, leadership, healthy recreation, self-discipline and self-confidence.
- To engage children in fun and frolic irrespective of any discrimination based on socioeconomic status.

Near about 50 children and 10 teachers from 2 schools (Anjad and Borlay center) of Barwani were taken part in event.

Participants

Sitting Arrangements

The all children arrived at 11 'o' clock in the morning with anticipations written on their bright faces from both schools. Some of them brought bags, books and colors and some were wore colorful or cultural dresses. Upon arrival, they were greeted by the sight of a colorfully decorated mela Place, complete with Paintings, paper streamers, banners. As soon as children were coming, all were being settled down in the big Hall of Community Bhavan of Borlay. After settling down to all, they were briefly introduced about whole agenda of program. It was encouraging to see zeal and gusto of children to enjoy whole day in event. Huge turnouts of children were invigorating us for making it enjoyable as they want.

Children are themselves chief guest of inauguration ceremony. Mr. Krishna Ramavat & Miss Mitali From Needs Organisation, Akola are Resource person, Teachers & all the other staff of Pahal with for facilitation. By clapping for all they started the Mela.

Inauguration Ceremony

Basic introduction

Starting with introduction, all the children including resource person and Pahal's team gave their introduction. To avoid hesitation & motivate children, they allowed asking the question to team about them.

Group making and ice breaking

It is well known thought that diverse group gives better learning opportunity So children's are divided in to different groups for the whole mela time and then started the memory game activity to know about each other. To engage all age group in meaningful activity was great challenge for team. That's why the children's were given different task and settled in different group & room. Children gives different names to their groups, like Gobi Ka phool, Rakhi, Bharat, Badal, Jyoti, Chocolate etc. After naming the group the Team members were smartly start conversation in local language. In memory game each child has to say the name of every child in group as per sequence they seated, if any body is not able to recall any name then other children helps with clue. It was very interesting for all children to identify each other's names and faces by game.



Activities which carried out daily

Game

Outdoor & indoor games, most happening & demanding activity for the child was the one of the tool in this mela. Langdi, Kho-Kho and Skipping was played in mela. During outdoor game all children's were informed to come in to the ground and gathered around in circle. Where they were invigorating the morale of each other by hooting and showing interest.



Langdi

The langdi game is our own game which played by the students usually everywhere. But Tadka was added in game with some changes, we sent 2 girls or boys at a time in a circle to run, and one will chase them with langdi. This kind of outdoor games not only make them happy and physically strong, but also teach them social connection. Teachers were decided to start the center with games because it attracts children

to come regular and be punctual to attend the session of all games.

Khelo magar samajh kar

The game started at ground and children start saying “**Ghoda badam khaye, piche dekhe mar khaye**”. It was discussed with children that what is it mean by “**Ghoda Badam Khaye**”, Is it easy to every person to buy & eat almonds, No..., then How & from where ghoda will get badam. After laughing and agreeing with this mismatch rhyme the line was changed as Ghoda Chana Khaye, piche dekhe maar khaye.



At the starting it was little difficult for children, after repetition it



Skipping

was easily sung. It was a starting of questioning and in future hope children will raise questions against any mismatch its rhymes, thoughts or custom. They will think that How can we change it in a write way? It is explained to them that why questioning is important in a life. Skipping is very good for health and competitive game. They are beating each other

with number of skipping.

Children are divided in to two groups and start playing Kho-Kho.

Kho-Kho

Concentration game

Follow the voice not to act is the basic rule of the concentration games, children should follow facilitators Krishna's voice not the act. mistakes will be happened and participant will be out of the game. Concentration game started with Muh... Haath... Kaan.. ,and then changed with Puri, Jalebi, Bhajiye with action of cooking.

Act as written Game

In this game every child has to pick a parchi from the box. Then do whatever is written on the paper like storytelling, acting or dancing etc. Children enjoyed and played very well at all tasks, some of them are very good actors like Badal.

Games with Toys

Students played games in groups with new toys, football, and rings. In groups of mix children toys passes one by one to each student.

Songs & Prayer was used as a one of the tool to channelize the energy of children after game or any other activity. As a routine prayer, Day started with National Anthem. After that Prayer *Itani shakti Hume Dena Data*, "*Sare jahan se achha..*"and *Git gaa rahe hai aaj hum* " etc was sung daily by all., children were told the meaning of the Prayers & song, it helps them to understand the real value of prayer and its an easy method to mold the value & emotion. They like the songs and ask again & again to sing. It also enrich their vocabulary and rhythm sense.

Songs & Prayer

Recap of learnings

Everyday children were asked to recall what they have learnt yesterday. Teachers ask simple questions and help them to recall. like – Jute kahan rakne hai ? sabjiya kaun se rang ki hai? Paryavaran ko kaise bachana hai?Safai kaise rakhna hai ? etc.

Lunch

Every day after enjoying different activities Children have their lunch. Before lunch and after washing their hands they had a prayer Daily.



Task to do at Home

Children were given different task to do at home with the help of their family members & friends. Mostly all the children next day came with their homework done during mela. It was really appreciable work done by children. It seems that they understand the concept and getting attached with the process.

Extra curricular Activities during Mela

Pahadi per Ped tha

Memory song with drawing

In this session children acquire a skill to memories the story or learning things.



They were told to draw the pictures of the story and after that sing a song with action. Singing with action is very funny for them and they enjoyed a lot.



The song *Pahadi Par Ped tha* is a chain of small sentences which create a picture of nature. Then they sung in groups, individually.

The concept behind doing the activity was, to teach them how to remember and memorize the poem while learning in schools or other places.

Family Chart/ Tree

Family tree is the basic ideas to draw the picture of the relationship in the family. Childrens are told to calculate age and write down the right relations and name in each box. In starting it is difficult for some child to write the names of all members. Some of them are write in Hindi and other in their own language.



Family tree enhances their capacity to introduce themselves & their family to other. After making family tree children's started Chart making to arrange the information of their family in right order on the paper.

Identification of Dream

It is given as homework to make a perfect chart with the help of their parents. Mitali gave them demo on white boards for the same. Next day most of the children came with their homework done. It was really appreciable work done by children. It seems that they understand the concept and getting attached with the process. some of them made very systematic & beautiful chart.



Children asked to tell what they want to be in future. Some were unable to answer though few responses fast. We asked them to stand one by one and to tell others ‘**what I want to become**’. They confidently stand up and tell other at least their names. they asked repeatedly just because, repetition makes them perfect.

Discussion was held on what are good habits and why it is important. After discussion children set few rules for

Rules Setting



themselves to make best of their future & life. take bath every day, wear clean cloths, Combed hair every day, cut nails, washed hand before and after eating ,cleaned room every day, etc. After that recalled all rules from children’s 2-3 times. And told them they will be observe tomorrow what they learn and followed by this session.

Understanding Environment

There was a discussion on value of tree and environment. They were told by Facilitator that how to grow the plants, they can collect the seed during the summer because they can found so many seeds lying near by the trees during the period. It is the very simplest way without spending any penny to collect the seeds and then when a rainy season starts they can put a seed in a small pouch of old news paper with soil. In the forest area or hills, where they can dig a very small pit by the stick, they can put the paper pouch in that dig. After filling the soil on paper bag, they can set stones near by the tree as a protector or tree guard. After one or two rains seeds will came out in the firm of small trees.

Plantation

After understanding the issue all children's were agreed to plant more trees. Then all the Children have given task for next day to come with plant to save the environment.

18 students came with plants next day. They brought different plants like- marigold, mango, neem, etc and they were very excited to plant the tree. Rest of the children has given a option to come next day with their plants. Tarika from Give India, Mumbai come to visit bal mela. Child Gauri helps Tarika to plant the tree.



Hygiene Management



The day started with discussion on hygiene management, Session started with videos, and PPTs. Children's & Teachers were very excited to see the movie. Through movie they understand basic and practical steps of hygiene management.

Hand wash, foot wash –

Demonstration

Most of the children do not have footwear so their legs were dirty. Krishna gave them demonstration on hand wash and foot wash. After demo they started cleaning their hand and legs by own.



Children's were taken to visit the School .It was nice to see the happiness on all faces while watching 3D show, and computer lab, classrooms, playground. It creates very positive impact on their mind.

Visit to School

Visit to police station

To understand the work culture of Police children were taken to the police station. Students ask many question to policeman. Then visited Bawangaja, famous place for the picnic.

Introduction giving and Interview

Few children are very shy and they are not confident to give their introduction. So it was decided to do role play to improve their confidence. Classroom and office was created there, one child became teacher and others student. One by one every child goes to the office or classroom and gives his or her introduction, and asks some basic questions to them. This role play gave them the confidence to come over their hesitation.

Children recognize different colors first, then

Nutritious & Colorful Meal



started with fruits and vegetables' names with colors, and then explained that every human needs at least 4 colors in a meal, Red, Green, White and Yellow. Children started counting vegetables and fruits, some of them started counting in liquid form. It was noticed that they know everything but they are not ready to eat, but when Mitali explained the benefits, they were ready to start eating.

Map Making

Krishna asked very basic questions on a map of India and children answered the questions. After that, they created a map of the classroom and then made teams of 4 students (mixed group), and they started map making. Very interesting maps they created and learned a lot by the activity. Then they made a model map of a village on a whiteboard. And asked students to count things, in Hindi – Zopadi, ghar, mandir, bail, bailgadi, nadi, pahad, rasta, kuwa, pathshala, khet and all. Then the teacher has given the task to map making of a village with the children. After Bal Mela it will be completed and drawn on paper.

Valedictory Session



In this session **Mr. Praveen Gokhale**, Secretary **Pahal Jan Sahyog Vikas Sansthan** showed his appreciation to children, teachers, honorary guests and community members for taking part in Bal Mela and making it successful. Congratulating to all, he said the children of today are the future of tomorrow and it is very imperative to sensitize them about themselves and

their surroundings through the medium of non-academic and extracurricular activities.

Organizing Bal Mela is one of the most excellent tool for the personality development and boost the hidden talent of the children. This is the right time to strike when the child is in his growing stage and very keen to grasp everything. He added in the end of program, everybody who engaged with it was so happy. Children have myriad dreams, we need to nurture and help to realize them.

Mr. Mandloi DPC,NCLP, was came to Valedictory Session and cheer up the children's for their best future. They also Distributed Toys to them and said this will help them to enhance their physical & mental development and also give them fun & happiness. Through contributing in a program where children's are enjoying and looking jubilant, everyone was feeling satisfied and happy. At last all were tired, but enrapt and cheering each other.



After Lunch it was Bye-Bye time. Children were sent off with wishes and blessings. It was very difficult for us to say bye all lovely children. Children are also sad to go back to home by leaving zeal of learning and happiness in Bal Mela. Everybody knows that it was End of the Mela but The beginning of learning, changing and developing.

It Bigins With Ending.....

Conclusion

Every day during each-n-every game children were took part with great zeal and enthusiasm. All these activities were fun filled for the participating children and an opportunity for their overall development. Different avenues of development open up in the child's mind due to this. Which implant something about the future into their mind and this implantation spreads, becoming a tree in the future. These activities are a great way to develop the hidden skills in the children. Workability is satisfied by motivating self faith and self confidence in the children. Through games tried to develop group attitude, thinking power, self confidence in children and by the discussion on different issue build their understanding, questioning power & values are molded into them. It resulted in increase in reputation, stabilization and quality improvement in the working field.

Visitors

During the Bal Mela Ms. Tarika from Give India ,Mumbai,Sarpanch of Borloy & DPC Mr. Mandloi from NCLP came to meet & prays the children.

