

RESTORING CHILDHOOD AND MISSED SCHOOLING ...



MITIGATING LOSSES DUE TO CLOSURE OF
RURAL PRIMARY SCHOOLS

TRANSFORMING RURAL INDIA FOUNDATION WEBINAR

5TH AUGUST 2020



an eklavya presentation

The backdrop



- Covid-19 pandemic & its upward trend in India
- Health and safety measures disallow large congregations, esp. of children
- Forecast is that primary/middle schools, especially in rural India, will remain closed for a good part of the academic session 2020-21
- So what are these children doing?
- What realities of life do they face?

Childhood in the times of missed schooling



- Hinoti Sadak, Block Berasia, dist. Bhopal, MP
- Passed class 7, to be admitted to class 8
- Photo – Yugal Kishore

Childhood in the times of missed schooling



- Jhalsar, dist. Hoshangabad, MP
- Class 5, 6 and 6, Enrolled
- Photo – Patiram Majhi

Childhood in the times of missed schooling



- Choorna, dist. Hoshangabad, MP
- Class 7, Enrolled
- Photo – Ankit Lilhare



Childhood in the times of missed schooling



- Sangakheda, dist Hoshangabad, MP
- Both class 4, enrolled
- Photo – Urmila Mehra



Childhood in the times of missed schooling



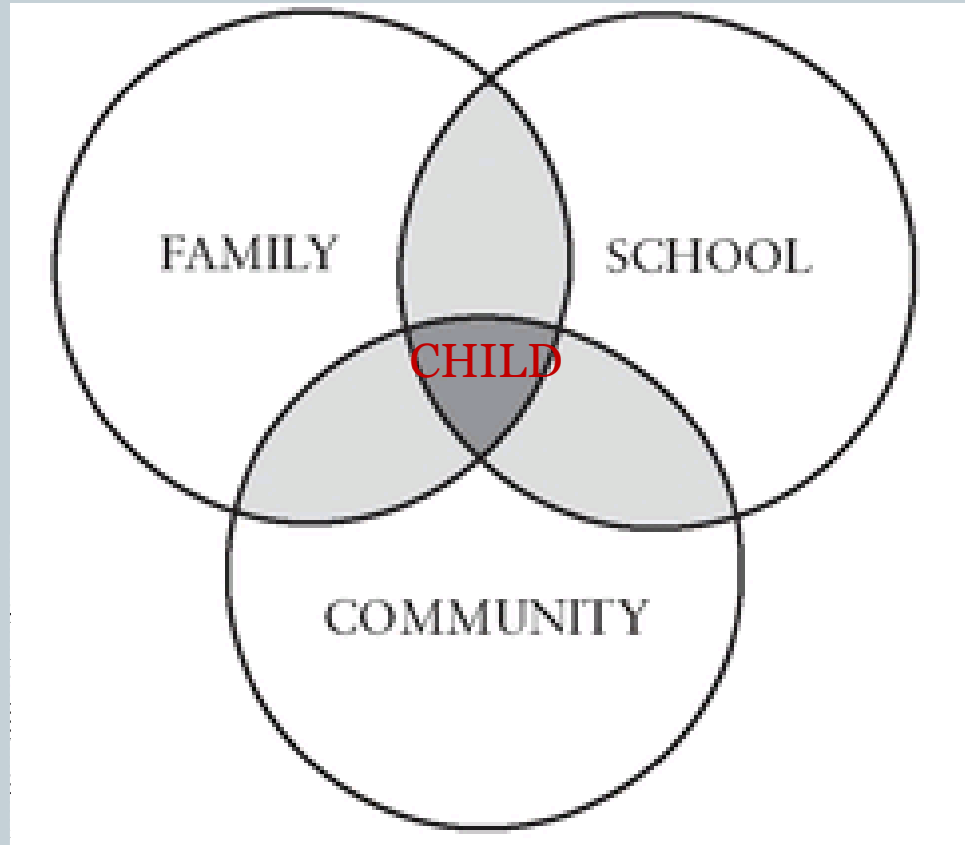
- Kachhar, dist Betul, MP
- Both class 7, enrolled
- Photo – Khem Prakash

Childhood in the times of missed schooling



- Bhaunra, dist Betul, MP
 - class 6, enrolled
- Photo – Khem Prakash

A child's world



Reimagining schooling for rural children



- Build on the idea of the common schooling system
- Decentralise it further at the level of each locality/ neighbourhood where the child resides
- Village/Mohalla Learning Activity Centre
- Facilitated by a youth from the same neighbourhood
- The youth members undergo weekly orientation and planning with Eklavya teams
- A safe and secure space for children to engage with peers and a friendly adult – to be meaningfully engaged & LEARN

Village/Mohalla Learning Activity Centre



- Ease of access for children
- Covid-responsive, as no external person is visiting the locality
- Held in some open or well-ventilated space within the neighbourhood
- Children come in batches, to avoid crowding
- Follows all safety measures like masks for children and facilitator
- Develops and nurtures the practice of hand-washing in all participants
- Builds on the Teach for India / Teach 2 Learn idea – but **DECENTRALISES** it further to involve **LOCAL YOUTH** in the educational activities of their younger siblings
- Emphasis on “**LEARNING BY DOING**”, “**LEARNING FROM THE ENVIRONMENT**” AND “**LEARNING FROM EACH OTHER**”

True Collaboration between Community & School



- The Mohalla Class idea is accepted & promoted by the Rajya Shiksha Kendra, MP
- The Hamara Ghar Hamara Vidyalaya campaign is launched
- Trainings of HMs are held in all districts and Eklavya supports these by outlining the idea and processes related to Mohalla class
- Teachers in the blocks where we work in Bhopal, Hoshangabad, Betul, Mandla, Badwani and Dhar districts reach out to our teams and are supported in carrying out the village visits, enrolling migrant family children and setting up of Mohalla classes.
- Teachers themselves support us by finding space in the community, identifying local youth to help this cause, visit the classes and motivate

Few glimpses of the Mohalla LACs



Choorna, Hoshangabad, MP
Origami time – making hats and caps
Photo – Ankit



Jhalsar, Hoshangabad, MP
Writing their own stories after telling them
Photo – Ankit



Dhapada, dist Betul, MP
Even a temple wall can be a black-board!
Photo – Akash Malviya



Kachhar, Betul, MP
Hand-washing is a must, even if you come late
Photo – Amarwati



Bhaunra, dist Betul, MP
Narrating lockdown tales
Photo – Khem Prakash



Bhanpur,
Hoshangabad, MP
Reading and writing
Photo – Ankit



Kachhar, dist Betul, MP
A story-telling session is joyful
Photo – Amarwati



Sangakheda,
Hoshangabad, MP
Counting in rhythm &
action
Photo – Ankit