

**Updates: Child Friendly Space
October - December, 2010**

Activities Undertaken

In the month of December, the Child Friendly Spaces has received strong response from the donor community. This has helped bring in funds for a period of one year. Online fundraising networks like Global Giving and Give India have helped route individual funds to the cause. This has helped ensure that a nutritional supplement can be provided to these children (See table below).

Another development in the cause to create non-formal education spaces for out of school children or child laborers has been the setting up of classes at 2 construction sites, which are supported by the Budhrani Group of Industries. These classes so far have 35 children of the laborers at these sites.

Child Friendly Spaces: Status

Center name	Students			Age Group	Class time	Supplementary snacks	Remarks
	To- tal	Girls	Boys				
Vasna,	30	15	15	06-13	01:00-04:00	Every day schedule to start from 16 Dec Peanuts, Dates, fruit	House visits are on going
Behrampura, Khodiyar nagar	29	10	19	07-15	02:00-04:00	Every day schedule to start from 16 Dec Peanuts, Dates, fruit	
Juhapura, G ward	29	16	13	07-16	04:00-06:00	Date, Corn, pawa Peanuts, Date, fruit	3 student are enrolled in formal school
Odhav, Intercity Galaxy (non-formal education for children of construction workers)	13	6	7	05-12	10:00-12:30	Glucose Biscuits and peanuts.	One student is going to school in a nearby village.
Odhav, Shubham Galaxy (non-formal education for children of construction workers)	22	10	12	02-10	13:00-30:30	Glucose Biscuits and peanuts.	

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Celebration of Diwali

Diwali was celebrated in all three child friendly spaces. Children were told the significance of Diwali and the story of Lord Rama and Ravana. Children were provided with sweets, fireworks and snacks. The Thakker family, which is supporting the programme visited the children in Vasna and Juhapura and interacted with the children.



Success Story

Shaikh Faizan Hanifbhai is 13 yrs old boy who lives in Juhapura with his family. His family consists of his mother, father and 1 younger and 1 elder sister. Faizan's father is a daily wage labour and his mother works as a house keeper. Faizan's sister also helps her mother in the work. Faizan was not interested in study from the beginning and his parents never encouraged him to go to school. Thus he started working in a factory where they make cartons.

Faizan's sister Gulafsa comes to class regularly. She is 16 yrs old and she doesn't want to go back to school. But her mother found this class very interesting. She was amazed by the progress of her daughter and started sending her son, Faizan to class as well. Faizan, in the beginning was not interested and he would not pay attention to study but slowly Firdosben the teacher started talking to him. She started motivating Faizan to go back to school. She also met his parents who gave their consent. After 7 months Faizan was ready to go back to school. He was taken to Sankalitnagar Primary School. He is enrolled in the bridge course now and admitted in std. 2nd.

Faizan have started studying very sincerely. Now he has also taken the responsibility of another friend of him who also has been re enrolled in the school because of SAATH's efforts.

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Stories of Children at Child Friendly Spaces

Bharti Kanwadbhai, is 10 years old she used to take the goats and cows her family owns for pasture. She is mentally challenged and her family decided not to send her to school. "It took a lot of convincing to let her parents join the class. We even got her to come to the class." Jayshreeben is the teacher at the Vasna centre. She says that even though Bharti would come, she was not regular. "We even managed to get her admitted into the Municipal School at Vasna. But because she is a child with special needs, the teachers at the school are not understanding of her condition. Often she would say that they beat her because they thought she was being naughty, or would punish her."

Bharti's parents stopped her going to the school and in November 2010, brought her back to the centre. She no longer goes to graze the cattle. Jayshree ben says that they are trying to find appropriate help for her, its not easy trying to convince her parents though.

Jivan Vaghela is a boy of 12 resident of Vasna area of Ahmedabad. Jivan is the youngest child amongst 7 children of his parents. He is suffering from mobility impairment. Jivan's parents work as a vegetable vendors and Jivan helps them in the same work.

The teacher at Child Friendly Space met Jivan and asked him to attend the classes. Jivan, when joined the class before 2 yrs, did not even know reading and writing. Jivan proved to be a good learner. He learnt things quickly and impressed the teacher by his progress. The teacher wanted to help him to study further and met his parents. She proposed his parents to help him sending in the boarding school where he could study further and he would be taken care properly. Jivan's parents were not ready to send him anywhere partly because he is the one who helps them run their small business.

Jivan does not go to school but he comes to the centre regularly.