

Play. Invest. Rebuild Childhoods.
Toybank's Play2Learn Program Update Report



Children form a circle to play an energetic ice-breaker outside their classroom

2022 began with loads of hope and excitement. Slowly and steadily our partner-schools started reopening their on-ground operations. Our dedicated team geared up to re-start our physical intervention through game learning workshops, peer learning reflections, practice play sessions, and so on. We saw peals of laughter growing at our Play2Learn Centers as more and more children return back to school. Our teachers have also shared how our hybrid Play2Learn program has been massively instrumental in easing their transition back to school.

We have been delivering our hybrid Play2Learn program to **60,000+ children** across **12 districts in Maharashtra** and **7 states and 1 Union Territory in India**. The program guides and supports **14,644 caregivers** through **634 support groups** (as of 31st March 2022).

Here's a quick update of the work brought together over the last few months. We look forward to lanes between desks and benches, blackboards, walls, corridors, playgrounds and so much more transformed into child-friendly Play2Learn Centers for our children to freely be themselves.

1. 265 Play2Learn Sessions were conducted by our Program Officers and partner teachers.

New games replenished in August & December last year ensured that the children have access to quality play and their classrooms become safe spaces to play, learn and thrive when they return back to school.





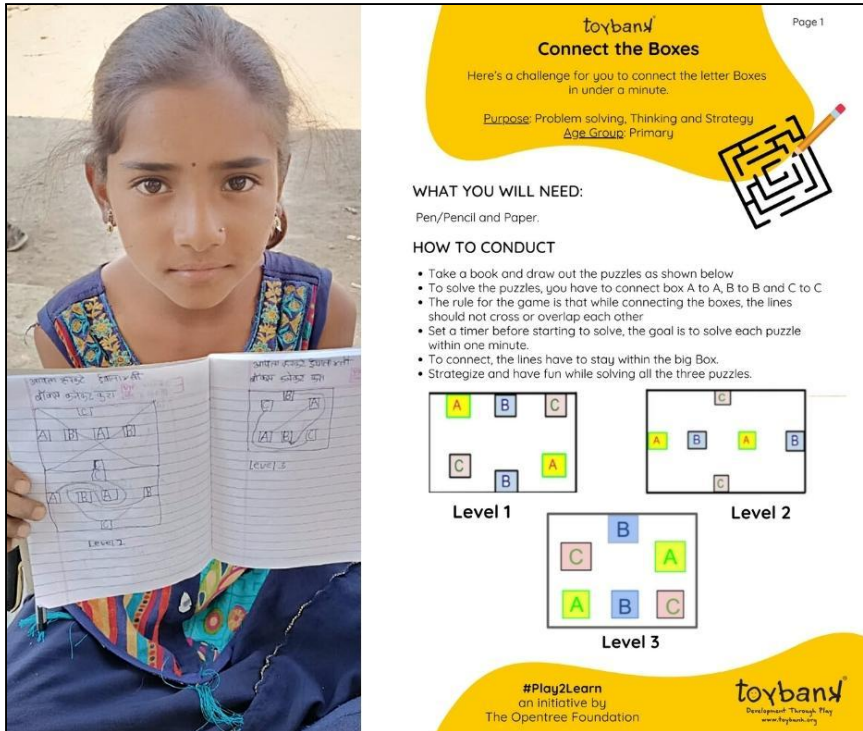
Children hone fundamental mechanical skills while building vehicles with Mechanix



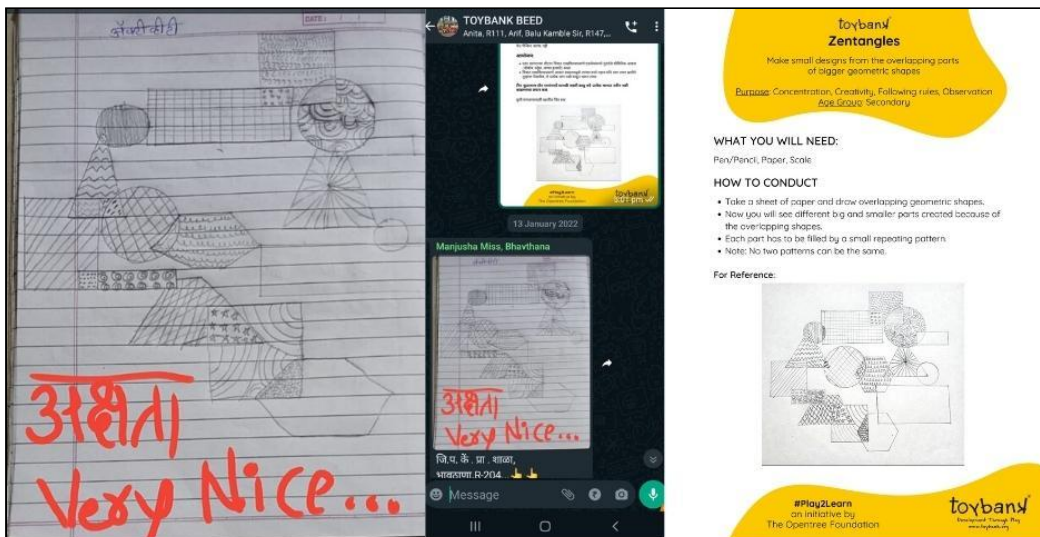
Our Program Officers encourage children to play in mixed groups to break gender stereotypes or biases that are still prevalent in rural India.



2. Through WhatsApp Support Groups, we delivered 1,078 Play2Learn digital activities that were professionally designed to include age-appropriate content aligned with their academic curriculum, life skills and socio-emotional skills.



A child uses her strategic and problem solving skills to solve this puzzle in Connect the Box activity



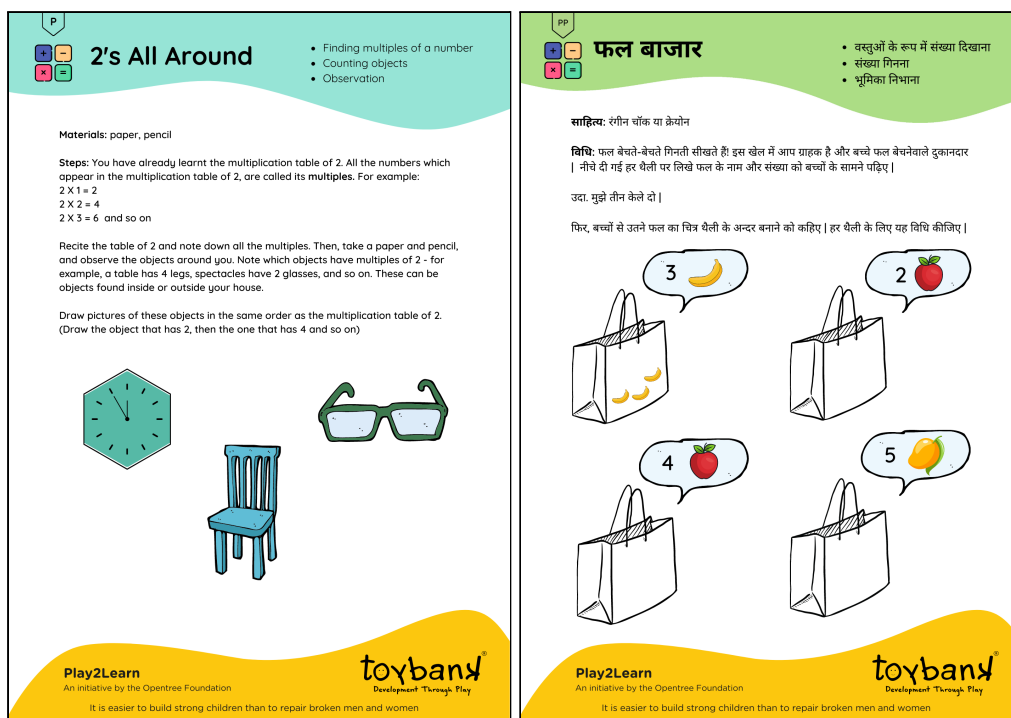
A child learns about different shapes and angles through the activity Zentangles

“By creating Zentangles in the activity, children learn to recognize all forms of shapes in geometry as well as identify them in objects that surround them at home or in their neighborhood,”

—Manjusha Mahajan, Teacher from ZPPS Bhavthana, Beed district



In March 2022, we rolled out a fresh batch of Play2Learn activities with a new design featuring easily identifiable learning objectives, age-group and step-by-step instructions.



Revised design of the Play2Learn sheets rolled out in March 2022

- In February 2022, we conducted **6 Power of Play Workshops** for **209 teachers** across 38 Zilla Parishad schools in Beed district, which supported them in aligning play-based learning with their academic curriculum and effectively using the Play2Learn digital activities and boardgames at the centers. These workshops are integral in enabling teachers to be play practitioners, taking the Power of Play to the community, and effectively ensuring the holistic development of the children.



Teachers pose for a photograph at the end of a day-long Teacher Training Workshop



“The Play2Learn center was stocked with all kinds of educational games which children enjoyed playing both indoors and outdoors. Apart from making them happy, it increased the class attendance as many students would often bunk school to help their parents on the farms, but started attending regularly so that they could engage in play sessions. These games helped strengthen the fundamentals in most subjects,” said Lalita Jadhav, Principal of ZPPS Pokhari, Beed district.



Teachers and program officers engaged in a game of Checkers during the training

“Today the teacher training that was conducted here was very good. I would like to thank Toybank from the bottom of my heart for choosing our school and thinking about our children and giving them games. The mental and physical development of our children through these games will be very good and our school will benefit from these games,” shared by Mr. Kulkarni, Education Officer of Beed district.



Story of Change: Inclusive learning, Play and Happiness



Ishaan practices counting using colorful blocks. [Watch this video made by his teacher](#)

7-year-old Ishaan (name changed) lives 3 kms away from his school. Due to his physical disability, he is unable to get to school. Prior to the lockdown his teachers would routinely visit his home to make learning accessible. The pandemic disrupted this and isolated him from his teachers. These limitations caused learning regression and unhappiness.

When schools reopened, two of Ishaan's teachers took the initiative to start teaching him again. To bridge his learning gaps, they took Toybank's Play Center boardgames to his home as they recalled how easy it was for children to learn using games pre-pandemic.

With the help of a special educator and the teacher's regular play-based teaching, Ishaan once again began learning and playing. He was overjoyed to be able to count, read alphabets and kickstart his learning journey once again with rings, blocks, colours, and shape based games. Ishaan finds great joy and immense sense of accomplishment when he completes a task or learns a new concept.

Invest to Rebuild Childhoods through Play

Investing in Play to make mental well-being and learning accessible for at-risk children is the need of the hour. Your support will build back the well-being and happiness of **60,000+ children** who continue to Play and learn!

Thank you and Happy Toybanking!

