

Our institution always aims at contributing its lot to the society in addition to providing quality education to our students. So, we carry out different best practices to create social consciousness among its stakeholders. Two of our best practices are...

A- No Books Day

Objectives:

- To train the students in areas apart from the prescribed books
- To provide education needed for life along with traditional art forms
- To reduce the workload and to alleviate the stress of students in order to make learning joyful

Context: Several recent surveys on education conclude that studies in recent times have become monotonous and stressful for students. It is mainly because education is confined to the four walls of the classroom and to the prescribed syllabi. Such restricted environment limits the imagination and creativity of the students. Furthermore, they do not find proper application of the knowledge gained in the classroom in their real lives. Therefore, our institution felt that it was time for some change and came up with the practice of No Books Day in 2021 and has been observing it once month.

Practice: On the last working day of every month our students are not supposed to bring books to the college and no formal classroom instruction takes place. The day is devoted to practical and experiential learning. They are involved in various interesting activities such as art and craft, plantation, cultural programmes, games and sports, nature visits, debates/discussions on current issues etc. Lecturers act as mere facilitators and they try to hunt the individual talents so as to motivate them towards the right career goals.

Evidence of Success: Students find the day quite exciting and come up with their multiple talents. Especially, the attendance of slow learners to classes increased a lot after the implementation of this day. They could gain confidence and

perform well in studies as well. We are able to identify several sports men/women, singers, dancers etc. and encourage them to showcase their talents at various external competitions.

Problems Encountered: In the beginning students wouldn't come forward to exhibit their skills in public but we could gradually motivate them. Also, some students turn mischievous occasionally but our staff are meticulous enough to control them.

Note: This initiative is a good opportunity for us to identify the hidden talents among our students.

B-Save to Serve:

Objectives:

- To support the nearby downtrodden and homeless financially
- To inculcate social service among the students

Context: Our Venkatagiri region consists of numerous economically weaker section families. Some of such families drop their children from schooling to support the parents financially by working. Though the governments of the centre and state are doing their lot for them, the poor still can't make their both ends meet. The economics department, in this context, has come up with a scheme of Save to Serve an initiative through which the staff and students contribute some amount on monthly basis and utilize it for the nearby needy children

The Practice: The practice was started after the second phase of COVID-19 by our B.A students who maintain the fund and ensure transparency while Sri. P. Hanumantha Rao, lecturer in Economics supervises.

Evidence of Success: They are able to collect Rs. 10,000/- so far. A book and stationery donation programme was conducted on 08/02/2022. Tuition classes are being conducted fortnightly since June, 2022.

Problems Encountered and Resources required: We haven't yet faced any problems. We need more funds not just from the students and staff but also from the haves of the vicinity. We will soon plan such fund raising initiatives.

Note: This practice is yet to spread its full wings as it is still in the initial phase. Hope we can reach greater goals.



Q. Anup
PRINCIPAL
Visvodaya Govt. Degree College
Venkatagiri - 524132
Tirupati Dt. A.P.