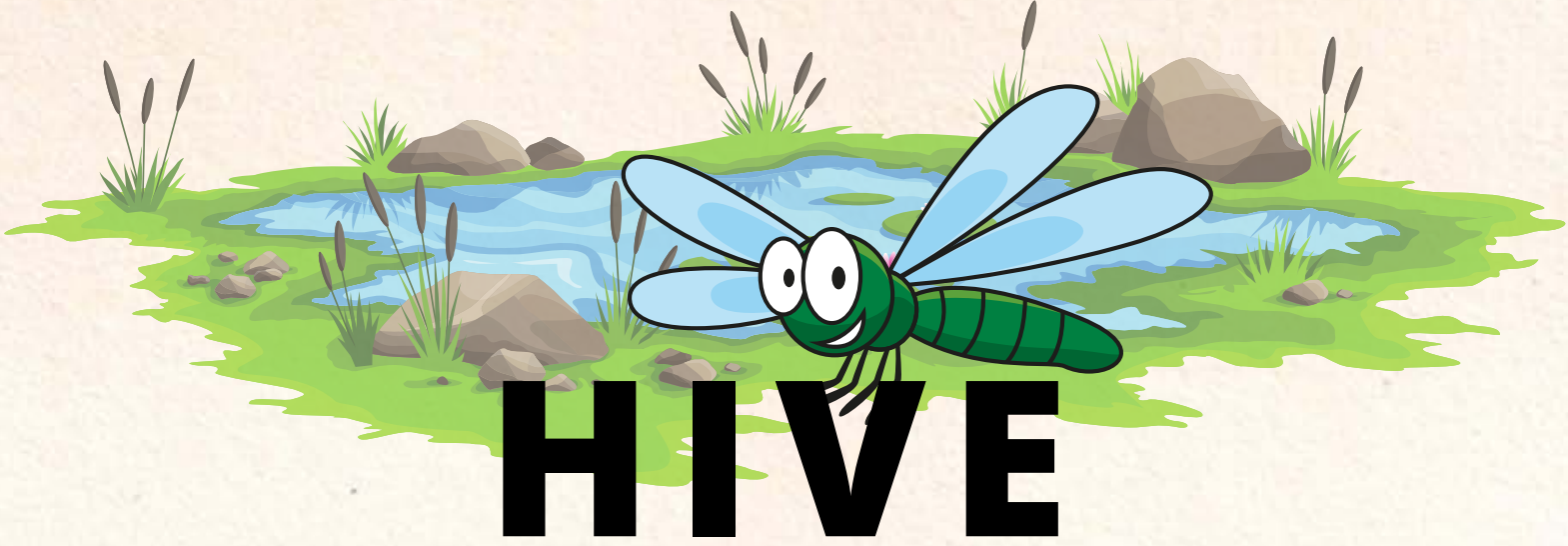


HIVE

Highlights & Insights from Vision Empower (VE)

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER, EDITION 3

Dear Readers,

Did you know we teach the concept of multiples to children with visual impairment using lego blocks? If not, get excited because this edition of our monthly newsletter gives all the details about it. As a non-profit working to make STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) education and CT (Computational Thinking) accessible for children with visual impairment, let's unwrap the buzz at VE that took place in February. We hope you enjoy reading this edition of HIVE 2022.

Graphic Description- A schoolboy wearing black glasses is walking with a cane in his left hand. He is carrying a school bag and holding two books in his right hand.

CT GAME SESSIONS CONDUCTED TILL MAR- 500

Medhini's Favourite Game- Market

Project VICT
(Computational Thinking for the Visually-Impaired)

To introduce numeracy concepts and computational thinking to children with visual impairment, VE's Project VICT (Computational Thinking for Visually Impaired) follows a play-based approach. During, what we call, " CT Game Sessions" the VE educational coordinators play games that are curated to learn CT concepts with children with visual impairment.

LISTEN TO MEDHINI!

Let's hear what our 8-year-old student Medhini has to say about her favourite game.

How is it played? Children are asked to set up the play area by laying out the items available at home (such as fruits, toys, etc.) neatly deciding the price for each item. Children are then divided into 2 groups, shopkeepers and customers. Customers can make a list of items and choose which shop they would like to visit in order to buy their items, and once they buy an item they have to pay the shopkeeper. At the end of the game, children can sort all the money collected from selling their items and count the total. The game can be played using plastic braille money or paper cutouts of different shapes. For example, a circle represents 10 rupees, a triangle represents 5 rupees.

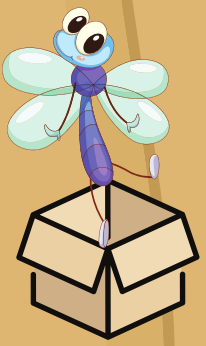
TIKs CREATED- 415
TIKs UPLOADED- 329

Unboxing a TIK
(Teacher Instruction Kit)

TIKs are teaching aids that aim to make STEM concepts understandable and accessible for children with visual impairment. So let's unbox a TIK from March 2022 that aims to guide teachers on how to introduce the concept of multiples in learning.

Materials required: Lego blocks

1. Let us say, each Lego block has a length of 3 units. Arrange 5 Lego blocks horizontally next to each other on the floor. Then arrange only 4 blocks upon 5 blocks again 3 on top of 4 blocks, 2 on top of 3 blocks and 1 on top of 2 blocks.
2. Children to observe the pattern of arranged blocks. This looks like a ladder or staircase. Try to find the length of each Lego block from the top to the next Lego block stepwise.
3. Then the length of the block at the top is 3=1 times 3 units. The length of the Lego block arranged next is 3+3=6 units, which is 6=2 times 3. The length of the next block which is the third row from the top is 3+3+3=9 units, also 9=3 times 3.
4. Continuing this way, we can express the length of the next two rows as 12=3+3+3+3=3 times 4, 15=3 times 5.
5. We say that the numbers 3, 6, 9, 12, 15 are multiples of 3. Similarly, multiples of other numbers can also be introduced in the same manner.



Work with Partners

(VE collaborates with XRCVC)

Xavier's Resource Centre for the Visually Challenged (XRCVC) is a department of St. Xavier's College, Mumbai, which promotes inclusion and access for PWDs through advocacy, awareness and direct community services. The synergy in the mission and programs of Vision Empower and XRCVC on inclusive STEM Education led to effective collaboration in 2017. Some of these are:

- Organization of joint Hackathon events at IIITB with I-STEM and IIITB
- Partnership in designing the Inter-University Alliance for Accessible Higher Education
- Curation of online Science and Math content on Subodha
- Reviewing and deploying the courseware for use by students with visual impairment of Grade 1 to Grade 10
- Joint interventions on implementing Teacher Capacity Building programs on inclusive STEM education and Digital Literacy

Needless to say, as a leading resource centre in the country, the XRCVC team has been our mentor and sounding board for all VE interventions.

VE Achievements & Highlights

➢Wipro Foundations' monthly journal Samuhik Pahal features VE's work creating Accessible Math Resources for students with visual impairment.

SAMUHIK PAHAL FEATURE

➢The New Indian Express article shares VEs co-founder Vidhya Y's story and the work VE does.

ARTICLE BY INDIAN EXPRESS

VE Recommends

(Bookshare)

Did you know 'Bookshare' makes reading easier? People with dyslexia, blindness, cerebral palsy, and other reading barriers can customize their experience to suit their learning style and find virtually any book they need for school, work, or the joy of reading. What's better is the new suite of free reading software is that Benetech, the parent company of Bookshare, is excited to introduce a suite of free reading apps for people with reading barriers: Bookshare Reader for Web, Bookshare Reader for iOS, Bookshare Reader for Android, and Bookshare Reader for Alexa.

KNOW MORE ABOUT BOOKSHARE

Social Media Highlights

VE volunteer sharing her experience!

Kaustubha is a volunteer at VE from Christ University, Bangalore. Her work at VE involves creating tactile diagrams of the human respiratory system and the alphabets in symmetry. These tactile diagrams help children with visual impairment understand science concepts through the sense of touch.

Hear Kaustubha sharing her volunteering experience!

HEAR FROM KAUSTUBHA

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