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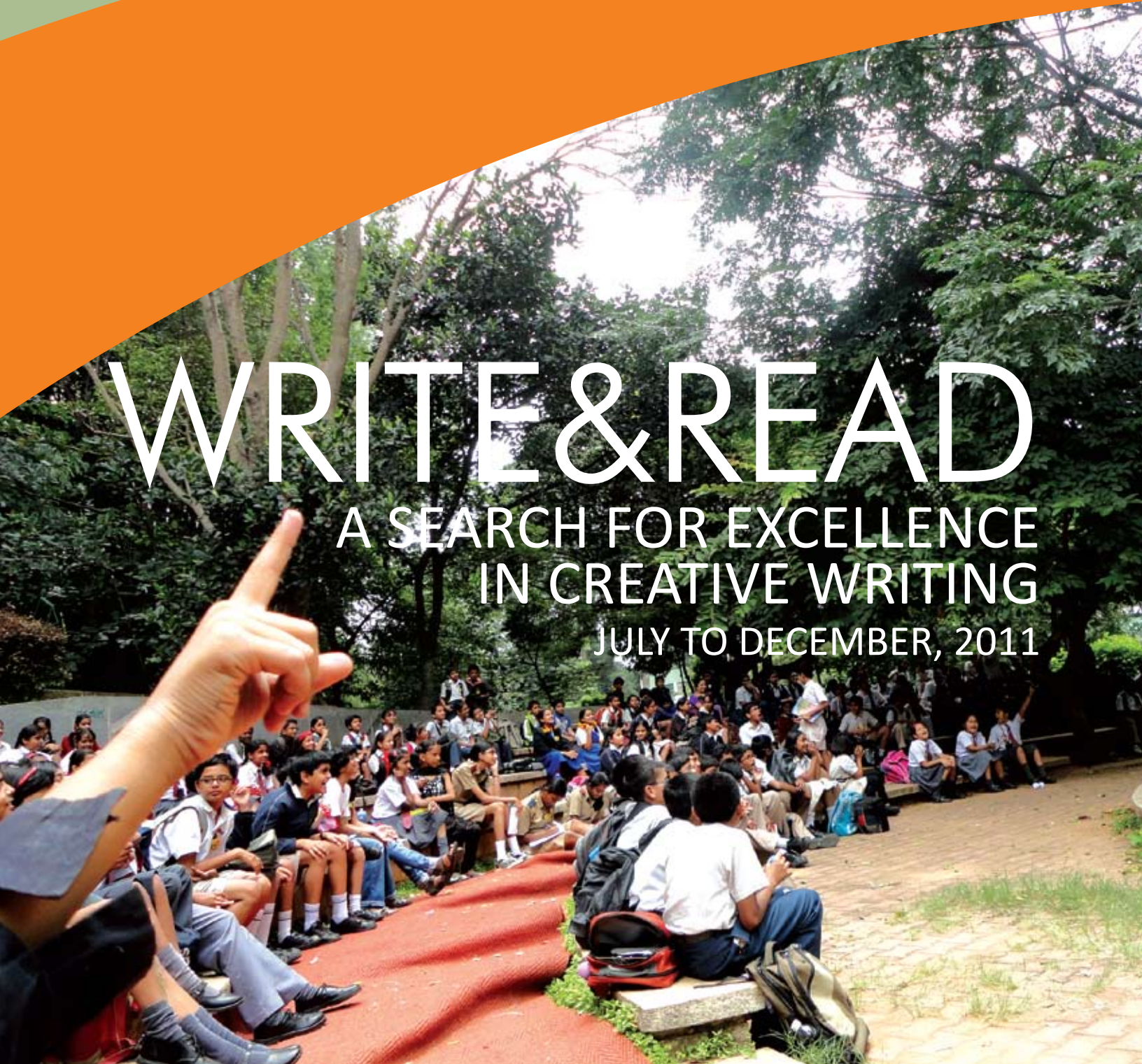


ਠ KATHA

WRITE & READ

A SEARCH FOR EXCELLENCE
IN CREATIVE WRITING

JULY TO DECEMBER, 2011





“Stimulating the inner power of innovative and creative idea ...”

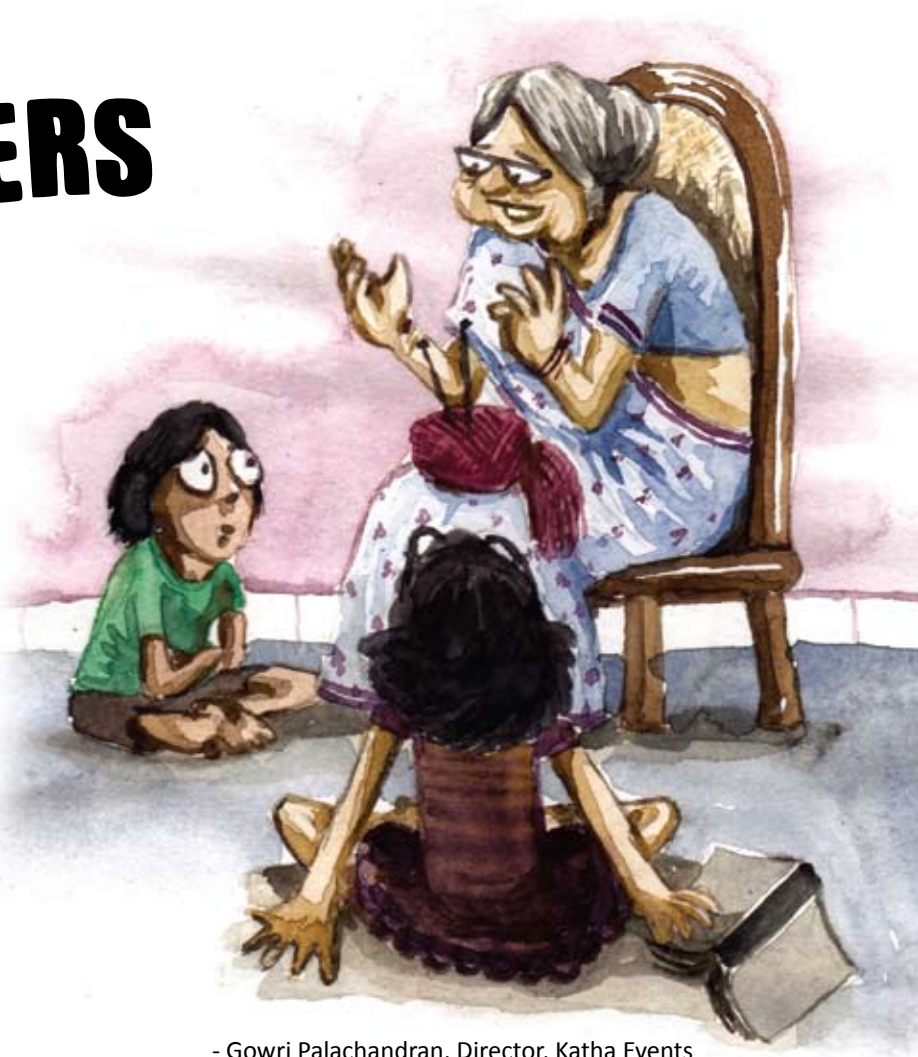
– Mr Uttam Kumar Das, Parent, Kolkata

STORYTELLERS UNLIMITED

India has always been a land of storytellers. Told by traditional katha vachaks, and of course, one's favourite grandmother, we have all heard stories. The narrative is a special legacy that exists in our country as a rich and fascinating tradition, moving with grace and felicity from the oral traditions to the written texts, from the heard word to the read.

And the only precept there's to legacies ... they need to be passed on!

Write&Read is one such initiative! It seeds the ground for the new generation of storytellers; attempts to draw out the writer in every child; gives them space to grapple with ideas, imagination that only they are capable of; and extends the creative web bridge by inviting the young readers to comfortably ensconce in the chair of the creators.



- Gowri Palachandran, Director, Katha Events

“A truly worth appreciating effort to bring the students in touch with creativity. The workshop gave the students a lot of exposure into the world of literature and creative writing. A step ahead in building budding writers amongst us.”

- Mrs Ramya Gangadharan, Teacher, Bengaluru



WRITE&READ

A SEARCH FOR EXCELLENCE

IN CREATIVE WRITING

RAISON D'ETRE: PLUGGING THE GAP

India being a vast storehouse of stories, and home to several distinguished compatriots in the literary field, there has been very little effort put into scouring the country for young, talented writers. We believe that this leaves a big gap in the field of creative writing, and Write&Read has been designed to fill it.

Write&Read, a Katha-HP initiative, aims to cultivate a culture of writing among young people. Our quest is to discover talent and to foster it. As Mr Neeraj Sharma, President of HP's Imaging & Printing Group in India, describes, "With the advent of newer and faster computer technologies – call it digital media – there is a concern that we may be losing touch with the 'real world'... Our children need to rediscover the joys – of holding a book and smelling its paper; of following a character's journey in a lifelike progression, not limited by a 2-hour film or a 2-minute online video; of finding heroes that will leave a lasting imprint on their minds. Of getting an education that will not be tested in a competitive exam ... Through exercises that are grounded in creativity, these children will have a chance to unlock their imagination and dive headfirst into the wonderful world of writing and reading."



THE FORMAT

Katha, in collaboration with HP India, organized a series of Creative Writing Workshops and an All India Story Writing Contest to help children unleash their creativity and come up with stories, stories that are close to their imagination, stories that are theirs.

The creative writing workshops got them to be budding writers early on, sharpened their skill in observing things around them, and also grew their linguistic skills in the bargain.

With renowned lyricist, Mr Prasoon Joshi and prolific children's writer, Ms Geeta Dharmarajan, playing mentors to the little ones, the programme sure was an explosion of hypercreativity!



“Nurturing Creativity ...”

– Mrs Sheila Koshy, Teacher, Chennai

“The best feature of the workshop was to improve writing ability through enjoyment and fun.”

– Mr A N Choudhury, Parent, Kolkata



VISION

Expression is important when it comes to transmission of ideas and thoughts. Making up stories can be a great avocation, and even a real profession. These two ideas, in conjunction, formed the core of our philosophy, as we designed our modules and communicated our ideas.

As aptly described by Geeta Dharmarajan, “The reason for such unique initiative has been to provide children with a platform to come together and develop new age content in the form of creative short stories for their peers.”

We hope to see a day when storytellers are legion, so that many more innovative ideas may see the light of day.



A BOOK BY CHILDREN, FOR CHILDREN!

It's difficult to deny that most adults have forgotten what it's like to be a child. Sure, we have vague snapshots and the occasional snatch of conversation in our memories, but we've lost the feeling. It's not just about innocence or the sense of wonder – it's the whole experience of being sans experience.

Children have so many stories to tell, stories replete with compelling images, images that we as adults, attempt to decipher. So why not hear what kids have to say, a telling unencumbered by a lot of prejudices that we might have. And let's let kids see the amazing stories others like them have thought up, so that they can see what they're capable of.



“Since the workshops were held with the view of aiding the children participate in the story-writing competition on the third day, it was rightly tailored for it. Children were given a rough idea on creativity, on how to let go and what to keep in mind while storytelling.”

– Ms Shinie Antony, Writer, Bengaluru

QUANTITATIVE INDICATORS

| S.No | Quantitative figures of Six Cities | |
|------|--|------|
| 1 | No. of Schools Participated | 123 |
| 2 | No. of Children Participated | 1416 |
| 3 | No. of Teachers Participated | 79 |
| 4 | No. of Parents Participated | 89 |
| 5 | No. of Katha Resource Persons & Local Coordinators | 26 |
| 6 | No. of Volunteers | 8 |
| 7 | No. of Days | 13 |
| 8 | No. of Planning Sessions | 64 |
| 9 | No. of Sessions Taken – 6 cities | 54 |
| 10 | No. of Hours | 56.5 |
| 11 | No. of Writing Kit (material provided to children) | 1416 |
| 12 | No. of Reading Badges and Certificates to Children | 1416 |
| 13 | No. of Stories Submitted | 1222 |
| 14 | No. of Stories Shortlisted | 47 |
| 15 | No. of Jury Members | 6 |
| 16 | No. of Stories Published | 29 |

| S.No | Age Group | No. of Children |
|------|-----------|-----------------|
| 1 | 6-7 years | 3 |
| 2 | 8 years | 31 |
| 3 | 9 years | 125 |
| 4 | 10 years | 210 |
| 5 | 11 years | 234 |
| 6 | 12 years | 389 |
| 7 | 13 years | 238 |
| 8 | 14 years | 146 |
| 9 | 15 years | 25 |
| 10 | 16 years | 2 |

“This workshop was very effective and enthusiastic!”

– Mrs Reshma Maniyar, Teacher, Pune



MOVEMENT SCHEDULE

| S.No. | City | Dates | Place |
|-------|-----------|------------------------------|--|
| 1 | Bengaluru | 25th, 26th & 27th August | Bal Bhavan, St Josheph's School Auditorium |
| 2 | Pune | 16th & 17th September | Ishaniya Auditorium |
| 3 | Kolkata | 23rd & 24th September | Crystal Rings Banquet |
| 4 | Chennai | 30th September & 1st October | Tidal Park Auditorium |
| 5 | Delhi | 14th & 15th October | NCUI Auditorium |
| 6 | Mumbai | 21st & 22nd October | Rangsharda Auditorium |

“I appreciate Katha’s efforts to promote creativity and originality among children through events such as these, which are very rare to come by.”

– Mr R Sriram, Parent, Bengaluru

BENGALURU

| S.No | Quantitative figures of Bengaluru | |
|------|-----------------------------------|------------------|
| 1 | No. of Children Participated | 214 |
| 2 | No. of Schools Participated | 10 |
| 3 | No. of Teachers Participated | 17 |
| 4 | No. of Parents | 7 |
| 5 | No. of Resource Persons | 3 |
| 6 | No. of Volunteers | 2 |
| 7 | No. of Days and Hours | 3 days – 9 hours |
| 8 | Name of the Mentor-Writer | Shinie Antony |

| S.No | Age Group | No. of Children |
|------|-----------|-----------------|
| 1 | 6-7 years | 4 |
| 2 | 8 years | 25 |
| 3 | 9 years | 46 |
| 4 | 10 years | 31 |
| 5 | 11 years | 44 |
| 6 | 12 years | 39 |
| 7 | 13 years | 20 |
| 8 | 14 years | 2 |
| 9 | 15 years | 0 |
| 10 | 16 years | 2 |





PUNE

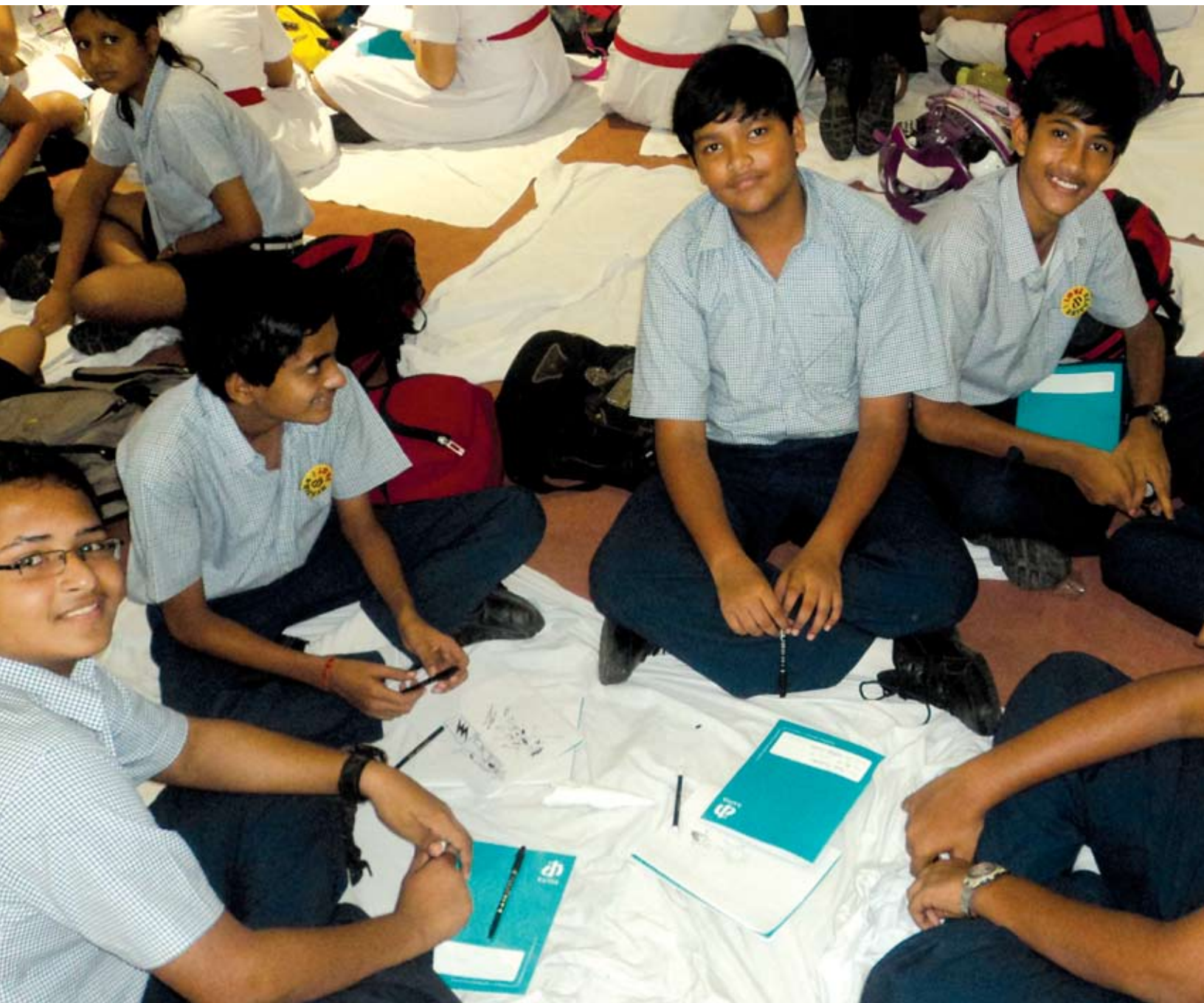
| S.No | Quantitative figures of Pune | |
|------|------------------------------|--|
| 1 | No. of Children Participated | 332 |
| 2 | No. of Schools Participated | 10 |
| 3 | No. of Teachers participated | 18 |
| 4 | No. of Parents | 12 |
| 5 | No. of Resource Persons | 2 |
| 6 | No. of Volunteers | 2 |
| 7 | No. of Days and Hours | 2 Days – 10 hours |
| 8 | Name of the Mentor-Writer | Kala Ramesh and Soumya Rajendran |

| S.No | Age Group | No. of Children |
|------|-----------|-----------------|
| 1 | 8 years | 1 |
| 2 | 9 years | 5 |
| 3 | 10 years | 20 |
| 4 | 11 years | 44 |
| 5 | 12 years | 177 |
| 6 | 13 years | 32 |
| 7 | 14 years | 34 |
| 8 | 15 years | 17 |
| 9 | 16 years | 1 |

KOLKATA

| S.No | Quantitative figures of Kolkata | |
|------|---------------------------------|------------------|
| 1 | No. of Children Participated | 151 |
| 2 | No. of Schools Participated | 29 |
| 3 | No. of Teachers participated | 10 |
| 4 | No. of Parents | 22 |
| 5 | No. of Resource Persons | 3 |
| 6 | No. of Volunteers | - |
| 7 | No. of Days and Hours | 2 days, 10 hours |
| 8 | Name of the Mentor-Writer | Trisha Ray |

| S.No | Age Group | No. of Children |
|------|-----------|-----------------|
| 1 | 6-7 years | 3 |
| 2 | 8 years | 2 |
| 3 | 9 years | 9 |
| 4 | 10 years | 27 |
| 5 | 11 years | 37 |
| 6 | 12 years | 32 |
| 7 | 13 years | 29 |
| 8 | 14 years | 7 |
| 9 | 15 years | 1 |





CHENNAI

| S.No | Quantitative figures of Chennai | |
|------|---------------------------------|------------------|
| 1 | No. of Children Participated | 235 |
| 2 | No. of Schools Participated | 23 |
| 3 | No. of Teachers participated | 8 |
| 4 | No. of Parents | 30 |
| 5 | No. of Resource Persons | 3 |
| 6 | No. of Volunteers | 1 |
| 7 | No. of Days and Hours | 2 days, 10 hours |
| 8 | Name of the Mentor-Writer | Manasi |

| S.No | Age Group | No. of Children |
|------|-----------|-----------------|
| 1 | 8 years | 8 |
| 2 | 9 years | 41 |
| 3 | 10 years | 45 |
| 4 | 11 years | 31 |
| 5 | 12 years | 35 |
| 6 | 13 years | 45 |
| 7 | 14 years | 23 |
| 8 | 15 years | 1 |
| 9 | 16 years | 0 |

DELHI

| S.No | Quantitative figures of Delhi | |
|------|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| 1 | No. of Children Participated | 286 |
| 2 | No. of Schools Participated | 23 |
| 3 | No. of Teachers participated | 12 |
| 4 | No. of Parents | 8 |
| 5 | No. of Resource Persons | 5 |
| 6 | No. of Volunteers | 3 |
| 7 | No. of Days and Hours | 2 days, 9.5 hours |
| 8 | Name of the Mentor-Writer | Trisha Ray |

| S.No | Age Group | No. of Children |
|------|-----------|-----------------|
| 1 | 8 years | 14 |
| 2 | 9 years | 19 |
| 3 | 10 years | 40 |
| 4 | 11 years | 63 |
| 5 | 12 years | 51 |
| 6 | 13 years | 53 |
| 7 | 14 years | 44 |
| 8 | 15 years | 1 |
| 9 | 16 years | 0 |





MUMBAI

| S.No | Quantitative figures of Mumbai | |
|------|--------------------------------|-------------------|
| 1 | No. of Children Participated | 198 |
| 2 | No. of Schools Participated | 28 |
| 3 | No. of Teachers participated | 14 |
| 4 | No. of Parents | 10 |
| 5 | No. of Resource Persons | 3 |
| 6 | No. of Volunteers | - |
| 7 | No. of Days and Hours | 2 days, 8 hours |
| 8 | Name of the Mentor-Writer | Santhini Govindan |

| S.No | Age Group | No. of Children |
|------|-----------|-----------------|
| 1 | 8 years | 2 |
| 2 | 9 years | 26 |
| 3 | 10 years | 32 |
| 4 | 11 years | 28 |
| 5 | 12 years | 50 |
| 6 | 13 years | 40 |
| 7 | 14 years | 18 |
| 8 | 15 years | 3 |
| 9 | 16 years | 1 |



“My child told me that she loved the workshop and was really inspired ...”

– Reena Gandhi, Parent, Mumbai

THE APPROACH

When developing the modules for the workshops, an intensive selection of facets of writing that could best hone the skills of the young writers, took place. For each of the cities, the module was prepared, on the basis of Ms Geeta Dharmarajan’s valuable advice, and in conjunction with the resource persons of each city respectively. Long discussions took place to make sure every individual who was a part of the conducting team, in any role, was on the same page in terms of what we wished to achieve through it – its purpose and motive. Though the fine details of the module underwent some changes from city to city, depending upon the resource person of that place, the underlying structure remained the same – we were clear on what we wished to give to the children through the entire process, and in what kind of interactive and energetic environment!

An energizer activity was necessary at the start of each workshop as a kind of an icebreaker for the children to feel comfortable in the new environment and open up – something that was absolutely crucial to have them actively participate in latter activities and also for them to let their creative juices flow free of all inhibitions.

The activities which followed were designed to cover as many of the elements of story writing as was possible in a limited amount of time. The children were encouraged to interact and participate, and many of them threw open questions showing great maturity – questions of style, genres of writing, dual narratives, the structure of a story and its variability, parallel storylines and many more. The resource people dealt with these issues with great finesse, explaining concepts to children in a manner which they could relate to, and yet making it clear that there are no hard and fast rules – originality and imagination are the vital heart and core of any story. The importance of a good vocabulary to most effectively and efficiently express one’s thoughts was also stressed through various word games and discussions. Authenticity of emotional depictions was also touched upon – the importance of effectively conveying the emotional impact of a particular happening in a story, to allow the reader to put himself/herself in the shoes of the character that is feeling that impact.

“Innovative ideas to make children think of creating their own stories!”

– Mrs G Preethadevi, Parent, Chennai



Having a strong plot is essential, and the structure of a story – the beginning, the middle, and the end – was demonstrated to the children through an activity where each of them was given a sample of a beginning, middle, or an end, and had to weave their story around that. In this way, they had a piece of writing with them to work with, however, they still had to use their imagination to build on the storyline they had, develop the characters they'd been given, and make all the essential choices one must make when they are writing a story – Do I want my ending to be an open ending or would I like to tie up all loose ends? What genre would I like my story to fall into? What are the most creative ways to begin telling a tale?

All these are questions that the children grappled with, with each finally producing a story that was not only brilliant, but most importantly – uniquely theirs!



A lot of the learning the young ones went through during the course of this workshop consisted primarily of unlearning – unlearning stereotypes, rigid ways of thinking and feeling, clichés, and everything else that could hold them back as artists. We aimed for them to learn that anyone can be a writer, and anything can be a subject for a story, and anyone/anything could be the principal character of that story, and any genre could be followed or played with – as long as it came from them, without any external interference.

A “Patchwork Tale” exercise had the young ones divided into groups – of mixed age group and mixed schools – and given a set of visual aids to discuss, plot and collectively write a story. These visual aids were disjointed images, chosen for their disconnection from each other and their incompleteness – so that they could trigger off a wide variety of thoughts and feelings and a different set of the same in different participants, and so that each participant was pushed to think out of the box to draw connections between them. The mixed age groups and different school backgrounds resulted in a fascinating potpourri of creative ideas being poured in, tossed around for discussion, and settled upon. The teamwork that the students displayed was admirable! The power of the images/illustrations used grew manifold when they were interpreted in unique ways by the eager groups of talented children as they all put pen to paper.

“My kid enjoyed – she says that she got to learn a lot from other kids also.”

– Mrs Sailaja Chirravuri, Parent, Chennai



The children's interactions with the resource persons gave them a taste of what it was like to be a published author, and what went into the making of numerous stories – each resource person brought a different flavour into the workshop that they conducted, but tried to keep that flavour from being too much of a direct influence on the child's way of thinking.

When it came to the final Short Story Writing Contest, the children were given virtually no restrictive guidelines to follow – they were given about one and a half hours to write a story that is between 50-500 words. Therefore, they had ample time to think through their concept, and revise their work if they were to feel the need to do so. They could write a story on any topic of their choice and of any genre of their choice – in prose or poetry, or as a play, or as a letter, anything! That's another reason why we felt they would need time – to brainstorm and figure out what unique combination of elements would best express their Selves.

When the time for the Contest came, a sudden hush would fall over the room, each child was given the freedom to move around the venue and find their own little spot where they could think and write. The level of focus that each of the participants displayed was remarkable – we could actually see them introspecting, creating and enjoying that process in a way that perhaps many of them had never done before!



“Total involvement of the child!”

– Mrs Arati Anand Gosavi, Parent, Pune

“It was interactive and involved an integration of all language skills; very colourful.”

– Ms Gitanjali Dhasmana, Teacher, Delhi



The stories which came out of all 6 cities were thus too varied to comment on them in any unidimensional way, and the process of selecting 25-40 stories out of the hundreds of wonderful ones which came in was no easy task. They showed great imagination and inspiration and each city's stories seemed to have something in common with each other, showing the influence of cultural elements in that city. It became clear to us that children have a way of thinking that most adults cannot even dream of; such is their innocence and sensitivity before the corrupting forces of adult reality can act on them. This does not by any means imply that they are completely unaware of the reality around them; it's more a question of perception that reading those stories raised. Overall, it was a wonderful experience – without a doubt!

The final product of the project – a book by children and for children, called “By Us For Us” – is a compilation of the top 29 of the refreshing and creative entries which were part of the Short Story Writing Contest.

The books saw a mega release on the 29th of November, 2011, at the Taj Mahal Hotel on Mansingh Road, in the presence of Prasoon Joshi, Geeta Dharmarajan, Neeraj Sharma, Ivy Liang, and several of the young authors.

Beautifully illustrated, this book will be out in stores very soon!



“They learnt a lot without really being aware that they were learning.”

– Mrs Savithri Radhakrishnan, Teacher, Chennai

“बच्चे बड़ों को भी बड़ा बनाते हैं”

कथा और एचपी ने मिलकर 'राइट एंड रीड' कार्यक्रम के तहत नन्हे बच्चों में छिपे लेखकों को खोजने की कोशिश की और इन लेखकों को मांजने-निखारने का बौद्धा उठाया। गीतकार और एड गुरु प्रसून जोशी ने, उनसे हुई बातचीत के प्रमुख अंश:

● इन बच्चों के साथ काम करने का अनुभव कैसा रहा?

'बहुत अच्छा' या 'अद्भुत' जैसा शायद नाकाफी होगा मेरे अनुभव को बयां करने के लिए, बच्चों का साथ हमेशा बड़ों को भी थोड़ा और बड़ा करने वाला होता है, उनके साथ-साथ मैंने भी बहुत कुछ सीखा।

● बच्चों की नजर बड़ों से ज्यादा सच्ची-सरल होती है?

बेशक, यह देखकर आश्चर्य भी होता है कि अक्सर बच्चे अपने निश्चल मन की आंखों से वह भी देख लेते हैं, जो दुनियावी परदेों से ढकी हमारी आंखें नहीं देख पातीं, वे साफ सफेद कामज हैं, उनके दिल ईमानदार हैं।

● कोई ऐसी कहानी, जो दिल को छू गई?

एक छोटी बच्ची ने ट्रेफिक सिग्नल की बतियों और भीख मांगने वाली एक लड़की पर कहानी लिखी थी, कैसे लाल और हरी बतियों का मोटरकार के भीतर और बाहर बैठे व्यक्ति के लिए बिल्कुल अलग अर्थ होता है, हमारे लिए लाल का अर्थ है रुक जाना और किसी के लिए लाल बत्ती से ही जिंदगी की शुरुआत होती है, हरा हमारे लिए गति है, लेकिन किसी के लिए रुक जाने का संकेत, उस बच्ची की कल्पना और एक यथार्थ को इस तरह देख पाया, उसकी नजर ने मुझे भीतर तक छू लिए।



की मुखालफत करते हैं, क्या नए लेखक पैदा करने में इन स्कूलों की कोई अहम भूमिका हो सकती है?

इन स्कूलों के डोज विटामिन की कैप्सूल की तरह हैं, ये स्कूल कल्पनाओं को सीमित करते हैं, उनका विस्तार नहीं करते, हर बच्चा एक बने-बनाए मशीनी

ढांचे में सोचने लगता है, लेखन कला तो अनुभव और कल्पना के विस्तार के साथ निखरती है, खूब सारा अध्ययन इसमें मददगार होता है।

● इस युग के बच्चों और आपके बचपन में क्या फर्क नजर आता है?

इन बच्चों का आत्मविश्वास कमाल का है, इंटरनेट ने उन्हें बड़ी दुनिया का एक्सपोजर दे दिया है, वे जानते हैं कि वे क्या चाहते हैं, आज उन्हें हर तरह की विटामिन कैप्सूल की आवश्यकता नहीं है, हमारा और मैंने आज के बच्चों को सानिध्य और आकांक्षा

Storytelling spark

ULIKA GAUTAMA
DECCAN CHRONICLE

Over the last two decades, Geeta Dharmarajan has poured her passion to enhance the joy of reading for children. Katha, a non-profit organisation led in the clean task of passing literacy and quality literature to young children, was led by her in So it

HP Read and Write Initiative to organise story-writing workshops for Chennai's talented tots.

Speaking to DC from Mumbai, Geeta emphasised the need to spark imagination and creativity in young minds. "The role of creativity is very crucial to childhood," she said. "Storytelling is something that formal education does not offer. However, it is an activity that helps children become individuals. For this reason, we have united HP and the pilot of these shops in six cities across the country. Two-day



By the young, for the young



NEW DELHI: A book titled "Write and Read By Us for Us" comprising short stories prepared by a group of 21 children from various cities was launched in the presence of their parents and mentors in the Capital on Tuesday. The book will be available in 122 shops across the Capital. The book will be available in 122 shops across the Capital. The book will be available in 122 shops across the Capital.

GOOD NEWS!

Discover the joy of story-telling



Learning to write stories at the workshop

GO Katha, in writing work
JANWALKAR

ks creativity



Children in rapt attention at the workshop in Chennai

will see youngsters' stories that tap into and emotional experience. The 50 best stories selected and brought back. This will help children feel a sense of achievement." Geeta acknowledges that the workshop might not have enough time to bring

out the best in a child. But it certainly is a step in the right direction. Katha, that has a presence in north India, is ready to take the plunge in the south too. "Very soon, we will be starting a project in Chennai that aims at equitable and quality education," says Geeta, as she promises to be back.

Discovering the joy of writing and reading

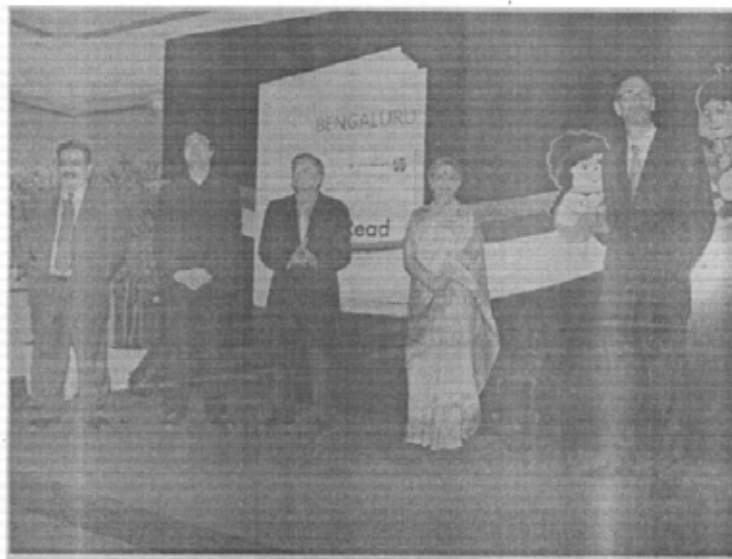
Express News Service

Hewlett-Packard announced the launch of 'Write & Read' - a collaborative story-writing programme, with 'Katha', an NGO that brings children living in poverty into reading and quality education. Lyricist Prasoon Joshi will join the initiative as a mentor for the students who will participate in the workshops.

Over the next few months, the workshops will be rolled out across six cities in India - Delhi, Mumbai, Bangalore, Chennai, Kolkata and Pune - for children aged nine to fourteen. HP will support Write & Read workshops with web-connected printers, which will enable children to interact directly with content on the Web via Print Apps.

"Writing is a liberating creative process that I hold dear to my heart. I am proud to be a part of Write & Read that helps children to discover the joy of writing and reading at a young age. This joy is an invaluable gift that I would like to share with children of India - our future leaders," said Prasoon Joshi.

Write & Read targets to reach out to more than 700 children across six cities



From left: Neeraj Sharma, President, HP-IPG; Prasoon Joshi, lyricist, screenwriter and advertising copywriter; Vyomesh Joshi, Executive Vice President, HP-IPG; Geeta Dharamarajan, Executive Director, Katha and John Solomon, Senior Vice President, HP-IPG

The shortlisted entries will be sent to Joshi for the final selection.

The final 50 selected stories will be compiled into a book, which will be distributed to local libraries and

communities across India.

"Printing is integral to bringing stories to life. We are proud to marry HP's innovative technologies with expertise of Prasoon Joshi and Katha in realising the

experience of writing and reading stories for children and grow their interest in learning," added Vyomesh Joshi, executive vice president, Imaging and Printing

Story time

Association with HP-IPG, is organising a creative story writing workshop for children in the city from October 20-22

This weekend, let your children translate their imagination into creative short stories at the two-day story writing workshop to be hosted at Ishanya Auditorium

WORKSHOP

THE GUIDE TEAM

theguide@mid-day.com

Enrol your kids for a two-day story-writing workshop, which promises to be a fun-learning experience. The workshop titled 'HP Write and Read' has been organised by Hewlett Packard - Imaging and Packaging (HP-IPG) India in collaboration with Katha,

an organisation that works with children from underprivileged backgrounds. It is for children between the age group of 9 and 15 years and will be conducted by Geeta Dharamarajan, an award winning writer and the chairperson of Katha.

The story-writing programme has been designed to bring out the storyteller in every child, through workshops and a story-writing contest. It will give children an opportunity to convert their

creative ideas and imagination into stories.

The idea is to give children the creative freedom to express themselves. The workshop hopes to bridge the gap between a child's imagination and his/her expressions.

ON September 16 and 17,
9 am to 3 pm
LOG ON TO <http://hpwriteandread.com/>
AT Ishanya Auditorium, off Airport Road, Yerwada.

A BIG Thank you!

Prasoon Joshi

Hewlett Packard India

Vyomesh Joshi, Neeraj Sharma, Seema Dawar and team

PRactice

Nandita, Abhijit, Smakshi, Priti and team

MCI

Priti Khanna and team

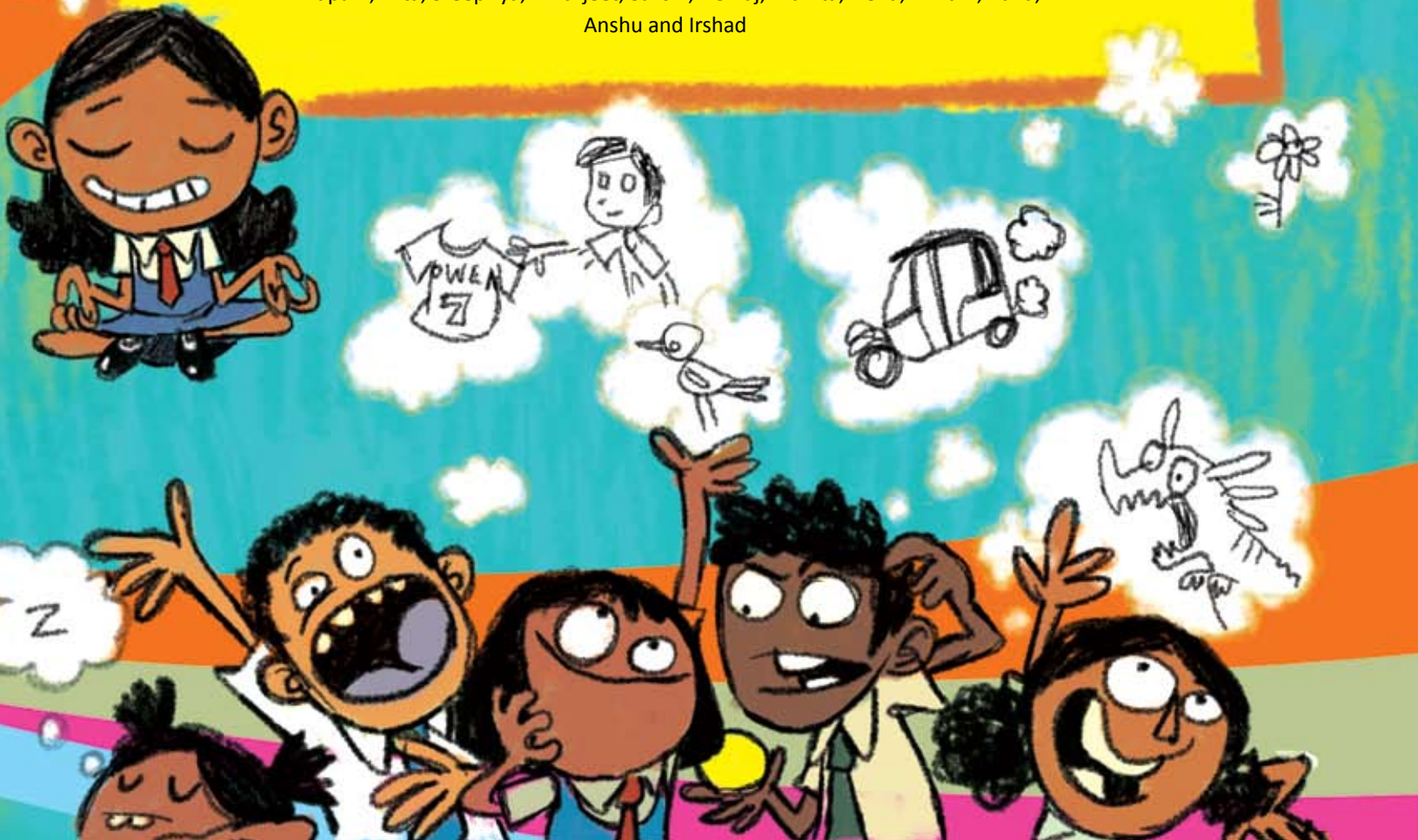
All the Wonderful Mentor-Writers

Shinie Antony, Kala Ramesh, Soumya Rajendran, Trisha Ray, Manasi Subramaniam and Santhini Govindan

The illustrators who caught the imagination of our young authors!

And the Entire Team at Katha

Anupam, Ekta, Sreepriya, Amarjeet, Sakshi, Devraj, Mamta, Neha, Vikram, Rana, Anshu and Irshad





BY US FOR US



THE FINAL LIST OF 29!

THE WINNERS AND THEIR STORIES



Nidhi Ravishankar
Story - Rebirth
*GEAR Innovative International
 School, Bengaluru*



Saeel Bhujbal
**Story - The Rise of the
 Sunflower**
DAV Public School, Pune

Melissa Chen
**Story - The Greatest
 Treasure**
*Loreto Day School
 (Dharmatala), Kolkata*



Vinayasree Vinod
**Story - A Dream Come
 True**
Kendriya Vidyalaya (IIT), Chennai



Nandini Kejariwal
**Story - Beaten Black
 and Blue**
*Dhirubhai Ambani International
 School, Mumbai*



Anupriya Aggarwal
**Story - The Changing
 Lights**
Sardar Patel Vidyalaya, Delhi



Bhhavya Kapoor
**Story - An Adventure In
 Dreamland**
DAV Public School, Pune



Sayantan Chakraborty
**Story - The Hour Known
 As Earth**
St James's School, Kolkata

R Anirudh
**Story - Where Is My
 Mother?**
Kendriya Vidyalaya (IIT), Chennai



Shreya Punjabi
**Story - Bathrooms Aren't
 Boring**
Arya Vidya Mandir (Juhu), Mumbai





Amola Mehta
Story - My Cat, Her Majesty
Sardar Patel Vidyalaya, Delhi



Aniruddh K Budhgavi
Story - The Perfect Gift
Army Public School, Bengaluru

Kshitija M Shetty
Story - From No To Yes Chemistry
St Mira's School, Pune



Madhavi Rao
Story - Don't Ever Study Too Hard!
National Academy for Learning, Bengaluru



G Jyotsna
Story - The Orange Experience
Kendriya Vidyalaya (IIT), Chennai



Rudraveer Reddy
Story - The Last Tiger
Arya Vidya Mandir (Juhu), Mumbai

Ananya Kumar
Story - Humans Or Aliens?
Sardar Patel Vidyalaya, Delhi



Aishwarya Ramanath
Story - True Friends
National Academy for Learning, Bengaluru



Natasha Bhadouria
Story - Of Cats, Dogs And Mice
G G International School, Pune



Aditya Das
Story - No Ha-Has, Please!
The Heritage School, Kolkata

Sanskruti Lakshmi
Kanth
Story - Vnd's Trip To
Fire

*Navadisha Montessori School,
Chennai*



Anoushka Agrawal
Story - Save Me

Bombay Scottish School, Mumbai



Dhwani Yagnaraman
Story - Branches Of Life

Vidya Valley School, Pune



Rakshita K L
Story - Vortex Of The 2
Worlds

*GEAR Innovative International
School, Bengaluru*



Rizwan M Amlani
Story - Big J And The
Bus Driver

*Erin N Nagarwala Day School,
Pune*



Anangsha Saha
Story - Rover The Dog

*Loreto Day School (Dharmatala),
Kolkata*



Suhana Khan
Story - Waiting To Bloom

*Dhirubhai Ambani International
School, Mumbai*



M Puneeth
Story - The Man'u Fever

*Sri Vidya Academy International
School, Chennai*



Aakansha Agrawal
Story - Sonia and The
Dream Island

*Arya Vidya Mandir (Juhu),
Mumbai*



THE BUDDING WRITERS OF INDIA

BENGALURU

ARMY PUBLIC SCHOOL
Abhik Nitya Varma
Abhilash Vashist
Aditya Naidu
Akansha Panwar
Akul.S
Aman Jyot Singh
Anarghya Rao
Aniruddh K. Budhnavi
Anoushka PV
Anubhab Mridha
Anvoida Sabu
Anwesha Sen
Arshya Loomba
Ashlin Joseph
Blessy Bose
Devanshi Kaul
Disha Bhoraskar
Eric Sanyo
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Gayatri Rajguru
Isharek Singh Pabla
Ishrat Pabla
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Krihi Biddappa K.
Kumudvati Voleti
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Malhar Vivek Padir
Megha Gopaldas
Navya Sharma
Navya Shukla
Neeraj Unnikrishnan
Nikhil Jose
Poonam T V
Pradheesha Nair
Pragya Singh
Prithvi Varma
Raghav Thakran
Ramisha.R
Rhea Raja
Rishabh J Aiyer
Rishita Raha
Rithik Vaishnav
Rohan John Varghese
Rudrani Saish Shete
S.Vyshnavi
Sagarika Sundeep
Chetty
Saher Gandhioke
Samuel Thomas
Sandeep Poonia
Sangrim Nandal
Sankalp Chitale
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Sharanya Muthanna
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Shriyash Lole
Siddhant Bakshi
Smeraa Reet Varma
Soumya Mati
Sumit Singh Yadav
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Tanish Iyer
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Vasundhara Shahi
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MODERN COLLEGIATE
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कथा KATHA

Katha is a non-profit organisation seamlessly connecting grassroots work in education, urban poverty alleviation and literacy. Katha runs 98 schools in slum communities in Delhi and reaches out to 200,000 children through a unique Reading Programme. Katha's efforts are inspired by the vision of empowering children to become community leaders through education, transforming their lives as well as that of their communities.

Katha's Mission: To help every child realise his/her full potential through community-based quality learning. To enhance the joys of reading. To reduce injustice and poverty through education. To enhance linguistic diversity through story.

Katha leverages its mission goal on a single powerful idea: Children can help their communities get out of poverty, and bring change that is sustainable and real.

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