

# **NRich Children**

Imagine ► Believe ► Achieve



## "NRich Children"

## 1. About the Program

In line with the Ministry of Human Resources Development's mandate to minimize curriculum load on students and focus more on the overall development of students, including developing their life skills, Antahin Abha Foundation has initiated the "NRich Children" program in the rural South 24 Parganas of West Bengal.

The goal of this program is to implement a Project-based learning (PBL) model at our partner schools.

## 2. Program Benefits

In the traditional mode of teaching, the focus is to passively learn facts and recite them during the tests. The burden of coursework leaves the students with little time to learn life skills, such as how to think, creativity, and innovation. As a result, the students are not prepared to survive the fast-changing landscape of the professional environment of today's world.

The PBL, on the other hand, helps prepare the students, by imparting 21st century skills and knowledge around analytical skills, research, information processing, problem-solving, creativity, and time management. As highlighted by the National Education Policy (NEP), PBL proves to be effective in encouraging 'learning by doing', and helping students tackle real-world problems.

# 3. Our Approach

### a. Prepare project activities to align with coursework

We integrate PBL project scenarios to align with school curriculums on topics such as Science, Geography, and Maths. This way, while conducting the project solution, the students are able to apply their existing understanding and are also able to discover new applications of these subject areas. This fosters critical thinking, creativity, and collaboration among students. Here are some highlights of our approach:

- **Curriculum Integration:** Align projects with the school curriculum to ensure that students meet required learning objectives while engaging in meaningful activities and experiencing practical use of the knowledge.
- **Real-World Relevance:** Developing projects that reflect real-world scenarios to make learning more applicable and interesting for students.
- Cross-subject Projects: Creating projects that span multiple subject areas, helping students make connections between different areas of study and understand the integrated nature of knowledge.

### b. Training the Trainers

We implement a rigorous training methodology to train the PBL trainers and facilitators to uphold the spirit of Project-based learning.

Train educators thoroughly with clear lesson plans and pedagogical training.

- Provide trainers with relevant PBL certifications.
- Provide regular assessment and counseling.

### 4. What is PBL

In Project Based Learning, the teacher presents a scenario or a project and the students then analyze the problem and build solutions. The students conduct necessary research, ask questions to teachers, and learn by actively engaging in project solutions. The students work on the project for multiple sessions across a few weeks.

While doing the project, the students document their findings by writing down the project scenario, the challenges, the solution and some relevant drawings. This exercise encourages critical thinking problem-solving and communication skills in students and makes them independent thinkers.