



Tsoknyi Gechak School Report

Date : 18 Aug 2015, Tuesday.
Venue : Tsoknyi Gechak School (TGS)
Facilitators : Safala M. Rajbhandari, Midesh Maharjan, Gunjan Dixit.

Introduction

Rato Bangala Foundation (RBF) in collaboration with TGS aims to provide academic services to improve the quality of education. Interventions for the year 2015\2016 began from 17 July 2015. The third session was completed on 18 of August 2015.

The first half of the session focused on observing classroom deliverables while the second half focused on various teaching learning activities the highlights of which were planning and organizing educational trips for students and planning integrated lesson plans.

The lists of activities conducted during the day are as follows:

Activities

1. Warm-Up (Brain Gym)

Some exercises related to the brain gym had previously been practiced with teachers. A small discussion on how these exercises help interaction between the left and right hemispheres of the brain was also conducted.

2. Sharing on class observation

Participants were assigned to observe their peers. They shared their leanings of observing their partners and what could be done in the future to have more interactive session with children. Some of the strengths of classes best conducted were highlighted and discussed in depth.

3. Concept and designing educational field trips

A detailed discussion was held to understand the initial process of organizing educational field trips for TGS.

Ideas for formulating and designing field trips to generate better outcome were then shared which focused not just on logistical aspects but also on the steps to be taken before organizing a trip and after. Thus three steps: Pre-Trip preparations, Trip activity and Post- Trip activities were discussed step by step.

The initial Pre-Trip preparation phase was discussed thoroughly to ensure teachers covered aspects such as checking the site before the actual trip with the students, preparing materials and sheets for the trip and taking care of all safety measures beforehand.

3. Number Tower

A math activity called the number tower was played with the participants. This activity can be used during class hours to familiarize students with 4 basic operations of mathematics.

4. Integrated lessons

This session focused on introducing the concept of integrated leanings and ways to plan integrated lessons. The participants brainstormed ideas and listed some of the themes which were then chosen as possible topics for devising integrated lessons. The topics were then listed out.

This long list of possible topics gave participant teachers ideas on how one theme could be segregated into various subjects for teaching. This was done so in their assigned groups.

Outcome

Participants at the training learnt to plan and design pre-trip activities. They now have knowledge to prepare, coordinate with concerned individuals such as parents, teachers, principals, administrative staff etc and address safety concerns, figuring out food items to be taken, arranging transportation and preparing materials.

They learnt to choose appropriate themes to be taught in their respective classes, giving a multidisciplinary approach to the subject matter. Participants realized that such an integrated approach helped to see the bigger picture and simultaneously relate the idea or concept to the actual field visit.

New ice-breakers and beneficial movement exercises were also learnt during the sessions. Nonetheless sharing experiences of peer observation made participants appreciate each other's efforts, learn from each other and compelled them to think about their individual self development.