

CLIx Newsletter | October 2017

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The Connected Learning Initiative (CLIx) is a collaborative initiative of the **TATA INSTITUTE OF SOCIAL SCIENCES, TATA TRUSTS and MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY (MIT).** It is a bold and innovative effort that aims to improve the quality of education accessed by secondary school students and teacher professional development.

(clix.tiss.edu)

Voices from the Field

The English Teacher Professional Development Face-2-Face Workshop took place from 9th to 11th October 2017 at Telangana. Here's what a participating English teacher from Karimnagar district has to say about it...





The (Teacher Certificate) course is relevant to the professional development in all ways. But as we are new in touch with this subject (technology + pedagogy) (a) lot of confusions to start the course.

We (will) start to use information of student module while teaching the lessons (in the class).

I liked all the on-line activities (in the Certificate and the Student module)

And I recommend the course should be made easier so that the teachers who are from language other than English background can also read and comprehend and (are also able) complete the tasks

Mrs. Vasantha Bharatha, English Teacher at ZPHS Metpally, Karimnagar

State updates for this month

Chhattisgarh

1. TPD Face-to-Face training in Jawahar Navodaya Schools in the following domains (30.10.17 - 18.11.17): - English - Maths

- Science

Mizoram

Student module rollout and infrastructure mapping in the following domains (23.09.17 onwards):

- English
- Maths
- Science

Rajasthan

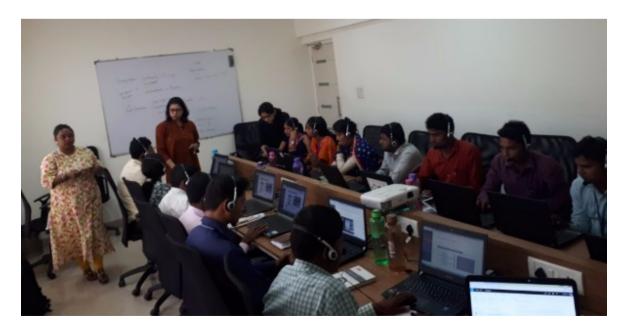
 Tata Steel observation visit to CLIx schools in Jaipur (26.10.17 -28.10.17)
IBM observation visit to CLIx schools in Jaipur and Sirohi (26.10.17 - 28.10.17)

Telangana

1. TPD Face-to-Face Workshops in the following domains (30.10.17 - 01.11.17):

- Maths training @ Rangareddy
- Science training @ Karimnagar

Blog of the month: CLIx English in Maharashtra: A Tata Trust–L&T Collaboration (21.09.17 - 22.09.17)



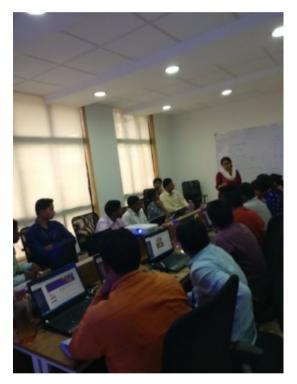
A two-day training in CLIx English modules was held for the personnel of Pratham InfoTech Sanchar Ltd on 21–22 September 2017 at Khoparkairne, Navi Mumbai. Pratham InfoTech is L&T's implementing partner under their CSR

initiative. L&T is interested in exploring the English modules and assessing the feasibility of implementing them in selected tribal belts in Maharashtra. Tata Trust facilitated the training, which was led by members of the CLIx English and Technology teams and supported by Panchalee and Aryadev of Tata Trust.

Fourteen enthusiastic teacher trainers travelled from Palghar to Mumbai in the early hours of the morning of 21st September to attend the training. Despite the early start, the young men and women were bright and alert, waiting to explore the CLIx English modules on the Unplatform. When we walked into the room, they already had the modules loaded onto their laptops and had started browsing the lessons.

After an initial discussion on what it means to teach English in the classroom, we explained the CLIx English pedagogy of creating safe and collaborative learning spaces and authentic language learning contexts for students in schools. We also explained the reasons for adopting a communicative approach to English rather than a grammar-oriented one.

What followed was an hour and a half of silent and intense exploration of the modules by the teacher trainers. They worked independently, confidently navigated the platform and had very few questions about classroom transaction. They opined initially that students would find it difficult to follow the English levels. However, after an hour of immersive exploring, they admitted that they liked the modules and felt more confident about their working in the schools.



CLIx team leading discussions during demonstration of tools by participants

In the following sessions, participants confidently demonstrated to fellow trainers the use of Story Time, Open Story, Let's Talk and CLIx Time. A discussion on the technical aspects of the Unplatform followed, led by Tanvi Domadia of the CLIx technology team.



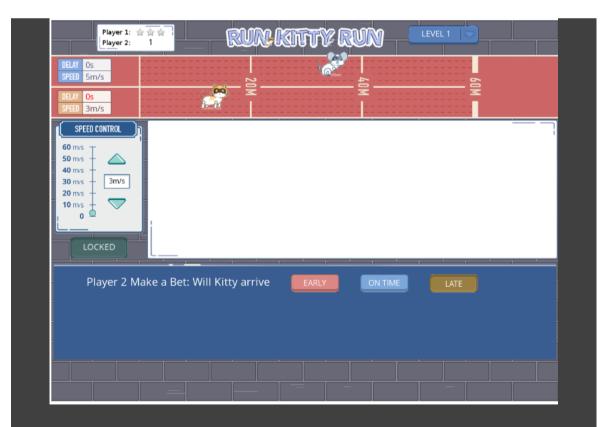
Discussion on the technical aspects of the Unplatform

The training marked yet another milestone in the expansion of CLIx's vision and its journey of disseminating quality content through ICT-enabled teaching and learning processes.

(Nishevita Jayendran, Curriculum Consultant, English Team, CLIx)

Connecting Technology

This section features the digital tools that have been created and are being used by the CLIx team to reinvent pedagogy for students and teachers. This month we feature the Run Kitty Run game designed for the Motion module within the Science domain.



Run kitty Run is an interesting two player game that will allow students to understand the different concepts of motion such as distance, time, speed, delay, speed-time graph, and position-time graph. There are multiple levels to explore these various concepts in game.

Connecting Research

This section features recent studies in the field of education published by our CLIx faculty who work in tandem with the Centre for Education, Innovation & Action Research (CEI&AR). This month we feature Professor <u>Ajay Singh</u>'s paper on <u>Caste Conflicts and Children's Education</u>

Caste conflicts continue to structure the public arena in India, as also reflected in the recent controversy over Ambedkar cartoons in NCERT textbooks or in the demand for reservation by Gurjars in Rajasthan which once again brought the issue into the limelight. At least in the Hindi speaking region, the repertoire of caste conflicts appears to be powerful, while the apparent conflict is relatively 'silent'. The crystalisation of caste identities has raised some important questions on the socio-cultural and educational cleavages of Indian society. The impact of conflict on children and its relationship to their education process continues to be one of the most critical areas in research, especially in India.

The present study tries to explore the relationship between experiences of conflict and children's education with special focus on caste conflict. A hierarchical relationship between the adults and children provides a guideline for the study. <u>Read on</u>

Connecting Innovation

This section is for teachers, parents, mentors, and anybody who is looking for innovative ways of or content for learning and teaching. This month we feature Think-alouds, an extremely useful learning tool.

Think-alouds have been described as "eavesdropping on someone's thinking." With this strategy, teachers verbalize aloud while reading a selection orally. Their verbalizations include describing things they're doing as they read to monitor their comprehension. The purpose of the think-aloud strategy is to model for students how skilled readers construct meaning from a text. Read on

Source: http://www.readingrockets.org/strategies/think_alouds

Our recent posts

• Science Face-to-Face Training, Sirohi (23.09.17)

To enable teachers to effectively implement the CLIx science modules in schools, a one-day training programme was organised in Sirohi, Rajasthan, on 23 September 2017. This training was conducted for the teachers who had missed the earlier July batch. Out of 11 teachers, 8 teachers could attend the second training. Read on

• One-Day Interaction with Teachers in Jaipur (20.09.17)

It was a one-day training programme for the CLIx science modules and the online teachers' course (RTICT). Because we were going to talk about the use of technology in education, we began the session with a rapid-fire round as an icebreaker activity. We asked participants a few questions on how much they are connected with technology and how technology is connected with them. Read on

• CLIx English Workshops in Telangana (05.09.17 -17.09.17)

I found myself in the 'City of Nawabs' this September! We went to this beautiful historical city to train teachers who have become part of the CLIx journey. The training workshops were organised from September 6 to 16, 2017 in Rangareddy and Vikarabad districts. The visit was an enriching and reflective experience for me and my colleagues Mayuri and Jennifer. Read on

Opportunities

- Applications to Non-faculty & Faculty positions are invited for the Connected Learning Initiative (CLIx) project of CEI&AR.
- The Teacher Pages Innovator Fellowship 2017-2018
- <u>CLIx internships</u>
- CLIx Faculty Fellowships 2016-2017



The Connected Learning Initiative (CLIx) is a partnership between the Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS), Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) and Tata Trusts. It is a bold and innovative effort to improve the professional and academic prospects of high school students from underserved communities in India. CLIx incorporates thoughtful pedagogical design and leverages contemporary technology, including online capabilities, to provide quality educational content and experiences at scale in the areas of English, Science, Mathematics and Values. As a platform for innovation in education, CLIx also supports the professional development of inservice teachers, making substantial contributions to teacher education in Indian languages. The initiative aims to reach approximately 1,100 schools and 1,11,000 students in Chhattisgarh, Mizoram, Rajasthan and Telangana during 2015-18, and also conduct professional development for approximately 5,090 teachers.



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