

SYLLABUS AND LEARNING INDICATORS

IN ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES

FOR CLASSES III, IV & V

ADAPTED & APPROVED BY
STATE COUNCIL OF EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH AND TRAINING
GOVT OF GOA

ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES (EVS)

FOR CLASSES III, IV & V

Part I SYLLABUS

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PREFACE

Ministry of Human Resource and Development (MHRD) has approved the following quality improvement programmes for the State of Goa during the current academic year 2014-15:

- 1. Early Literacy programme for Std: I and II (Language and Mathematics)
- 2. EVS, English and Mathematics for Std: III, IV and V
- 3. Mathematics and Science for Std: VI, VII and VIII

NCERT has developed stage-wise learning indicators based on **The National Curriculum Framework (NCF-2005)** and the syllabi along with **stage-wise curricular expectations.**

The state's focussed programme for classes III to V during the year 2014-15 aims to improve learning in EVS, English and Mathematics. About 870 teachers at this stage will be trained for 3 days with a focus on teaching of EVS. This training would include amongst others an understanding of learning indicators and assessment and evaluation practices based on learning indicators. Minimum one teacher is identified from each school for this programme during the year 2014-15. State has further committed to conduct studies to measure improvement in learning levels of the students (SLAS) .With this Quality Improvement Programme it is expected to show an increase of 10% over the baseline NAS survey conducted by NCERT.

The learning outcomes/curricular expectations are generally treated as assessment standards. However, it is necessary to understand clearly that curricular expectations/learning outcomes needs to be achieved to the best possible level irrespective of the fact that these may or may not be used as testable construct.

The learning indicators given in Part II are based on the approved syllabus given in Part I of this handbook. The Learning Indicators have a broad range across the three classes and they aim at including children's learning at different levels. Guidelines for teachers given at the end of each curricular area will further enhance quality in classroom transactions.

It is hoped that this handbook would provide meaningful insights into the progress and accomplishments of children's overall development from class to class and finally reach up to the expected learning level at each stage of EVS learning.

It is expected that EVS teachers would use this handbook as their personal copy; and also note their best practices, student's achievements, children's joyful and wholehearted participation in learning activity, their quality of learning, development of children's understanding etc in the space provided in this booklet. Sharing of this feedback among other teachers would certainly help create quality improvement. The material in this booklet is useful even to the parents in understanding 'growth' of children's understanding of EVS.

Place: Porvorim

Dated: 03-10-2014

Minanath T. Upadhye State Project Director Goa Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan

PREAMBLE

Why this document?

India's 12th Five Year Plan (2012-2017) notes that the four main priorities of education policies have been Access, Equity, Quality and Governance. The document also continues to prioritize these four areas, but places the greatest emphasis on improving learning outcomes at all levels. Various educational surveys, educational data over the years indicated that learning achievements of children in various subjects particularly in Languages, Maths, EVS, Science and Social Sciences are not satisfactory. The Joint Review Mission's reports of SSA of last few years also mentioned that the learning levels of children are not up to the desirable level in spite of all the efforts being made by the states such as timely availability of textbooks and other learning materials, training of teachers, regular monitoring, etc. It is a fact that many a times, teachers complete the textbooks but they do not have clear idea what kind of learning they are expecting from children in respective subjects. Generally teachers use textbooks that would only provide a broad idea as to how to transact the textual material inside and outside the classroom.

The NPE 1986 and POA 1992 emphasized that the essential levels of learning should be laid down and children's achievement should periodically be assessed so as to keep track of the progress towards the NPE goal of ensuring that all children achieve essential levels of learning. Steps were indeed initiated to put into practice the NPE formulation. MLLs were developed class-wise and subject-wise for primary stage in 1992 in the form of competencies. However, over time MLLs appear to have faded away from the educational discourse because the target of educational achievement became the MLLs and not the formation of experimental / critical minds. The development of class-wise competencies made this exercise more product and rubric-oriented, rather than focusing on overall development of children.

The National Curriculum Framework (NCF-2005) and the syllabi developed as a follow up for various curricular areas at each level (class) consciously do not provide class-wise learning outcomes/ curricular expectations but talk about stage-wise curricular expectations. The learning outcomes or curricular expectations are generally treated as assessment standards. It is therefore necessary to develop clarity that curricular expectations/learning outcomes are achieved to the best possible way whether these may or may not be used as testable construct.

Broadly, curricular expectations define what each child should to know, able to do and the disposition that should be acquired over a period of time. Curricular expectations are not to be measured class-wise but need to be achieved by the **end of a particular stage** as these are long term targets of the Curriculum i.e. abilities, attitudes, values, etc. **Learning Indicators along with the pedagogical processes will help achieve these curricular expectations.**

The **learning indicators** have been developed for each class i.e. at the end of each class from class I to class VIII. The 'learning indicators' need to lay down the **'essential levels of learning'** as postulated by the NPE;

The Learning Indicators help in a number of ways by:

- Understanding learning as a process
- Focusing and understanding children's learning on a continuum of learning
- Respond positively to diversity and helping all children to participate fully and achieve well.
- Providing a reference point for parents, children and others to understand the learning of every child in a simple way
- Providing a framework for monitoring, learning and reporting progress about the child

The present exercise is aimed to clarify some misconceptions or confusions related to these areas. With the implementation of CCE, teachers are using CCE as a pedagogic tool. They are expected to regularly assess children's progress as per their pace of learning and provide feedback. Research is consistent across countries, content area and age groups- show that using assessment for learning improves all student achievement more than external texts or educational reforms. CCE also provides opportunities to teachers to use it as an assessment tool so that children's knowledge, understanding, various skills, attitudes, values, etc could be developed over a period of time.

Children construct their knowledge and have different learning styles. Thus learning process needs to be seen as a continuum. As we all know in teaching-learning paradigm whatever we plan (inputs) for expected learning of a child, must be translated and reflected in the child's behaviour. However, the path Teaching learning strategies have to be planned according to the needs of the children. For children with disabilities, sign language, audible books, tactile maps and the likes are required. The teacher will have to determine the needs as she/ he interacts with the child, while drawing her plan from curricular expectation to transaction and from transaction to attainment. Without identifying learning indicators it is even more difficult for a teacher or a system to move further or improve learning levels. So there is a need to develop well defined learning indicators to meet the curricular expectations.

Teachers cannot think in isolation to achieve these curricular expectations. **Pedagogical interventions** that are required to achieve these expectations have also been given for each curricular area. These pedagogical processes provide examples which would help the teachers and other users to understand the extent and the nature of learning on the part of the children related to each curricular area.

The present exercise would also encourage the States to lay down learning indicators and learning outcomes through a joint effort of the Centre and States. The States have the full liberty to adopt/adapt these indicators/ outcomes as per their needs. This proposal is made in view of the fact that an important objective of planning in our country has been removal of disparities in achieving the objectives of educational and pedagogic planning.

All children up to the elementary stage irrespective of their abilities/disabilities, social-economic ethnic background or gender, have right to education. Our school education needs to support our children to develop their knowledge, understanding, range of skills and dispositions to act in the future life as productive citizen. Children have variations in their abilities, dispositions and personal social qualities. Some children have special needs i.e. physical, communication, sensory and/or emotional needs that affect their learning. Some disadvantages may influence their learning such as gender discrimination at home, development delay, limited experiences in early years. Providing appropriate and enriched experiences and modifying the teaching learning strategies help meet the identified learning needs of our children. Inclusive approach not only addresses the diverse needs of children but also provides opportunities to learn from each other. School programmes/activities should coordinate with the community services so as to meet the social, emotional, physical and learning needs of all children including those with special needs.

What does the document include?

NCERT has developed class-wise learning indicators. These have been developed in all the subject areas namely English, Hindi, Urdu, Mathematics, EVS, Science, Social Sciences and Arts Education. Children learn in a spiral way and not in a linear way; therefore the learning indicators have a broad range across the classes and stages and aim to include children learning at different levels. The document follows the nature and its approach to each curricular area as envisaged in NCF-2005. It also provides **guidelines for users** given at the end of each curricular area. Some of the guidelines are common but subject specific guidelines have also been provided. This document would provide useful and meaningful insights into the progress and accomplishments of children at various stages of their overall development and finally reach up to the expected learning level at each stage. This would serve as a useful document to parents and to the system at large about the quality of learning and development of children during the elementary stage of school education.

Part I SYLLABUS ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES (EVS) FOR CLASSES III, IV & V

Introduction: Teaching of Environmental Studies

The National Curriculum Committee had recommended in the 1975 policy document "The Curriculum for the Ten-year School: A Framework", that a single subject 'Environmental Studies' be taught at the primary stage. It had proposed that in the first two years (Class I-II) Environmental Studies will look at both the natural and the social environment, while in Classes III-V there would be separate portions for social studies and general science termed as EVS Part I and Part II. The National Policy on Education 1986 and the National Curriculum Framework (NCF) 1988 also posited the same approach for the teaching of Environmental Studies at the primary stage. Contemporary research on how children learn to make sense of the world around them and how pedagogy in primary school can enable them to develop scientific abilities and understanding in consonance with social and environmental concerns has further supported this integrated structure. The NCF 2000 had recommended that Environmental Studies be taught as an integrated course for the entire primary stage, instead of in two distinct parts devoted to science and social studies in Classes III-V. The present NCF 2005 has called for the continuation and further strengthening of this integrated approach for Environmental Studies during the primary years.

NCF 2005 and Objectives of Environmental Studies

The present syllabus is designed to forge an integrated perspective for the primary stage of schooling that draws upon insights from Sciences, Social Sciences and Environmental Education. The National Curriculum Framework 2005 indicates some of the objectives of teaching science and Social Sciences at the primary stage as follows:

- to train children to locate and comprehend relationships between the natural, social and cultural environment;
- to develop an understanding based on observation and illustration, drawn from lived experiences and physical, biological, social and cultural aspects of life, rather than abstractions;
- to create cognitive capacity and resourcefulness to make the child curious about social phenomena, starting with the family and moving on to wider spaces;
- to nurture the curiosity and creativity of the child particularly in relation to the natural environment (including artifacts and people);
- to develop an awareness about environmental issues;
- to engage the child in exploratory and hands-on activities to acquire basic cognitive and psychomotor skills through observation, classification, inference, etc.;

- to emphasize design and fabrication, estimation and measurement as a prelude to the development of technological and quantitative skills at later stages;
- to be able to critically address gender concerns and issues of marginalization and oppression with values of equality and justice, and respect for human dignity and rights.

Integrating 'Subjects' or Forging a New Understanding?

What do we understand by General Science and Social Sciences? When we think of these 'subjects' in school we clearly have in mind some body of knowledge and also typical ways of acquiring that knowledge that we associate with each of them. These school subjects have evolved through their own complicated histories and are today quite different from the way sciences or social sciences are practiced in the real world of specialized disciplines, such as physics, zoology, chemistry, molecular biology, history, sociology, geography, economics, political science, etc. So what happens when groups of specialists sit down to discuss what should be taught at the primary level? They naturally tend to think of 'topics' that have traditionally served as the bases of their own different disciplines. Thus biologists (if we can use that term to somehow bring together botanists and zoologists!) would naturally propose a study of plants, animals or the human body, whereas physicists would think of sound, light, force and work, while chemists would propose studying forms of matter, properties of substances, etc. Add to this the different disciplines under the rubric of Social Sciences and we soon end up with a confounding platter of topics, which are not necessarily 'integratable', and are neither close to the way the child relates to her world. Most primary school curricula working on an integrated approach therefore do not proceed with lists of 'topics' from different 'subjects' but instead propose 'themes' that allow for a connected and inter-related understanding to develop. This requires moving beyond traditional boundaries of disciplines and looking at priorities in a shared way. This approach has been followed for the present syllabus. Several themes were discussed to see what possibilities each of them offers, to bring together insights from different disciplines, in an interconnected manner that is basically child centered. For each theme a web of possible connections was drawn up, of concepts and skills, to explore how that may be developed over the primary years. Specialists from several different disciplines of sciences, social sciences, pedagogy, gender studies, child development, curriculum studies, etc. discussed the possibilities of the proposed themes, pointed out the gaps, and debated on the priorities for a child centered approach. It is clear that there is no single format that can offer a uniquely satisfactory elaboration of ideas for primary school and this syllabus too makes no such

This is not a prescriptive but instead a suggestive format, which indicates the key themes and subthemes along with their possible connections. It consciously begins with *key questions* rather than key concepts, which can trigger the child's thinking in new directions and provide scaffolding to her learning process. This format is meant to help textbook writers, teachers and parents to appreciate the immense possibilities and the depth of children's understanding. It also indicates how adults can stimulate and actively support children's learning, rather than restrict or throttle it, as often happens when children are forced to memorise information they just cannot understand.

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Themes for a Child Centered and Integrated Approach

This syllabus web has been developed within a child centered perspective of themes that provide a common interface of issues in social studies, sciences and environmental education. The syllabus for Classes III-V is woven around six common themes given below; the predominant theme on 'Family and Friends' encompasses four sub-themes:

- 1. Family and Friends:
 - 1.1 Relationships; 1.2 Work and Play;
 - 1.3 Animals; 1.4 Plants
- 2. Food;
- 3. Shelter;
- 4. Water;
- 5. Travel;
- 6. Things We Make and Do

The syllabus web moves outward over the three years; it gradually extends the child's understanding of her world, beginning from the immediate 'self' to include her family, the neighbourhood, the locality and also the country. Thus by the time the child reaches Class V, she is able to see her 'self' in the larger context — as part of a community, the country and also, more tacitly, as located in this world. Indeed, in some flights of fancy the syllabus even goads the young child to ride on a spacecraft and leap beyond the earth, into outer space, that may yet not be comprehensible but is certainly fascinating for her.

Thus, for instance, the theme on 'Food' begins in Class III with 'cooking', 'eating in the family', about what we eat and what others eat, what animals eat, etc. It then moves on in Class IV to how food is grown, what different plants they may have seen, how food reaches us, etc. In Class V children discuss who grows it, the hardships farmers may face, while staying grounded to the reality of our own pangs of hunger or the plight of people who do not get food. In addition, 'when food gets spoilt' explores spoilage and preservation of food, while changes in food habits and the crops grown are analyzed through the experiences of elders/grandparents. Finally 'our mouth - tastes and even digests food' sees how the saliva makes food taste sweet on chewing, while 'food for plants?' also introduces the idea of some curious insect eating plants.

The theme on 'Travel' was developed to help the child on this journey of ideas, of expanding social and physical spaces, into newer and unfamiliar terrains of often mind-boggling and no less fascinating diversity. In Class III the theme encourages children to look at their own journeys, if any, and to see how older people in their family may have traveled in earlier times, as they also hear of accounts of how people travel today in a desert, through forests, in the hills, or in big cities. Moreover, it also suggests a story as a 'resource', to bring into the classroom the experiences of a child of a migrating family and the problems she faces in the process of her schooling. Such narratives suggested as 'resources' are meant to provide creative opportunities of bringing in experiences of other children/people, who may be very different, but whom children can relate to. This can be done through stories, posters, plays, films, and other media. In Class V the theme 'Travel' takes children through the 'rough and tough' terrain of the Himalayas with, perhaps, the story of

Bachhendri Pal, who hoists the national flag after a trying expedition, while they can also be encouraged to design a flag for their own school.

This theme also takes them on a 'ride on a spacecraft' into space, from where for the first time they see the aerial view of the earth, and being no less than a Rakesh Sharma or a Kalpana Chawla, each child is asked to give an interview to the Prime Minister of India about what they see from there!. The exercise of looking at aerial views is developed through different views of school, where different perspectives get introduced. It is linked to the concept of mapping, which they begin in Class III through a basic two-dimensional representation of their classroom, and by the time they reach Class V they can read and draw simple aerial views of their locality or city.

'Plants' and 'Animals' as Part of the Theme 'Family and Friends'

'Plants' and 'Animals' have consciously been included under the theme of 'Family and Friends' to highlight how humans share a close relationship with them and to also provide a holistic and integrated scientific and social perspective of studying them. Traditionally 'plants' or animals' are presented as autonomous categories, seen purely from the perspective of science. Here an attempt is made to locate them in a social and cultural context, and also to see how the lives and livelihoods of some communities, such as the gujjars, musahars or 'pattal'-makers, are closely connected with specific animals or plants. Moreover, in the universe of young children narratives of animals and plants play a significant role, and they can relate well even to the animated characters perceived as 'family and friends'. It is a challenge to transcend conventional boundaries of scientific disciplines to try and relook at the notions of, say, 'plants', 'animals', 'food', or 'our body' from a child's perspective. In fact, some scientific categories are seen to be too formal and counter-intuitive, and perhaps even 'reductionist', for the child to understand. Conventionally biologists divide living things broadly

into two categories 'plants' and 'animals'. The idea of 'plants' is considered simple enough to be presented in primary school along with 'parts of a plant', 'functions of the parts of the plant', etc. But why should this way of looking at a plant be considered more 'natural' or even desirable for a child? In fact, extensive research across the world has shown that young children find it too abstract to make a distinction between living and non-living, or to divide the living world between plants and animals. Despite considerable exposure to science teaching in several countries, children as old as 13-15 years have consistently believed that a tree is different from a plant, contradicting the conventional categories of biologists'. Children also systematically differentiate between plants and vegetables ('a carrot and cabbage are not plants'), or even between plants and weeds ('grass is not a plant'). Moreover, a majority of children do not naturally think of seeds as parts of a plant. This has led some primary school curricula to postpone these conventional categories and first allow space to children to explore their own intuitive ideas, in order to achieve a better understanding later of how science tends to classify them differently.

Taking cognizance of the way children think 'plants' are first introduced through the theme on 'Food' – through what plants children eat, and also through the idea that we may eat the leaves, or the stem, or seeds of different plants. In fact, this comes after a discussion on questions related to 'Which of the following is food? – red ants, birds' nest, goats' milk, etc. This is to sensitize them to the idea that what some of us take to be 'food' may not be so for others; that food is a deeply

cultural notion. As discussed above, to allow for a more connected approach 'plants' is a sub-theme under the umbrella of 'Family and Friends'. Thus in Class III children look at the different 'plants around us', at possible changes over time from when their parents were young, and also what things around them are made of plants. They are expected to talk to their parents and other elders around them, so that these discussions can act as scaffolding to their learning. This is also indicated in the activity column of the syllabus. Children in Class III also observe the shapes, colours, aroma, etc to see the diversity of 'leaves in our lives', to talk of how plant leaves may be used to eat on, the times of the year when lots of leaves fall to the ground, which may be used to make compost, and also paint different leaf motifs they see on their pots, animals, clothes, walls, etc. In Class IV they look at 'flowers' and flower sellers, and discuss 'whom trees belong to?' while in Class V they move on to 'forests and forest people', the notion of parks or sanctuaries, and also 'plants that have come from far'. In this way they are enabled to construct a more holistically connected understanding, from a scientific, social, cultural and environmental perspective, that is enriched with an aesthetic and caring appreciation of plants around them.

Our Bodies, Ourselves: 'Family and Friends' offer Sensitivity and Sensibility

Similar to the case of 'plants' discussed above, traditionally 'our body' is also treated in a purely scientific and socially distanced manner, with units such as 'our senses', 'parts/organs of the body' and 'respiration', 'digestion', etc. However, the theme 'Family and Friends', specially through its two sub-themes

1.1 Relationships and **1.2 Work and Play**, allows children to look at their own body as part of their 'self' in a more contextual and connected manner. In Class III in the sub-theme on **Relationships**, they discuss their relatives, who live with them and those who have moved away, to get a basic idea of relationships and changing households. They reflect on whom they admire among their relatives and for what qualities or skills, and describe on which occasions or festivals they meet most of them. The unit '**our bodies** – **old and young**' helps them place their own body in relation to those of their family members, and asks them to notice differences that may occur with age. More significantly, the rubric of the family provides a sense of intimacy and empathy, to help develop sensitivity towards people having different abilities/disabilities. For instance, they look at how some of their older family members may have difficulty in hearing or seeing, and then go on to discuss how they themselves or their friends may cope with such challenges.

In Class IV, the same sub-theme 'Relationships' has a unit on 'your mother as a child' to make children find out about who were her relatives with whom she lived then. They also think about their body in relation to their mother's; how a baby rat or kitten is related to its mother, and through a possible narrative, about children who may have been adopted/looked after by foster parents, say, after a cyclone. By 'Feeling around with eyes shut' they explore their senses of touch, smell, etc. not in isolation of the people or animals they care for - but by trying to identify all those living with them only by touching, hearing or smelling them. They continue the exploration of feeling what is smooth/rough, hot/cold, wet/dry, sticky/slippery, etc. and are asked to think if there are some things (or people) they are not allowed to touch. This unit also attempts to make them sensitive to the fact that while touch can mean both a caress and a painful slap, the caress too can be a 'good' touch or a 'bad' touch.

In Class V, the unit 'Whom do I look like?' helps them identify family resemblances, to look for any similarities in the face, voice, height, etc., and also to note particular traits such as 'who laughs the loudest?'. It goes on to how by 'feeling to read' on a Braille sheet, someone like Helen Keller could manage to overcome tremendous challenges, as described through accounts of her autobiography.

'Family and Friends' has another **sub-theme 1.2** 'Work and Play' through which they explore different patterns of activity when people are working and 'not-working' in their family and neighbourhood. This helps them to sensitively look at stereotyped gender roles, and to compare their own daily routine with that of a working child. It also allows them to analyze the games they play, to see how traditional games or toys have changed since the time their grandparents were young. In Class V this sub-theme looks at 'team games - your heroes' and also martial arts or wrestlers and how they are trained. An exploration of our bodies and the process of respiration naturally falls into this context, and in 'blow hot blow cold' they compare how much faster they breathe after a run. They also see how much they can expand their chest, how they blow on a glass to make it cloudy, and blow to warm their cold hands and also to cool something hot. As suggested this unit could make use of the beautiful story by Dr. Zakir Hussain, "Usee Se Thanda Usee Se Garam' as a resource. The unit 'clean work, dirty work' sensitizes them to the dignity of labour and how different people's work provides essential services to society, possibly through a narrative/story based on Gandhi's work.

Things we Make and Do

The area of **Things we Make and Do** is visualised as an important component as well as a common thread inherent in the process of understanding all the other themes. We humans make things not only to meet our needs but also to express ourselves in a variety of ways and to transcend our limitations. We also comprehend better when we do things ourselves. Often when a young child gets a toy for a gift, she has fun dismantling and later re-assembling it in a completely novel way as much as enjoying it as it is. When she is given a new book she is eager to add 'her pictures' into it as much as appreciating the book. Formal education as well as all that goes into 'being a good child' however discourages these acts. The theme of Things we Make and Do therefore is an opportunity to recharge the variety of energies/components that make learning more fulfilling, and where cognition is not an end but a process enriched by experience, failure, observation, success, etc. There is also a need to give our rich living traditions of art and craft, of 'making and doing things', their rightful place in our curricula.

Another aspect related with this theme is to understand the significance of design and technology in relation to science and society. Technology is not merely applied science; it has an independent existence and in many cases predates developments in science. Moreover, most of the things we make and do also depend on raw materials and interventions that impact the earth and life on earth.

This theme will also help address the issue of dignity of physical labour. A young child loves sweeping, wanting to help the mother in the household chores, loves fiddling with any electrical appliance within her reach. However, she soon begins to ascribe value to these things that she once

enjoyed doing. Sweeping becomes dirty, and to be done by servants or women in the house, fiddling with implements becomes an area reserved for men and boys. In short work becomes a way to segregate people, to judge them, to ascribe it to a particular gender, class or caste. Mahatma Gandhi's vision and plan of 'Basic Education' had the potential to overcome these fractures. The present syllabus takes a small step in that direction, while encompassing contemporary concerns relating to environmental education, social relations with a vision for sustainable development and appropriate technologies

It needs to be emphasised that the syllabus has consciously included key questions that openly address issues of inequality or difference and encourage children to think critically. Whether it is about social discrimination in school or in getting water, about physically challenged people, or working children, all these issues are part of the reality of children, especially those who are disadvantaged and therefore more vulnerable to be pushed out of school. The objectives clearly stress the need to enable children to articulate and critically reflect on these lived experiences, however unpleasant, and not promote a culture of evasion or silence in school. This calls for a specially sensitive approach in textbooks as well as in the teaching learning process in classrooms, and teachers will need to review how they can do justice to these questions.

Scaffolding Children's Learning: The Question Format of the Syllabus

Since the 1970s the philosophy of primary education in different countries, including ours, has been influenced by the Chinese saying "I do, I understand". This lays emphasis on the principle of 'learning by doing', which suggests that learners actively construct their understanding while directly interacting with their environment. However, this model of learning looks at each learner as a solitary individual – it is the "I' who is trying to understand, struggling to develop each concept. This approach is associated with the 'cognitive constructivist psychology' of Piaget, and implies that teachers can only provide a stimulating environment for children to develop. This also suggests that children need to be nurtured individually like delicate plants, as they develop naturally through successive stages of intellectual development. However, in the last few decades it has been increasingly seen that children do not learn alone, through interaction with the environment, but learn more through talking and discussing with other people, both adults and other children. This psychological approach known as 'social constructivism' has been influenced by the work of Vygotsky and Bruner, who showed that adult support is crucial to children's thinking. With an appropriate question or suggestion the child's understanding can be extended far beyond the point which she could have reached alone. In fact, it has been shown that through the 'scaffolding' provided by such questions, discussions, and adult support, the child can be helped to cross what is called 'the zone of proximal development' to leap to the next level of understanding.

The present syllabus is framed within this social constructivist perspective of learning. It is hoped that children will be supported to construct knowledge far beyond their individual abilities through appropriate questions and interventions, including discussions with adults, in school and also at home, as also among themselves. Instead of listing key concepts the syllabus begins by suggesting some key questions, framed in a language appropriate to stimulate the thinking of a child

that age. These are not meant to be questions of the textbook but are suggestive of the nature of scaffolding to be provided to help children think in certain directions. This is especially important to help children articulate their own ideas, for instance, in the case of what they understand by the term 'plants' or 'animals'. Textbooks written in different contexts and regions will be different and indeed must reflect their own specific concerns. However, such questions are important for textbook writers to know how to guide children to observe, compare, predict or analyse certain phenomena or processes. For instance, in the theme on Food, there is a question "Who provides us the Mid-day Meal?" This is a leading question to encourage children to begin thinking about the agencies and institutions who provide certain services, beyond the concrete observation of the particular person. Thus as they begin to think about the post office or the school or hospital as institutions, it will help them in developing the abstract concept about the notion of governance or 'government', which they normally encounter later usually in the form of statements or information that they are totally unable to comprehend. Thus when appropriate connections and linkages are made in the child's mind about her own immediate experiences she is enabled to understand more abstract or sophisticated concepts and arguments later.

The matrix of each theme contains leading questions and key concepts and also suggested resources and activities. As the name indicates, these are purely suggestive for teachers and textbook writers, to give an idea of how the particular theme can be dealt with. It is clear that different textbooks based on this syllabus structure can turn out to be very diverse in terms of the elaboration of the themes. Just as every structure must have its own foundations and its own stability, similarly each child ultimately needs to construct her *own* understanding, articulation, knowledge and skills. We do know that children are not blank slates or empty vessels to be filled by 'information' about carefully listed key concepts, and that they cannot learn by passively listening to adults, however expressive they may be. This is the basic problem of our traditional system which relies on giving 'information', justified on whatever grounds, but without caring to know about the possible zone of the child's development. Indeed there is no getting away from this: If children have to understand an idea they have to construct knowledge for themselves, which can happen when they get the right cues to connect new understanding with what they already possess. This syllabus identifies those cues that will help children connect with their varied knowledge systems. Our children do indeed know and can learn a lot; it is our responsibility to help them do it better.

What Learning Do We Expect?

How can Environmental Studies help *all* our children, all those who struggle to go to school, and even all those who still cannot do so; those for whom the main purpose in life is going to school, as well as those who aspire for a school that can support life, with meaning and dignity? This document gives a suggestive matrix of themes and sub-themes through the three years of Classes III-V. It is up to the teachers and textbook writers to translate this into books, materials and classroom activities, to shape an enabling *learning environment* for each child, wherever she may be located. Even in the earlier years children do learn about their environment, though there is no separate subject in school. It is expected that in Classes I-II the two subjects of Language and Mathematics will incorporate some themes for the development of concepts and skills in areas broadly related to EVS.

This syllabus format consciously does not spell out any outcomes for each theme. For each thematic area related key concepts, skills and activities have been clearly indicated at appropriate places. However, schools must ensure that these activities or discussions will be conducted because only then can it be ensured that learning will happen. For instance, at several places the activities indicate that children need to conduct specific observations. We know that even young children's senses are sharp and they are able to detect small differences between fairly similar objects, though not always the similarities. However, the purpose of conducting 'observation' activities in EVS is usually not to collect random similarities or differences, but to seek information from the object to extend children's ideas and understanding. For instance, to look specifically at the shapes of leaves, the edges, the patterns of lines in it, etc. to know more about them. Thus specific purposes will need to be spelt out when activities are designed. Similarly, young children ask many questions which help in their development, but which are not all deep, and which do not allow them to understand things at that stage. However, EVS classrooms will need to provide opportunities to children to be able to progressively ask higher order questions that require different levels of reasoning and investigation, by planned activities and exercises to get them to phrase their questions, to answer, discuss and investigate them. These are basic to the learning process in EVS and yet, unfortunately, most classrooms are not designed to ensure this. How then can we expect all children to learn? What then does it mean to specify any outcomes at this point?

We reiterate the purpose in drafting this syllabus through the following example:

What biology do students know?

Janabai lives in a small hamlet in the Sahyadri hills. She helps her parents in their seasonal work of rice and 'tuar' farming. She sometimes accompanies her brother in taking the goats to graze. She has helped bring up her younger sister. Nowadays she walks 8 km everyday to attend the nearest secondary school.

She maintains intimate links with her natural environment. She has used different plants as sources of food, medicines, fuel wood, dyes, and building materials; she has observed parts of different plants used for household purposes, religious rituals and in celebrating festivals. She recognises minute differences between trees, and notices seasonal changes based on shape, size, distribution of leaves and flowers, smells and textures. She can identify about a hundred different types of plants around her, many times more than her biology teacher can – the same teacher who believes Janabai is a poor student; that "These students don't understand science ... they come from a deprived background!"

Can we help Janabai translate her rich understanding into formal concepts of biology? Can we convince her that school science is not about some abstract world coded in long texts and difficult language: it is about the farm she works on, the animals she knows and takes care of, the woods that she walks through everyday? (*National Curriculum Framework 2005, p. 45*)

CLASS III ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES

Questions	Key Concepts /	Suggested	Suggested
	Issues	Resources	Activities
1.Family and Friends 1.1 RELATIONSHIPS My family Who all live with you at home? How are they related to each other? Do you have relatives who do not live with you? Have they always been there? How many children did your grand parents have? Who do you think will be your new relatives in future?	Concept of a family; diversity in family types; Family as a support system, Ideas about relationships; Simple family tree (three generations).	Child's daily life experience; Family members.	Observation, enquiry about family relations from adults, discussion.
My family and me Do you look like anybody in your family? Have you learnt anything from anybody in your family? Whom do you admire most among all your relatives? Who is the most caring and patient person? When do you meet members of your family who do not live with you?	Family influences – physical characteristics, values and habits, appreciating qualities and skills of family members; family as a support system.	Family members, local knowledge, story/poems on different festivals.	Observation, exploring from elders about extended family, narrating stories / singing poems related to festivals, writing about any festival, drawing.
Whom do I look like? Do some of your relatives look similar? Which features are similar – eyes, ears, the voice or height? Are there any two people in	Concept of similarity between relations, hereditary features.	Family photographs; Narrations by elders about family members when they were young.	Discussion About stories / films / jokes involving twins

your family who look exactly alike?

Old and the physically challenged

Do you know of people who are hard of hearing?

Are many of them old? Do you have any friends who cannot hear/see well? Is there any way in which you may have helped them? Are there any sounds you like but others/elders do not?

Sensitivity to the old and physically challenged;

Introduction to the sense of hearing and sight; sensitization to the fact that the body ages, also that some children may not hear /see at all or may be partially affected.

Basic idea about

Braille.

"Meri bahen sun nahin sakti' a book by Bharat Vigyan Samiti or any other material on differently abled children. Reading and discussion;
Making different kinds
of sounds and
expressing likes and
dislikes about them.;
blindfold act, visiting
any local institution that
deals with the blind or
any other institution.

1.2 PLANTS Plants around us

How many different kinds of plants do you see around you? What are the differences you notice? What things around you are made of plants? Is there a plant in your area that was not there when your grandparents were young? Do you know of some plants which do not grow around you, say things that we eat and not grown around you?

Exploring children's ideas about a 'plant'. Plant diversity; size, where they grow, shape, colour, aroma, etc.; dependence on plants for everyday life. Introduction of new plants/crops and changes observed by elders over time. Plants and the climate / environment.

Child's daily life experience, observation, information from grandparents/ elders, a sample/picture of a plant which is unusual in the local surroundings.

Observation of different plants around, compare and classification based on simple characters; Discussion about things made of plants, pencil prints of barks, leaf prints.

Leaves in our lives

What different kinds of leaves do you see? Do you use plant leaves to eat on? In what other ways are leaves used?

Leaf diversity – colour, shape, texture, aroma, etc. Seasonal shedding of leaves; compost from

Child's daily life experience, observation, a story on a compost pit.

Observation, collection of different leaves, smelling different plant leaves, discussion, visit to a nearby compost pit,

Is there some time of the year when lots of leaves fall to the ground? Are they burnt? Have you seen a compost pit? What leaf motifs do you find on clothes, pots, walls, animals, etc.? Do you decorate your house with leaves on some occasions?	leaves. Leaf designs/motifs on different objects.		decorating the classroom with leaf motifs. Applying mehndi on palms in different designs.
1.3 ANIMALS Animals: small and big Which are the smallest and the biggest animals you have seen? Which have you only heard about? Which animals have tails? How many legs?	Exploring children's ideas of an 'animal'.	Child's daily life experience, observation, stories/poems on animals (NBT).	Observation of diversity of animals around you, listing, Discussion about what they eat, were they live relative size of animals they have seen, pictures in books, animals heard about. Drawing pictures of favourite animals.
Some creepy crawlies – and flyers too What different kinds of small crawling animals do you know? Where and from what does each of them hide? Which insects can crawl and also fly? Which ones bite us? Can flies make us ill? Why does a spider make a web?	Exploring children's ideas of crawling animals, flyers and insects.	Child's daily life experience, observation, stories/poems on insects, flyers and crawling animals (NBT).	Observation, of ants, flies, spiders, crickets, cockroaches, earthworms, lizards and other animals. Discussion about them, where they live, what they eat, insect bites (wasp) etc. Drawing some of them.
Birds Which are the birds you see around your area? Do they like some trees more than others? What	Exploring children's ideas of birds-their living places, eating habits, common	Child's daily life experience, observation, stories/ poems on birds (NBT)	Drawings of birds; mimicking different neck movements and sounds of birds,

do they eat? Can you features like feathers collecting feathers. recognize birds by their and sounds produced feathers? What are the by them. Feeding different sounds they birds. make? Are they saying something to each other? Are there some birds that come from other places? Do you feed any birds or place water for them? 1.4 WORK AND PLAY Work around me What are the different Different occupations, Poem 'Home work' by Draw a daily time-chart kinds of work done idea of working time Shyam Bahadur for your father, mother Namra around me? What work and leisure Case study: time chart of and yourself, discussion. time; does my mother/ father/ work inside and the daily routine of a child brother/ sister etc. do? who does outside homes а lot What work do I do? housework. gender, age, caste, What work do others economic, etc. do? When I am not aspects. working what do I do? When father/ my mother is not working what do they do? Working children What kind of work was Sensitize children to Excerpt from story by Reading and listening to done by children when other children who Charles Dickens. the story/excerpts. your grandparents were work at home and Narrative describing a poor Discussion and young? Has that outside - not as a child's/child laborers narratives about changed result of family experience in a common children making today? Who are the neglect but more as a school in another country. firecrackers at children you know who systemic cause. Shivkashi., child workers work and go to school/ Important that all at Dhabas and auto who work and cannot go children go to school. workshops. to school? A sense of how child labour existed other countries before all children began to go to good common schools.

Games we play

What games do I play? Did my grandparents play the same games? Are these indoor / outdoor? Leisure; games in school and outside, past and present; for some play is work Traditional and local games; folk toys

Listing, classifying indoor and outdoor games.

2. Food

Foods from plants and animals

Which of these is food – red ants, bird's nests, snakes, bananas, goat's milk, etc.?
What plants do you eat - what parts of the plant?
What food do we take from animals?

Appreciation of cultural diversity in food; basic ideas about various plant used as food; food from animals.

Regional narratives and stories about 'unusual' foods mentioned.

Listing and discussing about food we do or do not eat; tabulating food we take from different plants and animals. Observing and drawing different parts of plants eaten.

Cooking

What do you eat that is not cooked? What is eaten only when cooked? How do you cook food? What do you cook it on? What are the different kinds of vessels used for cooking? What are they made of? Is water used in all forms of cooking? Which food is cooked without using water? How?

Food may be eaten cooked, raw or boiled, steamed, baked, fried etc.; Different fuels, types of stoves; Types of vessels used different cooking, shapes (regional/ traditional), different materials, etc.

Songs/poems on food or lack of food; local knowledge about what is edible; photographs.

Listing raw and cooked food: discussion on cooking methods/ materials, etc; survey to find out the types of fuels/vessels used: drawing various utensils; historical time line tracing what in the kitchen has changed and roughly when.

Eating in the family

Do all members of the family eat the same food in your family? Who eats more? Who eats last in your family? Who buys the food and what is bought from the

Different eating practices in the family. Amount of food varying with gender, age, physical activity, etc. Cooking and gender/caste

Everyday experience, local knowledge. Poems / illustrations on gender stereotyping.

Observation and asking adults, discussion. Listing of food items bought from the market/grown at home.

market? Who cooks the food in your family? What do babies have for food? When do babies start eating and what do they eat other than milk?	roles in the family; Food for the baby, significance of milk.		
What animals eat Do animals eat the same things? What do different animals eat? Do you feed the animals around you - what? What do they take from your house even when not fed?	Food of domestic and wild animals; care of domestic animals.	Stories, cartoons and films.	Observing and listing different animals and their feeding habits,; Discussing food given to animals.; observing animals being fed, keeping food out and observing animals come and feed.
3. Shelter Houses and houses Have you seen - a house on stilts, a tent, a flat on the tenth floor, a house on wheels or a house on a boat? Do you know anyone living in such houses? Why do people use such houses?	Some unusual houses, a narrative and a discussion about why such houses are built. Different types of houses. Need for shelter, need for living together	Pictures of different types of houses; easily available materials for model making.	Discussion; observation; Drawing, model making and art work. Creative writing about imagined experiences.
Decorating and cleaning our shelter How do you decorate your shelter? Do you draw designs on your walls/floor or decorate with leaves / flowers / other objects? How do you keep your house clean? Do you also help in cleaning? Who mops and sweeps it? Where do you throw the	My house, Houses/ shelters are decorated in different ways in different cultures; Need for shelter to provide protection from heat, cold, rain and problems faced. Need to share housework. Garbage	Illustrations of designs/motifs used for decoration of the house.	Draw a picture of your house. Draw the various kinds of designs/motifs used to decorate walls/ floors of houses.

garbage? Do you have disposal. any problems living in your house during rains, summer or winter? Have vou seen houses with sloping roofs? Why are they made sloping? My family and other animals Who all live with you? Family members; pets Daily life experiences. Discussion and sharing Which animals live with and other animals, Cartoons. experiences and you - which are the insects, rodents, etc. knowledge. Drawings of insects, rodents; pets biggest and the smallest Food for the pets and animals living in your other animals. Some and other domestic house? From where do are seen only at night. animals. they get their food? Where in your house do these animals live? Which of them are seen only at night? Mapping my neighbourhood How big is your school? Neighbourhood, Survey of different parts of Estimating distances, What kind of a building the school, survey of the location mapping and marking is it? Can you draw a representation in two neighbourhood places and drawing / picture of your school dimensions. mapping from different and your classroom? Do Directions. perspectives, like from the top, from the front you know your way around your neighboretc, Draw a map of the hood? Can we explain to route from our house to someone how to reach the nearest shop. the post office or the bus stand from our house? 4. Water Water for my family What are the main Local sources Child's daily life experience, Listing the sources of sources of water in your water; uses of water; local knowledge water, **Exploring** by locality? Who fetches asking questions from gender roles; distance the water and from how estimates; social elders or people around, far? Do all the people in discrimination; clean Discussion. your locality use the water for drinking

same source of water? Are some people not allowed to take water from where you take it? From where do you get water? Does it look clean enough for drinking?			
Do animals and plants			
need water? What happens if plants and animals do not get water – how do you see that a plant or animal is thirsty? Do all animals/plants need the same amount of water? Which plants/animals need the least?	Water for plants and animals.	Library resource-brief information about the camel, cactus along with their pictures.	Reading, Discussion; Comparison of a well watered and a wilting plant.
Water shortage			
When is it difficult to get water? Are there some people in your area who always face water shortage? What would happen if we had no water? Have you seen water being wasted — how? How can we avoid it? Do you reuse water?	Water scarcity, wastage and recycling, water harvesting.	Newspaper clippings about water shortage/ water being wasted.	Poster making/ writing activity in groups with a message of saving water
Water in our lives Which of your daily activities use water? Do you and others you know wash your hands and feet before you enter the house? Why do you think this is done? Can you describe the scene of a rainy day —	Use of water in different activities; cultural expressions about water / rain/rivers; observations related to rain and the response of plants and animals.	Library resources, observations related to daily life. Songs about water / river / rain?	Enacting different activities that utilise water / a rainy day, listing the activities in which water is used, singing rain / river / water songs / poems together in the class.

with details about birds, plants animals, and vourself? Storing water Drawings of different How do you store water Measurement of Child's daily life experience, in your home? Do you volume in terms of bottles of different containers. collect rainwater - how? non-standard shapes/sizes/materials; Measurement activities; units Panchtantra story. How much water do you such as buckets, pots, demonstration to help store every day? About etc. **Estimates** the understanding of conservation of volume. how much do you use quantities used for different for drinking or bathing? different domestic Touching In what kinds activities; safe containers and containers do you store handling of water. discussing about their water for drinking/ Containers made of material. washing/or for animals? different shapes and What are the containers materials to store made of? If the water is water for different at the same level in a purposes; narrow and a broad Conceptual container does it mean development of they contain the same conservation of amount of water? volume. 5. Travel Going places Has your family traveled Need for travel, travel Story of a journey along Reading and Discussion, within the locality and the river, mountain, etc. Drawing a village / sea/ together to another place? Where and what beyond; travel to forest /mountain scene. for? How did you go? different social spaces How long did it take? - forest, village, city, far etc.; travel for How did your grandparents (or other migration, sightelderly persons) travel seeing, family when they were young? occasions. How did people travel in those times? How do people travel today in the desert, hilly areas, on sea, etc.

Ways to travel			
How do we go to school?	Different modes of	Pictures of modes of	Collect pictures of
How do we travel to	transport; short	transport;	different modes of
other places? How many	distance, long		transport; classify them
different ways have we	distance, newer ways		into different types of
travelled? How many	of traveling.		transport; enact a train
different ways of travel	Different kinds of		journey/railway station,
do we know of?	workers associated		Observations of
Have you been to a	with railways/station.		activities at the station
railway station? What all			like loading, weighing,
do you seen there? Who			washing trains,
are the people who work			signaling, selling tea,
at the station and on the			level crossing, etc
train? How did people			
travel in the past?			
_ ,, ., .,			
Talking without			
Speaking		Cian language dance	_, , , , , ,
If I cannot speak, how do	Communication	Sign language, dance mudra's.	Playing dumb charades,
I tell people what I want	without speaking, Use	illuura S.	enacting situations
to say?	of sign language,		without speaking,
	dance mudra's.		learning sign language,
			practicing mudra's.
Mailing a letter			
What happens when I	Letter as a means of	Local post office, different	Trip to local post office,
post a letter? How does	communication, work	samples of letters- inland,	Observing sorting,
it reach my friend? Who	and people associated	post card, greeting card,	stamping, weighing etc.
are the people who help	with the post office;	etc. Discussion with	1 0, 0
to do this? Are there any	different means of	workers at the post office.	
other ways of sending a	communication,		
message? How was a	changes with time.		
letter sent in the past?	9		
6. Things we Make			
and Do.			
Pottery			
What kinds of pots do	To meet basic needs	Narratives and illustrations	Making pots of clay; also
we see around us? What	human beings make	of pots and containers	with rings; with
containers are used to	things; need natural	made in early times – with	different types of clay;
store grain? What kinds	resources, creativity;	rings of clay (e.g., Social	drying in the sun; talking
of containers did people	have changed the	Studies book by Eklavya).	to potters or brick
make long, long back	way we live. An idea		makers to find out how
with rings of clay- when	of the earliest pots		these are burnt/ baked

they did not have a potter's wheel? Can you make such pots and dry them in the sun – how long do you think these will last? How does the potter bake them?

made for storage of grain — when there was no potters wheel. The experience of making such pots with clay; drying and the need to bake them for greater strength.

in furnaces.

Making different ornaments etc. with clay.

Textiles

In how many different ways can you wear a long cloth that is not stitched? How many kinds of sarees or lungis have you seen worn by people from different parts of the country? many different colours do we know of how many new ones can we create? What are fast colours and what problems do we face when colours run? How do we make our own vegetable block prints and tie and dye?

Diversity in types of clothing we were; even with unstitched clothing. Colours and design are used in textiles; scope for creativity; vegetable dyes.

The idea of different styles of dress; traditional unstitched clothing and different styles of draping it.

Some idea of mixing colours to make new ones; fast colours and colours that run; tie and dye; block printing and making our own blocks with

vegetables. Samples of

blocks, dyes.

Activity to wear/drape a dupatta or long cloth in different styles emulate what different people do and also to create their own designs. Play with colours and colour mixing; Using dyes to dye cloth; making blocks with potato or ladies fingers for printing on paper.

CLASS IV ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES

Questions	Key Concepts /	Suggested Resources	Suggested Activities
	Issues		
1. Family and Friends			
1.1 RELATIONSHIPS			
Your mother as a child	Change with time in	Discussion with mother	Adding assetions from
When your mother was	Change with time in people residing	Discussion with mother, grandparents and other	Asking questions from mother about her
your age who were the relatives she lived with?	people residing together. Family tree	grandparents and other relatives.	mother about her childhood.
relatives she lived with:	today.	relatives.	cilianood.
Where do babies come			
from?			
Have you seen a	From the mother's	Kya tum meri amma ho?	Story telling and
newborn baby - where	body; mother-child	(NBT story)	discussion.
did she come from?	relationship; Foster		
Where does the puppy/	parents and Adoption		
kitten/ calf/chick come			
from?			
Do you know of people who are looking			
after/have adopted a			
child?			
My extended family			
Are there things you	Family as a	Family members, family	Discussion on family
learn from your family	microcosm; (Family	photographs,	values, habits within
members? What? Do	values – gender,		family; discussion on
you do anything	earning capacity,		family occasions.
different from other	decision making,		
members of your family? Do all your	caste, religion perceptions etc.);		
family members live	changes in family		
with you all the time?	value system – lead to		
When do you meet	changes in society;		
members of your family	Festivals and family		
who do not live with	gatherings		
you? What festivals do			
you celebrate			
together?			

Feeling around with eyes shut

With your eyes and ears closed can you identify the people/animals living with you merely by touching/smelling? By touching can you tell if anything is cold/hot, wet/ dry, smooth / rough, sticky / slippery, soft / hard? Are there some things which you are not allowed to touch? Do you feel uncomfortable when some people touch you?

Sensitivity to people who are differently abled; Senses of smell and touch;, emotional response to a caress /slap; 'good' and 'bad' touch.

Child's daily life experience, observation; narratives related to smell and touch; materials for games and activities.

Guessing game: Group activity where children touch different things with their eyes shut.

1. 2 Work and play Fun and fights at play!

Do you play the same games at school that you play at home? What things do you use to play with? Does the school provide these? Do you fight while you play? How do you decide the rules for the games? Does anyone stop you from playing? Who and why? Do you play with every child (boys and girls) in your neighbourhood? Are you stopped from playing with certain children?

Different games at home and school.
Play as a way of social negotiation; rules of each game; fights and the need to negotiate – ideas of fair play.
Restrictions on play; playmates from children of different gender or class/caste backgrounds.

Tom Sawyer – story 'whitewashing the fence' or any other story on 'work' and 'play'.

Discussing and planning rules for local games and playing together in groups; writing them down.

How they learnt their skills In your area do you know the people who do the following: make pots /stitch clothes/ make shoes/cure people/ build bridges / embroider / fly planes/ repair cycles / drive buses, etc? How well do you know them — their names, family etc? What tools do they use for their work? Where did they learn how to do these things?	Different occupations in the local region/country; who does what work. Gender and work.	Local crafts persons and other professionals	Drawing people with their professional tools; talking to some people and describe how they learnt their skills
Fun at the fair/Circus Have you been to a fair or a circus? Which is the item you liked best — was it a ride, a game, something you saw / ate / bought? When do you fly kites? How do you make them fly?	Ways of recreation.	Circus/fair, a poem on Mela.	Kite-making and kiteflying activity in groups, making tops, writing a paragraph about an experience in a fair/circus.
1.3 Animals Animals and their friends Which animals like to move around in groups? Which animals are shy and do not come near you? Have you seen animals playing with or riding on different animals?	Herds; group behaviour; animal-human interaction.	Observation, child's daily life experience, story on animals moving in groups, visuals	

Who is attracted to			
flowers?			
Why do bees/butterflies	Honey from flowers;	Film; description Illustrated	Observation of flowers
come to flowers? How	bee hive and basic	narratives/discussion with	and the insects that visit
do people collect the	idea of honey	beekeepers on the process	them, drawing the
honey from bee hives?	collection.	of honey collection.	flowers, insects,;
,		,	discussion on colour,
			fragrance.
Long ears or short?			
Which animals have	Some animals have	Child's observation,	Listing and classification
ears? Which animals	external ears. They	information/description	of animals with and
have hair on their	also have hair.	and illustrations about	without ears; with and
body?		animals.	without hair; drawing
,			them; feeling them.
1.4 PLANTS			
Roots of plants			
Do all plants need water	Plants need water;	Child's observation,	Observation, collection,
to grow? Which part of	roots absorb water	information about the	drawing of roots of
the plant absorbs water	and hold it to the	roots eaten by people;	different types,
from the soil? When	ground.	pictures/specimes of roots.	Observing trees/plants
you tug at grass, why	Roots eaten normally		whose roots are
does it not come out	by people like carrots,		affected by activities like
easily? Why do	radish, sweet potato,		construction/paving/
plants/trees not get	and during famine.		plastering.
uprooted when there is	Aerial roots of some		Observation and
a strong wind? Which	Plants		discussion about
roots are eaten by			swinging on papal /
people during famine			bargad aerial roots.
when nothing else			
grows?			
Flowers			
Which plants around us	Flowering plants;	Child's, observation,	Drawing flower motifs
have flowers? Do they	seasons; observation	stories/ poems about	for clothes, animals,
come only at some	of buds blossoming	flowers, a visit to a garden.	pots, etc. Making floral
times of the year? How	into flowers; different	Talking to flower sellers,	decorations;
is the bud different	shapes, colours,	gardeners, etc.	Observing the flowers
from the flower? What	petals, aroma, etc.		and buds, noting
are the different kinds	Flowers used in		similarities and
of flowers we have seen	everyday life,		differences; observing
– shapes, colours,	festivals, etc. Floral		/smelling and feeling
petals, aroma, etc?	motifs and designs on		different flowers.
What do we use flowers	clothes, animals, pots,		

for? Do you eat any walls, etc. flower? Have you seen Knowing the local flowers motif painted flower seller; some idea of the local unit on clothes, walls, floors, pots, animals? of measurement (by Who sells flowers in our cubit, fixed garland, area? Where do these each stem, etc.) and come from? How are cost. flowers sold - for how much? Whom do trees belong to? knowledge, Which Neighbourhood Local plants/trees and Listing of some common around you are looked information its plants; wild and about trees in the after by people – by domestic plants; domestic and wild plants neighbourhood; whom? Which are not? **Fruits** eaten by (NBT books). discussion about Whom do they belong people living in ownership of trees; to? Who eats the fruit forests. Cutting trees. fruits that are not eaten of trees that grow wild? by us. 2. FOOD How we get our food How does food reach From field to mandi -Discussion with a vegetable Listing plants children us? Who grows it? How from market to seller/retailer in the mandi. know that provide them truck driver you seen vegetables house; grown by who food; bringing samples; and fruits growing? farmers; fruit trees, transports food items. common spices, How you seen plants of vegetables, cereals, observing and drawing rice/ wheat/ dal etc? pulses, oil seeds; samples, recognizing What are the spices do Spices them by smell and taste. you know? Which spices can we recognize by smelling or tasting. Special occasions Visit to a langar / such Discussion on occasions Community When do many people eating; which there is occasions, talking to people together? What Mid day meal (where who cook community eating; food is eaten? Who applicable). on such occasions. Listing of the different cooks it? How is it Cultural diversity in foods eaten at different Narratives about hostel served? foods associated with occasions; drawing and food / pantry car of train. Does you get a mid day special occasions like descriptions of the large meal meal in school? festivals, family utensil used on such What items? celebrations/ Who provides the mid day ceremonies occasions etc.

Boarding school.

meal?

Tongue and Teeth How do we taste different foods? How do teeth help us to eat — are all teeth similar? Which teeth have I dropped and how are the new ones different?	Taste, tongue; teeth – types, milk teeth, permanent teeth. Tongue and speech.	Samples of different food items; peer observations; pictures or models of teeth.	Observation of each other's teeth, tongue and mouth; counting teeth; drawing; experiments with different tasting items.
Teeth, beaks and claws Are the teeth of other animals similar to ours? Can we tell what birds eat by looking at their beaks? Are the claws of birds also different? Is their shape related to the food they eat?	Teeth in some common animals; beaks and claws of birds — relationship with food they eat.	Visit to observe some animals; personal experiences; Visuals; (NBT books on birds.)	Observation and drawings of beaks, claws and teeth of different animals, birds, etc.
3. SHELTER Houses then and now Do you live in houses similar to ones your grandparents lived in? Are houses now made of similar materials as was used then? What are the differences?	House change over time; rural and urban differences, multistoreyed houses along with slums in cities. Materials used have changed.	Discussion with elders in the family. Visit to any old building in the area; changes in the construction of houses with time; houses in villages and cities.	Making models of houses; collection of materials used to make houses. Drawing pictures of old and new buildings.
Garbage? What do you do with waste in your house? Where do you throw it? Do you reuse any waste materials? Who takes away the garbage?	Waste materials, waste in our houses, urban/rural waste. Reduce garbage.	Newpaper articles and advertisements on waste/garbage.	Listing things thrown away as garbage, waste. Discussion on reduction of waste.
Where animals live Do animals live in shelters? Which animals live in water? On land? Underground? Are there any animals that	Diversity in animal habitat and shelters. Some structures like webs have other purposes.	Stories/pictures of habitats and shelters animals use or make.	Discussion, listing of animals with respect to their habitat and shelter.; making birds nests with scrap

we see only at night? materials, making caves, Where do they go holes etc rat in during the day? Do we mud/sand pits. know of animals that make their own shelter? When birds make nests When and why do birds Birds make nests for Child's observation; visuals; Observation of a bird's make their shelter? Do laying eggs. Nesting nest of any bird. drawing nest and all birds make nests? habits of different pictures. Songs and Where do different birds vary. Different poems; dance and birds nest - when do materials are used for movement to simulate they fly away? With nests. bird flight. what different materials do birds make their nests? Mapping our neighbourhood Who are my neighbors? Introduction to the Discussion, enquiry from Child's experiences, Do I have any of the concept of giving enquiry, observation and friends and neighbours; following near my directions with previous knowledge counting number house a school, respect to any routes. Local map /chart of steps and estimation of grocery shop, market, landmark; also a the school and its distance for making a well, river or pond? preliminary mapping neighbourhood. preliminary map. Where are they with process, further use respect to your house? of use of symbols, use of a scale. 4. WATER Water fit for drinking What are the major Natural sources; Health personnel of the Discussion with the natural sources inland water and sea of local area, library resource. elders/health personnel water in your area? Is water; potable water; pollution about diarrhoea and other water fit for natural sources of water drinking – do you clean common water borne and its effects: it at home? Do you diseases, safe demonstration/ group know how dirty water handling of water, activity of simple can make you ill? Why purification of water. methods of water do we not drink purification; seperation seawater? How is salt of salt from saline separated from water. seawater?

Water sources

Where do you see large amounts of water in your neighborhood? Is it a tank / pond / canal / river/dam? What do men / w o m e n / children / animals do with the water there? Is it used for bathing/washing? Who bathes/washes there and who does not? How can we ensure that this water is not made dirty?

Do you find factories/
people dumping
garbage or harmful
materials in rivers or
seas? Are some animals
also facing problems
due to what we do to
the rivers or seas?

Reservoirs, canals, dams etc.; Different public activities at water bodies; protection of water bodies.

Water as a scarce resource and the struggle for acquiring it (those who can exploit resources by digging deeper and deeper wells).

Film, photographs of dams/canals/tanks/ ponds etc., local knowledge. Narrative on the recent struggle of the panchayat's against Coke in Plachimada, Kerala.

Visit to the natural sources of water in the local area and observing what uses the water is put to. Discussion, and writing letters/making posters highlighting the misuse of the water body.

Our river/sea

Which is the river closest to our locality? Do we find any change in the water flow in different seasons? Which are the big rivers we know of? Have you seen the sea? Which are the animals found in the sea/river?

Water vanishes when heated?

Why do puddles dry? In which season do wet clothes dry easily? When do they dry with difficulty? Have you seen and wondered where water

Rivers and seas; seasonal change in water flow; animals in the sea/river. Water pollution and harmful effects on animals.

Basic processes of evaporation and condensation

Local knowledge, Story on the lines of the SCERT, Delhi Class VI Civics – lesson called Yamuna.

Child's daily observations and clss room discussions.

Drawing/Painting/Make a model of a water body in the neighbourhood (using scrap materials) as well as the animals found in the river/sea.

Activity on water drying up from a wet cloth or dish of water in different conditions such as sunlight and shade.

droplets on the outside of a cold glass of water came from?			
5. TRAVEL			
Animals for transport			
Have you traveled on a	Use of animals for	Personal experience of	Enacting instances of
tonga / horse carriage?	transport; sensitivity	travel; songs about travel	animals used for
How is it different from	towards animals.	by tonga, etc.	transport and people
travelling on a bus? Are		3, 33 63, 333	riding them.
the horses well looked			J
after? Have you seen a			
horseshoe? Why is it			
used? What materials			
have you seen being			
transported using			
animals? Are there any			
special occasions when			
you ride on animals?			
Paying for travel			
How do pay for our	Familiarity with	Coins and currency notes;	Enactment of a bus
travel by train/bus/boat	currency notes and	railway and bus tickets.	journey.
etc? Who issues/checks	coins, national	Old coins/Pictures of old	Comparison of coins and
the bus /rail ticket?	symbols, recognizing	coins; visit toa museum	currency notes; /Tracing
Which currency notes	some language		of coins.
and coins have you	scripts; Introduction		Designing a school
seen? Pictures of which	to Mahatma Gandhi		emblem/logo.
animals can we see on a	Old coins, change.		
ten rupee note? Which			
symbol is found on			
every coin? How many			
scripts can you			
recognise on a note?			
Who is the person			
whose face is shown on			
every currency note?			
What coins/notes did			
our grandparents use when they were young?			
when they were young!			
Travel to another place			
Do you know anyone	Different land forms,	Travelogue describing the	Reading and listening,
who has traveled very	languages, clothing,	place they have come	discussion, writing
far from your	food habits, some	from; description of a train	about a traveling

villago/sitv2 M/by did	idea of another	/shin / plane iourney	avacriance of angeolf or
village/city? Why did		/ ship / plane journey.	experience of oneself or
they go so far? What	country (only through		visiting relatives
are they doing there?	a story/imaginary		
How do they travel	narrative).		
when they visit your			
family?			
,			
6. Things We Make			
And Do			
Building materials			
and tools			
How are bricks made?	Process of making	Narratives and pictures of	Making bricks; drawing
What tools have you	involves raw	different bridges children	and talking about
seen being used for	materials, tools,	cross, on the lines of the	different tools.
making a wall or a	labour, energy-	book - Going to school in	Observing, drawing and
house?	changes over time in	India (by Lisa Heydlauff	describing different
Is there a bridge to	these and in	Penguin); of the process of	bridges and how people
cross while coming to	environment too.	construction, use of tools	make their own local
school? What kinds of	Materials and tools	and materials.	bridges from ropes,
bridges have we seen	used for construction;	Observation of different	bamboo and logs of
and where? How many	Different skills of	bridges; making bridges.	wood.
kinds of bridges can we	people at engaged in		Making toy bridges in
make?	a construction		school.
	activity.		

CLASS V ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES

Questions	Key Concepts / Issues	Suggested Resources	Suggested Activities
1. Family and Friends 1.1 RELATIONSHIPS Family tree			
Can you make a family tree with as many of your relatives you can get information about? Who are the relatives whom you have never seen? Where do they live?	Family in transition — Impact of larger socioeconomic forces are changing family structure and quality of life in families; Idea about several generations; how some people move away, some continue to live together, and how households get formed/ reformed at several places. How these are affecting roles, relationships, value systems, aspirations within a family.	A story woven around a family tree with old family photographs.	Activity - Write the names of all your family members along with their ages. How many generations have you been able to get details about?
Shifting from place to place Have you always lived at the place that you now live in? If not, where does your family come from?	Shifts in habitation migration / Transfers /demolition displacement Associated difficulties	Story of a migrating family or a family displaced by the construction of a dam or demolition of an urban slum.	Discussion or letter writing; drawing.
Who laughs the loudest? Who is the tallest/shortest in the family? Who has the	Basic ideas of measurement - of height;	Cartoons; narratives.	Mimicking people in the family — laugh and voices; drawing people

longest hair? How long? Who has the loudest voice/laugh in the	Observing and appreciating qualities and skills of relatives;		in the family. Writing exercises about an infant they have
house? From how far away can you hear it? Who speaks the softest? When does a child cry the loudest? When she is hungry-or angry? Who is the best cook in the family?	observing infants.		observed.
Our likes and dislikes			Observation discussion
Which is your favourite colour? Which is your	Our bodies, our senses, our likes/	Narratives about preferences in taste,	Observation, discussion, describing and writing
friend's favourite colour? Which is your	dislikes vary e.g. our concept of foul /	smells, colours in different cultural context.	about a friend's likes/ dislikes; a class survey
favourite food? What	fragrant smell		about childrens
about your friends favourite food? Do you	Cultural influences of taste, smell, etc (to be		favourite colour/food etc.
know your friends' likes and dislikes? Are there	discussed without		
any smells you don't	stereotyping).		
like (fish, mustard oils, garlic, eggs etc)? Do you			
eat fish?			
Feeling to read			
Do you know how people read with their	Awareness and sensitisation towards	Autobiography of Helen Keller; excerpt from her	Activity with Braille paper (or simulated
hands? Do you know	the problems of	teacher's account of how	Braille paper).
someone who finds it difficult to walk / speak	physically challenged;	she learnt; Braille sheet.	
/ see etc.? How do you			
think they learn to overcome the problem?			
1.2 WORK AND PLAY			
Team games – your heroes			
Do you play any games	Types of games /	Library resources- Indian	Collecting information,
in teams? Have you ever been captain of	sports, importance of team spirit in games,	cricket team; narrative	making picture albums; posters of sports
the team? Do boys and girls play together?	gender stereotyping.	about some national and international players.	persons
Have you heard of any	Some idea of other		

Indian team playing in another country? Which is your favourite team sport? Do you know any National level player?	countries and national teams. Gender, class stereotyping in play.		
Local games/martial arts What are the local games / martial arts of your area? Do you know someone who is good at them? Have you seen a young acrobat or wrestler practicing? Who taught them? For how long have they learnt the art/game? What are the new games in your area that were not played earlier? What do you do in the evenings for leisure? What if there is no TV?	Local and traditional martial art forms / games. Typical practice routines; teachers / gurus; changing patterns of local games. Changing nature of leisure.	Description or photographs of traditional martial arts, 'Nat', acrobat, boat race, etc.	Reading, discussion, collecting information and writing about local/martial games.
Who decides what programmes to watch? Blow hot blow cold How many times do you breathe in a minute — on sitting still, just after a run? How much can you expand your chest by breathing deeply? Can you make a glass cloudy by blowing on it? How do you blow to make something cold? Do you also blow to keep a fire going?	Our breathing – estimates of different rates; chest expansion and contraction in the child's body while exhaling and inhaling; My breath – hot and humid; tacit understanding of cooling by blowing and helping a fire to burn.	Story by Zakir Hussain – "Usee se thanda usee se garam" – Zubaan books.	Observation, , activity of breathing in and out and observing the difference (mirror/glass/on palm); measuring chest; counting heart beat and breathing rate , making and using a stethoscope

Clean work – dirty			
work?			
Can you list ten different types of work that people do for you. In this list what work is seen as dirty and what is seen as clean? What would happen if there were no one to - clean our streets/our home / clear the garbage?	Dignity of Labour Dependence of society on such essential services. Choice of work as a societal value.	Extract from Gandhi's autobiography; narrative from another country - sweepers treated with dignity; story of a Valmiki boy discriminated in school because of parents' occupation.	Reading and discussion based on suggested resources.
1.3 ANIMALS			
How animals find their food? If you leave some food outside your house do	Sense organs; Comparison with	Information about animals' senses and other functions.	Observation of animals to study their response
some animals take it away? How do they find it? Do these animals also hear/speak/ see/ smell/eat/ sleep?	humans — activities such as eating sleeping etc.	Narratives about animals such as ants, bees, dogs, birds, snakes etc giving ideas about their senses.	sound, food, light and other stimuli.
What we take from animals?			
What animal products do we use for clothing, shelter, etc.?	Animal products used by us.	Child's daily life experience, information about products we obtain from animals.	
Why is the tiger in			
danger?			
Why do people kill wild animals? Which are the animals that are poached?	Protection of wild life; selling of animal parts.	Excerpt from 'Man eaters of Kumaon' by Corbet.	Discussion, reading, poster making activity with a message to save wild life.
People who depend on			
animals			
Do you know people who catch/trap/hunt/	Communities	Library resources; illustrations of pre-historic	Discussion on people whose livelihood
entertain using	dependent upon animals; hunters	hunting scenes	depend on animals;
animals? Have you seen	restricted to smaller	(Bhimbetka). Narrative of	drawing;
how snake charmers /	spaces; changing	gujjars' or snake charmers'	Discussion on people

depend patterns of wild and relationships with animals. teasing/troubling gujjars on domestic animals. animals at the zoo/other animals? Child's observation; What To be sensitive about do story/narrative about an places. you understand by cruelty cruelty to animals; animal and its caretaker, to animals? Do you realize that people e,g, mahouth/tonga wala think a snake charmer is who depend Films/pictures of shooting, cruel to the snake? animals for their skins (tiger) of animals. Have you seen scenes livelihood are not of hunting in rock necessarily cruel to paintings or on ancient them. Basic idea of seals? pre-historic hunters and the wild animals seen at that time. 1.4 PLANTS **Growing plants** How does a plant grow Seed germination, Seeds, germinated seeds. Study germination of from a seed? Can you root and shoot axis, some seeds, experiment to determine conditions grow a plant without baby plant, storage of seeds? How do you food in the seed; seed suitable for germination mangoes/ dispersal. (air and water). grow potatoes? Where does the seed come from? Have you seen seeds that fly/stick to your clothes/drift in the water? Forests and forest people Tribal life; effects of Have you seen or heard Information about tribal Exploring from parents, deforestation; about a forest? How do life, communities reading, and discussion.; communities people live in forests? dependent on forest tracing tree trunks. dependent on forest How is their produce, effects of life products e.g., deforestation. threatened by forests 'pattals', bamboo being cut? What kinds products, etc. of foods do they collect from the plants there? What leaves are used for eating on? Do your parents remember places with trees/forests where there are none today? Why were the trees cut

and what is there today? Protected trees Have you heard of a park / sanctuary? Who looks after it? Does anybody own it? Have you seen a place where trees are worshiped or protected by the villagers?	Public / private ownership of trees / forests. Sacred groves; people's movements to protect their forests.	Story of the Chipko movement and the women's role in protecting trees.	Enactment of chipko andolan; poster – 'save trees'; survey and identify any 'green belt' in your neighbourhood.
Plants that have come from far Does tea come from a plant? Where did people first grow tea and what does the plant look like? Does it grow only in some places/climates? What did people drink when there was no tea in India?	Plants from different countries.	Song/poem from Chakmak: "Alu, mirchi, chaiji; Kaun kahan se aye ji" Story about the Chinar tree coming to Kashmir.	Local knowledge, reading, and discussion, reciting the poem together; making tea.
2. Food When food gets spoilt How does food spoil? How do we know that food is spoilt? Which food spoil sooner than others? What can we do to prevent food from getting spoilt? What do we do to keep it fresh during travel? Why do we need to preserve food? Do you leave food in your plate?	Spoilage and wastage of food. Preservation of food, drying and pickling.	Sharing family experiences Interaction with a person involved with food production / preservation.	Keep some bread, other food for a few days – see how they spoil.

Who produces the food			
we eat? Do you know of different kinds of farmers? Do all farmers own their land? How do farmers get the seeds they plant every year? What else besides seeds is required for a crop to grow?	On different types of farmers. Hardships faced by subsistence farming, including seasonal migration. Need for irrigation, fertilizers.	Farmers' narratives - Could take one example from Punjab and the other from AP. Story of a child missing school because of his/her family's seasonal migration. Family members. Visit to a farm.	Study germination of seeds, experiment to determine conditions suitable for germination; Observations in any farm.
What did people grow earlier? Did your grandparents or any elderly person eat the same food you eat today? Do all of us eat the same kind of food? Why do we eat different kinds of food?	Changing food habits, changing crops grown in some areas. Different food habits in different places / cultures.	Information on food from different places.	Collection of samples or pictures of food from different places / cultures.
When people do not get food Do you know of times when many people do not get enough food to eat? Have you seen where extra grain is stored? How do you know when you are hungry? Do you know of people who get ill because they do not have enough to eat?	Hunger, famine (as both a natural and man-made phenomenon); grain being spoilt in storage; nutrition deficiency diseases.	Print material on different calamities; Narrative of the Bengal famine as a manmade calamity; TV news bulletins etc.	Collection of pictures related to natural calmities; discussion on affects.
Our mouth – tastes and even digests food! How do we taste food? What happens in the mouth to the food we eat? Why do we give glucose to patients? What is glucose?	Tasting food; chappati / rice becomes sweeter on chewing; digestion begins in the mouth; glucose is a sugar.	Child's experience; some samples of food items; story of someone on a glucose drip.	Tasting activity, action of saliva on rice/chappati.

Food for plants? What do plants need for food? Do you know of any plants that eat insects? What do animals eat? Do all animals eat the same food? Do animals eat other animals?	Water, manure, air for plants; Insectivorous plants e.g. pitcher plant, Venus fly trap; basic idea of food chain/web.	Pictures / visuals of insectivorous plants.	Observations and discussion on food for plants; making amodel of a food chain/web.
3. Shelter Why different houses Why do you have different kind of houses in different places? Different houses in the same place?	Variation in shelter: regional difference, difference due to climate and materials available, economic status, etc.	Different houses in different climates and regions.	Making models of houses; collection of materials used to make houses in different places.
A shelter for everyone? Does everyone have a shelter to live in? Why do people live together in villages, hamlets, colonies, neighborhoods?	Need for living close to others, the idea of neighbourhoods. Need for sharing resources and spaces, division of spaces.	Pictures of villages, colonies etc.	Write and draw the area you live in, find out about people who work for everybody.
Ants live in colonies? Do you know how bees/ ants live together in colonies?	Ant or bee colony, social behaviour in insects.	A case study of social organisation in bees/ants.	Observations and drawings of ant colonies, different types of ants.
Times of emergency Have you heard of houses being damaged by Floods / earthquakes /cyclones/fires/storms/ lightening? What would it have felt like? Who are the people who	Disaster and trauma of losing one's home; community help; Hospitals, police stations, ambulance, shelters, fire station, first aid.	Newspaper clippings.	Discussion, finding out about the hospital, police station, fire station, etc.

come to help? What can you do to help others before the doctor comes? Where can we look for help at such times? Who runs such institutions?			
4. Water Water from where in earlier times? From where and how far did your grandparents get water? How far do you have to go for water? What are underground wells/'baolis'? Do you still see them being used? Have you seen a 'piaao'?	Estimates of distance measurement; changes in sources and water availability over time; community service especially for longdistance travellers.	Illustrations, story of a 'baoli'/stepwell	Enquiry from grand parents/ other elders; drawing, model making of a step well.
Water flow From where do farmers get water to grow crops? Do all crops need the same amount of water? Have you seen water flowing upwards? What are the different ways in which you have seen water being lifted? How is flowing water used to grind grain?	Sources for irrigation; different quantities of water for different crops; Different methods of lifting water; the use of a waterwheel.	Farmer/any local person who works in fields, a plant/crop.	Interaction with a farmer, visit to a field, making water wheel., activity with water wheel.
Plants and animals in water What kinds of animals and plants live in water? Are there weeds that are covering your pond / lake / river? Can you classify all the animals you see around	Animals and plant life in water; classification in terms of similarities and differences.	Weeds of different kinds; pictures of plants and animals living in different habitats.	Listing and classification; drawing of water body.

La di			
you to show which ones			
live in water and which			
live on land?			
M/hat floats sinks or			
What floats, sinks or			
mixes?			
Have you ever seen	Basic observations	Various materials to	Hands-on activity to
anything floating in	and classification	experiment with, such as,	observe solubility in
water? Can you classify	related to floatation	sugar, stone, oil, salt, sand	water, floatation;
as many things around	and solubility in	etc.	discussion,
you to see which float,	water; oil and water	Story of the donkey and	interpretation.
which sink and which	are liquids that do not	the salt/cotton bag.	
mix with water? Does	mix; basic concepts		
oil mix with water?	about liquids; litre as		
What are the	unit of measurement		
similarities and	of volume.		
differences in water, oil,			
milk, cold drink, etc.?			
How do we measure			
these?			
Mosquitoes and			
malaria			
Is their any stagnant	Stagnant and flowing	Health worker or a doctor.	Interaction with a
water in your locality?	water; mosquitoes	Newspaper articles on	community doctor;
Do you find more	and malaria.	malaria etc.	observation of site of
mosquitoes in stagnant			stagnant/flowing water.
water? Is there any way			, , , ,
to reduce the			
mosquitoes in water?			
Have you heard of			
malaria? In what season			
do you find more			
·			
people getting ill with malaria?			
ilididild!			
5. Travel			
Petrol or diesel			
Do all vehicles need	Fuels used in vehicles;	Poems and songs about	Discussion, finding out
petrol to run on? What	Fuel is costly. Non	trains/cars etc.; Enquiry	different fuels used,
other fuels do you know	renewable source.	from adults; the story of	comparison of cost of
that are used for	Terrewable source.	'petrol'.	petrol and diesel.
vehicles? What do		ρειιοι.	petroi and diesel.
trains run on? In the			
past what did they run			

Mountains, expeditions and the spirit of adventure; some idea of training for high altitude; national flag.	Excerpt from the autobiography of Bachendri Pal; Flag of India atop mount Everest; flags of some countries	Act/dance to show climbing on a difficult mountain; Designing a flag for your school; identifying some other flags
The sky in the day and night. Basic exposure to the aerial view of the earth and what India looks like from there.	Story of Rakesh Sharma/ Kalpana Chawla.	Observation from a terrace to draw its aerial view. Imagine yourself in a spacecraft giving an interview to the PM about what you see from there!
Heritage buildings as a source of knowledge about our past; to be able to understand how they were built; materials usedcome from a variety of places, skills of the crafts person; Some historical personalities.	Oral narratives from people; pictures.	Drawing pictures of the building or the monument in your neighbourhood or memory or imagination.
	expeditions and the spirit of adventure; some idea of training for high altitude; national flag. The sky in the day and night. Basic exposure to the aerial view of the earth and what India looks like from there. Heritage buildings as a source of knowledge about our past; to be able to understand how they were built; materials usedcome from a variety of places, skills of the crafts person; Some historical	expeditions and the spirit of adventure; some idea of training for high altitude; national flag. The sky in the day and night. Basic exposure to the aerial view of the earth and what India looks like from there. Heritage buildings as a source of knowledge about our past; to be able to understand how they were built; materials usedcome from a variety of places, skills of the crafts person; Some historical

6. Things we Make and Do Growing Food

How do we grow food? What tools do we use for preparing the field? For cutting and harvesting? For cutting and cooking different vegetables/ dishes? How do we water the crops? How do we lift water through a pump or a waterwheel? Can we make a water wheel, sprinkler, etc.?

After basic needs met, exploration leading to improving and overcoming human limitations; greater expression of creativity; overuse of natural resources needs to be checked. Some idea of the story of a grain from the field to our plate in terms of processes and the tools used. Different things made from the same grain, say, wheat/rice. Simple observations of water lifting in fields or in homes;

making of a water wheel, sprinkler, etc.

Narratives; talking to elders, farmers, those involved in growing and cooking food.

'Dump se pump' by Arvind Gupta.

Observing and talking about processes of growing food; drawing tools used in different processes; finding out about different dishes made from the same grain, say, wheat/rice.

Making a simple waterwheel, sprinkler, pump.

Curricular Expectations and Learning Indicators in Environmental Studies (EVS) at the Primary Stage

I - How do children learn EVS?

We all are concerned that every school needs to provide opportunities where each child learns and happily engages in school level activities. This requires that the teaching-learning processes in each classroom must address the needs of all children- cognitive/ age appropriate curriculum, conducive and non threatening classroom environment, encouraging school based assessment and reporting practices in the school. If children find such learning environment they would be able to achieve more successfully. Thus there is a need to visualize their learning processes holistically rather than viewing child's progress in isolation. We all realize that children learn EVS when they are exposed to the real situations in their surroundings that help them construct, be aware, appreciate and get sensitized towards the environmental issues(natural, social and cultural) prevailing around. The learning process begins with the child's immediate environment i.e. self and family in the early classes and moving on further to the wider environment beyond neighbourhood and community at large. NCF-2005 recommends to follow an integrated and thematic approach- towards its teaching learning at the primary stage. Thematic approach needs to be followed in EVS in early classes and gradually making efforts to make them understand the issues and concerns related to natural and social environment in class V and onwards. Efforts need to be made to avoid giving direct information, definitions and descriptions as children construct their own knowledge using varied teaching and assessment strategies. However, this requires ensuring their active engagement participation in learning by exposing them to diverse experiences through a variety of sources within and outside the classrooms. According to their varied potential we all agree that assessment is carried out simultaneously i.e. during teaching learning and in natural setting. It allows us to identify the learning gaps and modify teaching-learning processes to suit the needs of all children. This would also help to provide timely feedback to the children to improve her/his future learning. The learning situations need to include a variety where children get the opportunities ensuring each child's(including the differently abled and the disadvantaged children) participation to observe, express, discuss, question, critically think, improvise, analyze- etc.

While organizing the Teaching-Learning of EVS, the following pedagogical principles need to be kept in view:

- Each child is unique and has strengths and weaknesses. Children learn and progress at different pace and style. Some children learn best visually, some by questioning, some others by describing and observing, accordingly opportunities need to be given to get exposed to various situations.
- Active participation of children is crucial in constructing knowledge, using environment as a *learning resource* that would provide meaningful learning as it would relate the *child's local knowledge with the school knowledge*.
- Classroom processes need to encourage to tap various sources other than the textbook. A
 teacher needs to encourage learning beyond four walls of the classroom and provide wider
 perspective of the environment around her/him.
- Visuals play a major role in EVS learning. Reading of visuals not only provides joy and ethos of writing material that develops critical thinking and analyzing skills but also supplement the text to reduce the content load. Picture reading activities in group with peers improves social interaction and provides more opportunities for construction of knowledge. Care needs to be taken to adopt these visuals for children with visual difficulties.
- EVS learning must find suitable ways to sensitize the children to the wide differences that
 exist within our society relating to gender discrimination, children with marginalized groups,
 and differently abled children, the elderly and the sick.
- Children enjoy and learn more with hands-on activities i.e. creating materials with locally available material, draw picture of their choice, art/ craft activities. Children are very happy and respond with enthusiasm when their creative ventures are appreciated rather than being rejected or left unnoticed, as unimportant by elders.
- Each child has an innate capacity to learn about things owing to the experiences and the information available to him/her. The child constructs new meanings based on previous knowledge and builds upon his/ her understanding. Also, all the children do not learn in a uniform manner. However, children's unique ways of thinking and learning can become an opportunity as a learning resource in a classroom. Different children's experiences can serve as the beginning to explore multiple facets of ideas in the lesson. Sharing ideas and insights amongst peers provide for rich 'scaffolding' opportunities, rather than arrive at a 'right' answer.
- Difference of opinions and varied perspectives enrich the learning process and add quality to what is learnt. Since learning and understanding do not take place in a linear way children's distant memories and past experiences also add to the process of making sense of things. To facilitate a more meaningful learning, it is essential that teachers/elders encourage the children to make critical analysis of their prior work/knowledge and then move on to the new concepts to be learnt.

2 - What do we expect from EVS classrooms?

Recognizing the mandate of the RTE Act, 2009 the overall development of a child, i.e., physical, socio-emotional, besides the cognitive needs to be focused on. All these aspects/dimensions can only be nurtured through a whole range of learning experiences that a child participates in and beyond school. To assess all these aspects, a comprehensive picture of a child's personality needs to be constructed which requires information about child's knowledge, comprehension, skills, values, interests, attitude and motivation in response to various learning situations and opportunities both in and out of the school. We all want children to learn EVS by developing those abilities/skills, and dispositions. A wide range of suggestive indicators for learning has been drawn up so that teachers can plan learning tasks/activities to fully cover this range. These would aim to achieve curricular expectation/learning outcomes at the end of particular periods or stages. The learning indicators have been identified for Classes III, IV and V. Learning Indicators in EVS are process-oriented. In class III, EVS curriculum expects learning from the immediate surroundings while in class V, curricular expectation need to provide learning related to natural and social environment so that by the time the child enters in class V, she/he would not find any learning gap in the curriculum transaction of Social Sciences and Science in class VI. The learning outcomes would be achieved through the sound and effective pedagogical processes. Initial attempts of children are stepping stones to learning as they provide a reference point and impetus to explore another way. In a supportive and stress free classroom, mistakes are used as opportunities. In EVS learning, the children's response would not be analyzed in right/wrong manner; rather it would provide and promote to put her/ his own point of view Children make efforts to analyze 'why' or 'how', they may make mistakes and use their own abilities to correct them. Helping the all children including those with special needs. Aim higher, accepting them for what they are and creatively 'scaffolding' their learning; all needs to be well enmeshed together. Process indicators of EVS learning for primary stage are given below:

3 – What are the curricular expectation/ Learning outcomes of EVS Learning?

CLASS III CLASS V

- 1. Awareness about immediate surroundings from lived experiences from various themes related to daily life such as Family, Friends, Plants, Animals, Food, Water, Shelter, Travel etc. (Learning about the environment).
- 2. Develop various processes/skills through the interaction with immediate surroundings (learning through the environment)
- 3. Value the immediate resources such as water, food, paper, fuel use at house and use them according to the need
- 4. Enhance/Promote curiosity and creativity in relation to the immediate surroundings
- 5. Learn to appreciate the diversity(language, family's food & habits, family types, variations in plants, animals culture etc.) in the immediate surroundings.
- 6. Attempt to develop sensitivity towards elderly/old, differently abled, and disadvantaged groups of the society with a focus on their strengths as well as areas of concern.

- Awareness about natural and social environment from lived experiences from various themes (Learning about the environment).
- Understand the relationships between natural and social environment through various activities within and beyond classroom.
- Develop various processes/skills through the interaction with the natural and social environment (learning through the environment).
- 4. Understand the need to conserve and protect the natural resources such as fuel, food, water, electricity at home and in the community and social environment (Learning for the environment).
- 5. Develop curiosity and creativity about social (migrations of the families, various local traditional art forms, community eating, marriage celebrations etc.) and scientific phenomena (seed germination, breathing process spoilage and preservation of food) in the environment.
- Appreciate the variations (diversity) in natural (Plants in different countries) and social environment (tribal life in various places, community eating etc.) and respect them.
- Develop and reflects sensitivity towards old, differently challenged, gender and disadvantaged group of the society
- **8.** Awareness and sensitivity towards rights of self. i.e Right to education, right to food, dignity of labour, etc.

4 - What are the learning indicators of EVS Learning?

Broadly, the EVS learning is around ten processes as mentioned below. Thus the nature of learning indicators in EVS is process based. For classes III- V these learning indicators are same, however, the progression of learning from classes III- V can be seen through the complexity in the indicator. In

order to understand the nature of complexity class III to IV, IV to V, suggestive examples have been given along with each indicator.

- 1. *Observation and Reporting* Explores shares, narrates and draws, picture-reading, makes pictures, collects and records information, tables and maps.
- 2. Discussion Listens, talks, expresses opinions, finds out.
- 3. *Expression* Expresses through gestures/ body movements, expresses verbally, expresses through drawing/writing/sculpting, expresses through creative writing.
- 4. *Explanation* Reasoning, makes logical connections, describes events/situation, formulates one's own reasoning's, make simple gestures, thinks critically, and makes logical connections.
- 5. Classification Identifies objects based on observable features, identifies similarities and differences in objects, sorts/groups objects based on observable features. Compares objects and classifies them based on physical features.
- 6. Questioning Expresses curiosity, asks questions, raises critical questions, frame questions.
- 7. Analysis defines situation/ event, identifies/predicts possible causes of any event/situation, making hypotheses and inferences
- 8. Experimentation Improvises makes simple things and perform simple experiments.
- 9. *Concern for Justice and Equality* Sensitivity towards the disadvantaged or differently abled, shows concern for environment
- 10. Cooperation Takes responsibilities and takes initiatives, shares and works together with empathy.

5 - Learning Indicators in EVS for Primary Level (Classes III, IV, V)

Pedagogical Processes	Learning Indicators Class III	Learning Indicators Class IV	Learning Indicators Class V
Observation and reporting: Providing opportunities to expose children to the immediate surroundings (animals, plants, seasons, shelters, food, water, local transport) and in class V gradually to natural an social environment. Providing	_	Class IV Observation and reporting: Observes and explores environmental objects, plants, animals, shelters simple phenomenon in the surroundings. For e.g., "identifies variations in plants (leaves, flowers), animals (bird's beak, claws, feather, and nests) mode of transports, and variation in seasons,	_
opportunities with due consideration for children with visual difficulties for - Exploring the immediate surroundings and sharing experiences with others Collecting and recording the information Visiting different places .		give examples of each".	

- · Opportunities need to be given to share experiences based on their observations.
- Equal opportunities to all children without any discrimination
- Feedback and scaffolding for further improvement
- Engaging children in small group for mutual learning.
- ` Shares and reports her observations on the collected information/objects /visited place through various ways. E.g., "shares brief details of plants (part), animals, food item eaten in the family, local games, local transport, nearby park, garden/field, post office, market in their own language orally".
- · Collects and reports her observations on the collected materials/ information through various ways: E.g., "reports information about variety of leaves, flowers, various modes of transport and report with orally as well as written form, drawings". · Shares and reports
- peers/elders through variations in seasons, day night variations orally as well as in written form.
- · Collects and records the details of observed objects/phenomeno n/ events of natural and social environment in an organized manner. E.g., "while observing the sprouting of seeds(whole grain i.e. moong, chana), discussing ways how to collect and record observation of each day(tabular form/draw)/ write".

- · Providing opportunities for integratingart activities with EVS learning such asusing material for art work & discuss inthe class about the details of thedising/drawings.-Materials for hand on activities need tobe provided.-Encouraging children about theircreations
- · Draws simple designs/ drawings/patterns that have been seen on differentobjects at home/school with thesupport of eldersE.g., "draw floral designs, pattern ofleaves/circle/squa re/triangles and colourthem."
- · Draws simple designs, drawings patterns thathave been seen by her or on her ownE.g., "thumb or creative printing from variousmaterials, rangolis using various patterns ofher choice". And label them
- · Shares the details of theobserved objects/events/phe nomenon orally/ written/drawings/an y other ways or herchoiceE.g., " in an activity on survey ofsources water in theneighbourhood, to share theprocess of survey followed bythem, such as how many sourcesobserved, who providedinformation ,". how informationwas recorded,etc (tabularform/statem ents)

· Providing opportunities	· Appreciates and	· Appreciates and	· Reflects on the
to reflect on the	reflects on her	reflects on the work	observation
work done by self, peer	observations, work	done by	report of peer group
group through	done by self and	others and self	and takes
verbal and non verbal	others.	E.g., " reflecting on work	feedback from others.
ways .	E.g., "Reading and	i.e. drawings/ creative	E.g., "reflects on
	enjoying signboards,	work done by peer	sprouts of
	pictures, posters in	group/ self, enjoying	various seeds, done by
	the locality, school	reading posters, sign	peer and
	(shops name, posters	boards in locality	accepts feedback on
	name, posters	through orally/ written	that."
	related to prevention	forms/ gestures".	
	of disease notice		
	board etc) and reflects		
	on them verbally		
	or through gestures".		
	_		

Discussion: (Pedagogical Processes)	Learning Indicators:	Learning Indicators: IV	Learning Indicators: V
· Creating a conducive environment for group work where children are well aware of each other's strengths and utilizing opportunities to discuss and share personal experiences Providing equal opportunities to all children to share personal experiences by devising various ways - Opportunities to listen's other's points of view	· Involves in group discussions related to the problems seen in immediate surroundings. o E.g., "wastage of water, littering and throwing garbage use of plastic bags, food wastage in the family,	Engages and participates in discussions on the themes related to her day to day life. o E.g., "discusses on common topics such as spoilage of wastage of food causes of noise and water pollution need for bridges and level crossing, how to resolve dispute in games".	· Participates actively in group discussion in the class on the issues related to natural and social environment. o E.g., "on a topic defined role in the family and school, asking them (before giving their opinion) to discuss their personal experiences, listen to other's views on gender discrimination in work at home(cooking food, fetching water, cleaning house and utensils). Later asking groups to give their opinion and reflects on this issue".

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· Providing opportunities to all children for expressing views and ideas in the class, without discriminating them Creating opportunities for Learning from each other's experiences.	· Listens to others experiences/ideas in group discussion on the problems / themes related to immediate surroundings o E.g., "where do their family get water, who fills water in the family, do their family discriminate in the community/public places".	· Listens to others on the themes related to day to day life such as peer experiences related to food items eaten in the family, ways of cooking in the family, source of water in the locality.	· Listens carefully other's experiences/ opinion in the group and wait for her turn E.g., "on a topic related to animals/ birds in our lives, providing them opportunities to talk to some people who keep animals for their livelihood i.e. snakes, parrot and asking them to express their opinion".
· Making comments that relate to the topic being discussed with their daily life situation	· Shares experiences verbally and accepts feedback given by peers group on her work. o E.g., 'Water in Our Life', and narrating one's own experiences of where s/he has seen people wasting water such as while cleaning the houses, utensils, clothes, vehicles, and reflects her views".	· Shares experiences or gives her own views in group or individually and accept feedback given by others on her work. o E.g., "sharing experiences related to visited place (mela, festival, historical place) verbally or in written form, giving her own views/ opinion on the problem related to water in her day to day life, problems for using plastics".	· Shares one's experiences/opinions on the issues related to social and natural environment.
· Engaging children in open-endedactivities to make the discussionenriching-Opportunities to discuss familyexperiences, new paper clippings, otherincidents	· Reflects on others work/views in a groupo E.g., "suggests how can the use ofplastic bags can be reduced, how todispose garbage in the locality".	· Reflects on others work/ views/ opinion ingroup or asked by teacher individually in theclasso E.g., "giving feedback to peer on writtenwork/ drawing, giving opinion on ways toreducing wastage of water, reducing use ofplastic".	· Reflects on othersexperiences/ide as and acceptsfeedback from others on one'sideas/thoughts with openness ingroup activities/discussion. E.g., "harms/dangers in using plasticand suggest ways what can be done".

	· Finds out from other available
	sources such as
	discusses with
	elders/ teacher/peer
	group to get
	more details on any
	topic related
	to day to day life.

Expression: (Pedagogical Processes)	Learning Indicators:	Learning Indicators:	Learning Indicators:
· Providing opportunities for sharing one's own feelings (through various ways), ideas and listening to others in classroom situations; - Providing materials such as clay, paper, other objects or any locally available material for their expressions.	· Expresses one's feelings / ideas through orally /verbally form in a creative writing exercise on — "If I could fly like a bird", she can describe her own ideas creatively where would I like to go? She describes how does she interact with family as well as others who cannot see, speak or hear? How does she help them with their work?	· Expresses one's feelings/ ideas through various ways orally/ written /gestures i.e. she could orally express feelings what help she could do for elders, differently abled. She could creatively express in written form if she were police what work I could do	· Expresses ideas, feelings of self, others through gestures, body movement, drawings, sculpting (non-verbal expressions)
	· Uses appropriate language/gestures to show care, respect and accept the people as they are.	· Use appropriate language, gestures to show care, respect for others. o E.g., "shows concerns for animals, respect elders, old people in the family/locality".	· Use appropriate language, gestures to show care, respect for others. E.g. "shows concerns for animals, respect elders, old people in the family/locality".

· Creating situations to express opinions on issues such as defined gender roles (discrimination seen at home in work done by mother/father) in family, school, playground; on issues of discrimination of the under privileged	· Expresses views/opinion on problems related to day to day life and misuse of environmental resources. E.g., " reduce wastage of food, water in school/family".	· Expresses her feelings/ideas on any event/ situation/objects through creative expressions by using locally available material.	· Expresses/shares one's own ideas/feelings or others through writing in a creative manner.
· Using mobility aids like wheelchair,crutches, white cane etc.	· Creates designs by using variety ofmaterial by using fallen dry leaves,flowers, clay and pebbles, etc.	· Creates designs by using variety of materialby using fallen dry leaves, flowers, clay andpebbles, etc.	· Creates designs by using varietyof material by using fallen dryleaves, flowers, clay and pebble
as active participants in all activities and creative play			

Explanation: (Pedagogical Processes)	Learning Indicators:	Learning Indicators: IV	Learning Indicators: V
· Providing opportunities and getting children involved in making guesses/estimates by asking simple questions, creating situations, showing pictures, etc.	· Makes her own guesses and gives her own reasoning on any event/situation in day-to-day life. e.g., "how many hand spans will cover the table/desk"? "Where do animals drink water other than the pets?" "How many mugs of water are required to fill a bucket"?	· Recognizes that there can be more than one possible explanation of an event / activity. E.g., "describes beauty of Taj Mahal, monuments, process of water purification followed at home".	· Recognizes that there can be more than one possible explanation of an event / activity. E.g., "describes beauty of Taj Mahal, monuments, process of water purification followed at home".

· Providing opportunities to understand one's relationship with others; e.g. relationship with close and distant relatives;	· Explains the relationships of self with other members of the family and depicts through drawings and written language. E.g. makes family tree(depicting only	· Makes one own guesses and formulates her own reasoning's on any seen event/phenomenon in day to day life. E.g., "how much water is required to cook the rice for four people;	· Describes any event/ phenomenon/ situation in one's own way (verbally/ written/ non verbal). E.g., "she is able to reason out why people living in Juggies are
	two generations (father/grandfather)	how much food will be required for 2 day journey by train for her family".	displaced from their homes, why do we need to keep pickles in the sun during its process of making etc".
· Encouraging children to think of different ways (divergent thinking of any explanation) of solution of any problem e.g. different ways to go to principal's room. Which do they think is the longest/shortest route and explain. Children with no vision should be allowed to use their mobility stick to walk different paths beforehand. This will encourage them to participate with other children in the activities		· Seeing relationships of self with others. E.g., "she explains the relationships of family members with self and also relationships among themselves. She can depict this by drawing family tree".(more than two generations)	· Identifies the reasons of any problem/ event phenomenon in natural and social environment. E.g, "making logical connections why does food spoil more in summer than winter seasons, how do we know food is spoils sooner than others".

· Using evidences/
information to make
simplepredictions
with the support of
elders/ on herown.
For example using
information
aboutmode of
transport she could
predict
fuelconsumption in
different vehicles.

Classification:			
(Pedagogical Processes)	Learning Indicators: III	Learning Indicators: IV	Learning Indicators: V
· Creating and utilizing classroom for group work; activity site by depicting various objects in the classroom to develop discrimation skills/identifying skills	· Identifies objects, plants, animals, food items based on their observable features in the surroundings	· Identifies objects, plants, animals, food items based on their observable features in the surroundings	· Identifies similarities or differences in various environmental objects, plants, animals, food items based on their observable features.
Providing material & objects for grouping to get the hands-on experiences; for. Sorting objects by providing material of various size, colour, texture in small group and giving activities to sort out/group objects, based on one criteria at a time Gradually (in classes IV/ V) providing opportunities to group based on two or more than two criteria at a time	· Engages actively in sorting the objects by one/two observable features at a time. E.g., "sorting objects on the basis of one/two visible features at a time e.g. (size, colour, shape, texture etc. classify leaves on the basis of their smell, colour, shapes, texture)".	· Differentiates/ discriminates environmental objects, animals, plants, food items based on their observable features.	· Sequences / sorts by their size, shapes, colours, texture

ol s to re ap oc E. si di di co - st	Groups bjects/animals/plant according b similarities in elation to their ppearance/habitat/f od/movement. g., "looking for milarities and ifferences in ifferent ways of boking like frying, roasting, reaming; Sorting things that re made from rice and wheat;	· Engages actively and sorts/ group objects, plants, animals based on two common features at a time. o E.g., " groups animal's pictures having beak and claws in one group and animals who do not have these features in other category".	· Classifies/ make categories of the objects, leaves, picture of plants, animals, food items, etc. based on two or more than two features at a time. o E.g., "group flowers based sambhar, tea and then sorting these in to solids and liquids".
ol s di tc a _l or "I' th su ve	Classifies bjects/animals/plant according to ifferences in relation otheir ppearance/habitat/f od/movement.E.g., Making a list of foods nat oneoften eats uch as dals, egetables, rice,soup, rater, roti,, biscuits, ambhar, tea,and then orting these into olids andliquids".	· Compares objects, plants, animals, mode of transport, food items, shelters of animalsbased on their similarities and differences asper their observable features. E.g., "compares various mode of transport having common features i.e. having 4 wheels, drivenby petrol, driven and observes differences inthem such as size of wheels (small, big), sounds of vehicles".	· Compare objects plants, animals, food items based on their similarities and differences asper their observable featuresmore minutely. E.g., "Listeningthe differently materials seen inthe buildings nearby- sand, cement, steel, bricks, and aluminum and classifying thesein various ways".

Questioning: (Pedagogical Processes)	Learning Indicators: III	Learning Indicators: IV	Learning Indicators: V
· Providing opportunities			
for			
- new ideas/questions to			
emerge			
- Framing questions for			
own queries and			
sharing with			
peers/elders;			
- Constructing			
knowledge by using			
various resources other			
than the			
textbook i.e peer group			
interaction,			

group work, puzzles, variety of			
concrete material	· Expresses curiosity on any phenomenon/ event/celebration at home/in the immediate surroundings · E.g., "rainbow and cloud formation, customs followed in family"	· Expresses curiosity on observations on the new objects/ event/ phenomenon (not only of immediate surroundings but by seeing other ways i.e. T.V, films, newspapers).	· Expresses curiosity while observing new objects/situation /phenomenon in the natural and social environment.
· Creating supportive climate where children have a freedom to raise questions;	· a.)Asks questions that demonstrates a range of thinking skills (what, why, where) e.g. "Why do we not eat all the vegetables throughout the year?" "Why does my four-month old sister only drink milk?" · 2.b)Generates/fram es questions on her own on familiar objects/animals/plants and events in the immediate surroundings. e.g. "from where do plants get water?" Where do lizards go in winter? "What happens if there are heavy rains?" "How is rain both good and bad for the environment?' What will happen if birds could not fly but only	· Asks questions/ frame questions of higher order (not only of what, & where level but want to know why and how level) to know the answerE.g. "why do we preserve winters (some) vegetables, for summers , why do we need to keep preserved food items in sun. Why do some areas in the locality/colony only get regular water supply"	· a) Asks and frames questions to find out more details. b) Ask questions independently or with classmates, to explore a topic further. E.g., "while working cooperatively in a group, plan their flower garden by posing questions (what flowers grow best in the available soil and lightening conditions?, what materials will be needed to maintain the garden?) and gathering data to address these questions."

walk on their feet? "Why dals/seeds are soaked before cooking; why round, smooth pebbles are found near the river side; how grass and small plants grow on their own, without being planted by anyone".		
· Reflects critically on various issues of social and cultural discrimination. (Related to working children, girls/women, elderly and differently abled).	· Expresses her creativity through various ways E.g.". asking questions, framing questions in class activities, creates new work etc."	· Raises critical questions on the displayed material such as posters/advertiseme nt new items in school/neighborhood.
	· Reflects critically on various issues related to social/cultural aspects to child's life. E.g. gender discrimination in the family, school, neighborhood visit to Ojha's, Bhagats for treatment	
	· Accepts feedback given by peers/ elders on one's own work/ view and gives feedback to others objectively.	

Analyzing: (Pedagogical Processes)	Learning Indicators:	Learning Indicators:	Learning Indicators:
· Creating situations and encouraging children to predict;	Defines situation or events in her simple language.	· a). Describes situation/ event/ phenomenon in her own language in a sequential manner as seen by her E.g., "changes seen in sprouting of seeds, changes seen in various seasons". · b). Summarize information and opinion about a selected problem or issues E.g., "What difficulties if there would be no bridge to cross over?".	· Reads and analyses pictures, photographs, textual material on her own/support of elders. E.g. "after observing picture of a fort/visit to a fort analyzes the reasons why kings built huge walls, big gates, huge boundary walls etc".
	· Predicts and identifies probable reasons of any event/situation/phe nomenon seen /observed E.g., " predict that a ten spoonful of water would fill a bowl or identifies why do a wet surface would dry more quickly when exposed to wind".	· Predicts/ identifies probable reasons of any situation/event/phen omenon seen by her E.g., "predicting/ identifying why six month old child cannot eat, why some old people cannot eat hard things, why river gets spoilt"; · Making a guess of how far s/he can roll a ball along the ground and then measuring how far it actually goes." · Thinking of three different ways to go	

	From the classroom to the principal's room. Which do s/he think is the longest /shortest route?"	· Predicts the reasons (cause and effect) about different scientific phenomenon seen by her. E.g., "why dal/whole grains are soaked before cooking; why smooth pebbles are found near the river side's; why does the curd get sour more in summer than in winters?"
· Makes simple inferences (reasoning); E.g., "between the shapes and size of vessels and the water stored in them. e.g. Taking vessels of different shapes and sizes and predicting and testing which one contains more/less water, etc.?	· Makes simple inferences on any event/ situation / phenomenon seen by her E.g., "all things cannot dissolve in water, sugar/salt dissolves fast in warm water than the cold water, River's water pollutes due to cleaning utensils, clothes, bathing animals, throwing garbage in water or near water".	· Draws simple inference of any observed event or phenomenon in the natural environment. E.g. "discussing possible reasons and derives their conclusion".

Hands on activities:			
(Pedagogical	Learning Indicators: III	Learning Indicators: IV	Learning Indicators: V
· Providing opportunities forindividual/group work (activities/handonactivities) for children to manipulate,tryout, improvise innovate by usinglocally available material.	· Creates simple objects (clay/locallyavailable material) and engages in handson activities through pictorialinstructions or with the support of elders. E.g. "improvising/making a toy-trainfrom empty matchboxes, simple jigsawpuzzle using cardboard; creatingpictures of different animals with driedleaves."	· Makes/ creates simple objects/ simple modelwith the locally available material on herown with the support of her elders.	o Makes/ creates simple objects /model with the locally availablematerial on her own with thesupport of elders.
	· Tries out/manipulate with the given material/objects /hands on activities with the support of elders/independently. e.g., putting water in various containers to demonstrate water takes the shape of any container, flows down and feels wet;	· Conducts simple hands-on-activities in group situation E.g. "dissolves sugar, salt, sand, wood shavings in water and share results."	o Performs simple experimental objects/materials under the guidance of elders.
		· Demonstrates that water takes shape of the container E.g., ". demonstrates by using different shape vessels	o Conducts simple hands-onactivities /experiments in the group with the support of elders. E.g., "what dissolves in water and what does not (sugar, chalk, salt etc.)" and write their own observations.

Concerns for Justice and Equality: (Pedagogical Processes)	Learning Indicators:	Learning Indicators:	Learning Indicators: V
· Providing opportunities for activities and sharing experiences in an unbiased classroom environment to show respect and acceptance of people as they are such as reading stories/narratives that promote respect, care, empathy, gender sensitivity and problem solving.	· Develops sensitivity towards plants, animals, environment needs of differently-abled children, and learns to express feelings in different ways.	o Reflects sensitivity towards the needs of differently- abled children, and learns to express feelings in different ways	o Reflects sensitivity towards plants, animals, old, young ones, differently-abled etc. E.g. "protection of forest, species of various animals, such as poaching of tiger."
	· Expresses concern for equality and forjustice for disadvantaged group ofsociety, and gives her own opinion	o Expresses concern for equality and forjustice for disadvantaged group of society,and gives her own opinion	o Voices opinion and attempts totake initiatives for equality.
· Creating unbiased classroom environment and giving equal opportunities to all; e.g. a child could make a ramp for physically handicapped people in her drawing, write a poem for her classmate who cannot see but has many other skills.	· Avoids wastage of material and suggests ways for reuse of material in day to day life	Describe in detail how to show respect for the environment and avoid wastage of material and suggest ways to reduce wastage for reuse of material. E.g., "recycle"; "clean up school premises".	· Describe and document the steps involved in supporting actions that positively affect the school environment E.g. " involved in school clean up, campaign"; "group projects"; "putting used paper in the recycle bins"; " conserving materials", " not to throw leftover food in the grounds".

· Developing themes and activities that are inclusive of culture, language and diversity	· Shows no biases in behavior (E.g. "sitting, eating, working, sharing with all irrespective of traditional and cultural biases".	· Shows no biases in behavior E.g. "sitting, eating, working, sharing with all irrespective of traditional and cultural biases".	· Show concerns in any situation on gender differences/ biases with children in family and school such as defined gender roles in the family, caste discrimination and children belonging to marginalized sections of the society, etc.
 Using appropriate words and statements with peers when speaking, sharing and taking turns 			· Shows sensitivity towards plants, animals, old, young ones, differently abled, etc

Cooperation: (Pedagogical Processes)	Learning Indicators:	Learning Indicators:	Learning Indicators: V
· Creating situations for group work and whole class activities in the class by - Providing opportunities to act as group leader, as a team member - Giving responsibilities	· Engages in group work and share things with peers.	o Engages and cooperates in group work calmly." E.g.," collage work, Mural "etc.	o Engages and cooperates in group more work calmly; listen and work with other children.
· Creating and utilizing classroom environment for group learning	· Accept responsibility for age appropriate tasks E.g., "turning off the lights when not in use; not wasting paper; throwing litter in the bin"; organizing belongings;"	o Accepts responsibility to lead the group for certain expected tasks, undertaken in the classroom. E.g., "making a to –do list,"; "staying on a given task".	o Accepts and takes responsibility in a more refined manner .E.g., "learning from mistakes"; "encouraging others to do the things in a right way."

· Providing opportunities to identify theirown strengths and areas which needimprovement with the support of peergroup and elders	· Expresses empathy for others. E.g., "Extend helps/support to friends whenrequired."	o Shows respect for other children and adults.E.g., "taking turns; letting others to finishan activity or asks to join them	o Recognize and accept individual difference s. E.g. "Describing the problem without blaming."
· Create situations to learn things in a collective manner	· Follows rules made for games or other collective tasks undertaken in the school/home.	· Follow rules and understand the reasoning behind that. E.g., "listening to others without interrupting."	o Follow rules made by group members for better functioning of the group E.g. "using dustbin, making queue for the mid day meal, follow instruction for not using polythene, avoiding the fire crackers on festivals.
	· Works with others to solve problems. e.g., children are asked to turn to the child next to them and work cooperatively in answering a question; solves a problem by working with others, sharing ideas, and testing the solutions	· Work with others and appreciate contributions of others in class activities. E.g. "work in cooperative group to design a flower garden for their school"	appropriate control in independent and group activities. E.g., "focus on group or independent task to completion." b.)Address challenges using appropriate social and coping skills. E.g., "doing things for other people;" changes activity when told 'NO ' or presented with an alternative by teacher or peer

· Shows some responsibility for his/her own health, and the health and well being of others.E.g., "practices good personal hygiene and cleanliness; discusses healthy habits, and practice self-control by abstaining from actions that harm one's self a well as others".	· Working through challenges in a small group. E.g., "learns to negotiate and appreciate the difference of opinion / view point of other members".
· Creating and utilizing school environment for group learning E.g., " takes a pollution walk gathering examples of litter and trash".	,

Guidelines for users

Curricular expectations or learning outcomes and learning indicators for classes III and V have been developed to facilitate teachers/other stakeholders with the understanding to undertake this exercise holistically. Some general guidelines for users are as under:

- The curricular expectations of Environmental studies (EVS) have been developed for classes III and V. These outcomes are identified keeping in view the objectives of teaching-learning of EVS, derived from the recommendations of National Curriculum Framework -2005. The learning outcomes for class III have been identified in relation to child's immediate surroundings as children of this stage view the environment in a holistic way rather than compartmentalized into natural and social environment. While the learning outcomes for class V have been identified, focusing gradually moving from immediate environment to the natural and social environment.
- In order to achieve these learning outcomes, what kind of pedagogical processes are necessary to be required, have been discussed in the column one. As EVS learning is process-oriented its content has to be derived from child's real life experiences, as per the need and context. The column two discusses and suggests this aspect at length along with examples.
- The column two four presents the various learning indicators of EVS. A conscious attempt has been made not to provide these indicators in the form of rubric or outcome based assessment standards. The reason being, by providing assessment rubrics which focus on testing or on product without taking care of child's process of learning. Testing knowledge, skills likely to have 'wash back' effects on curricular expectations. Thus these indicators are not summative in nature.
- The learning outcomes and pedagogical processes and learning indicators do not correspond one to one. The reason being learning outcomes are to be achieved over a period of time with the regular interaction with children, as these are related to child's abilities, skills, values, attitudes and other personal, social qualities. Thus various processes need to achieve the expected learning outcomes. The progress of child's learning on each process can be seen through some indicators. These indicators have been given class-wise and are suggestive in nature.
- Learning Indicators for each class include examples to understand the extension of learning.
 For example, the level of complexity and extension of learning from class III to V can be understood easily. These examples would help you to understand length, depth and width of each broad process indicator more easily.

This Han	dbook is the Personal Copy of Shri/Smt
EVS teac	her ofSchool,
My specia	al efforts towards enhancing Quality of EVS Education in my school
are as uno	der:
A. Fiv	ve best Activity Based Worksheets prepared by me for pupils'
ur	nderstanding of Concepts in EVS syllabus. (Write titles)
1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
B Fiv	ve pedagogic initiatives/ strategies/best practices adopted by me
fo	r improving teaching-learning process in my EVS class.
1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
C Fiv	ve good practices adopted by me for monitoring the progress of
ри	upils' learning in my EVS class.
1	
2	
3	
4	

D	Five prominent examples in which training inputs are being used by
	me in my day-to-day interactions with my students for quality
	improvement in my EVS class.
1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
E	Five examples of professional support I provide to my fellow teachers
	teaching EVS.
1	
2	
3	
4	
5	

Your beliefs become your thoughts, Your thoughts become your words, Your words become your actions, Your actions become your habits, Your habits become your values, Your values become your destiny.

Mahatma Gandhi

There is no end to education. It is not that you read a book, pass an examination, and finish with education. The whole of life, from the moment you are born to the moment you die, is a process of learning.

- J. Krishnamurti

Education is the best friend. An educated person is respected everywhere. Education beats the beauty and the youth.

- Chanakya

The highest education is that which does not merely give us information but makes our life in harmony with all existence.

- Rabindranath Tagore

Education is the manifestation of the perfection already in man.

- Swami Vivekananda