

19. My Delightful School



Can you tell ?

The above pictures show how children are learning happily.

- Which of these pictures did you like the most?
- Why did you like that picture the most?

We go to school to learn. We make many friends in school. We study with each other's help. We play together and share our tiffins. We take part in school functions and go on trips together. We come together to clean and decorate the classroom. There are so many things which we do together. It is great fun to do so. What can we do to make sure that every child in the class finds it is fun to learn?



Do you know ?

“I got a letter!”

This is the story of a school in Kolavali in Ratnagiri district.

The teacher took his students to the post office to show them how the postal system works. He explained its working to the students, but to give them a first-hand experience of how it works, he used a novel idea. He wrote a letter to every child, telling them about their progress in studies, in sports, their interests and activities. The children were thrilled to see the letters. They showed their letter to everyone, saying ‘I got a letter!’ Some even sent a reply to the letter. They sent greeting cards to the teacher at the time of Diwali. A few days later, the teacher taught the students how to send e-mails. One letter sent by the teacher awakened a new enthusiasm in the students. The school became an enjoyable place for them.



Try this.



- Have a three-legged race with the other students in your class.
- Why could some pairs reach the finish line without stumbling or falling?
- Why did some pairs fall while running?

If we help each other, we can succeed at anything. Work becomes enjoyable. In order to help one another, we must first understand our mutual needs and difficulties. Do we try to understand the needs of our classmates? There may be a new student in class or a student who lives far away from their parents. There may be someone who speaks a different language at home. Some may have an older brother or sister to help them and some may not. Because of this diversity, everyone has different needs. We must try to understand these needs.

In school, we meet different kinds of students. There are a few people who cannot see and a few who cannot hear. A few cannot walk easily. The needs of students such as these are different and special. We can understand them only by getting to know them well.



Can you tell ?

- Are there any children with such special needs in your neighbourhood?
- Do they attend school?
- When you were in the first standard, how many girls were there in your class?
- How many girls are there in your class, now?

Every child should get the joy of learning in school. All children with special needs have the right to education. Many parents of children with special needs send their children to school with great determination. The government also has many schemes for them. If you know any children with special needs, do tell the teachers and parents about this. They, too, will encourage the children to go to school.



The government has also provided many facilities for the education of girls. Most parents try to make sure that the girls are educated. However, sometimes girls are expected to carry out household chores such as taking care of their siblings, drawing water from the well, etc. all by themselves. As a result, they lag behind in school or even leave it. A girl's education should not stop for this, or for any other reason. Girls, too, have a right to the joy of learning.



Try this.

- Find out which language your classmates speak at home with their parents.

Even if we learn in a common language at school, we all speak in our mother tongue at home. The mother tongue of some students may be Gujarati. Some may speak Hindi at home while others may speak Telugu or Kannada. Because of school, we get friends who speak different languages.

We all wear a uniform in school. However, on days when the uniform is not compulsory, the classroom becomes colourful. It is fun to attend a class where there is a lot of diversity. Our customs, languages and eating habits may be different, but as human beings, we are all alike. When we respect this diversity and help each other, we enjoy being in school. School becomes delightful.



What's the solution ?



Pintu and Pinky have both got admission into kindergarten. Every day, when the school bus comes to take them to school, they cry and cry. How will you explain to them why they must go to school ?



What we have learnt –

- We get many different friends in school.
- In school, we come to know about the diversity in our country.
- Every child must get the joy of learning in school.
- All children including those with special needs have the right to education.
- When we offer and seek help, learning becomes more enjoyable.



Exercises

(A) Answer in two or three sentences.

1. What do we do in school every day besides studying?
2. How does the joy in learning increase?

(B) Fill in the blanks.

1. If we each other, we can succeed at anything.
2. Every must get the joy of learning in school.



Activities



- Wear the costumes from different parts of the country when you take part in school functions.
- Write the sentence 'Give me water, please', in different languages with the help of friends who speak those languages at home.
- There is a new student in your class who has come from another town. Talk to him/her about the school he/she attended previously.
