Mukta Gyana Kutira
Aragamee School
2017-18
A Report By Students
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Foreword

With this publication, we bring to you the 2nd report of Agragamee School Mukta Gyana Kutir, as written by our students. Looking at ourselves most critically, we are happy to say, that the school has been progressing well we are happy to say, in spite of many hurdles, and challenges. In terms of just numbers, we admit the change is marginal, evidenced much more in the regular attendance, but Agragamee has always tried to see beyond numbers, and it is this, which gives us much assurance that we are going in the right direction. First the students, as they are the core of any school. The children have improved, in almost every way possible. From timid frightened little girls afraid to meet strangers, afraid to even open their mouths, they have emerged confident and sure of themselves, eager to talk and express, and just as important, ask questions, discuss, and learn further.

If one looks at the learning levels, Children in Mukta Gyana Kutir are far ahead of their peers in almost any other Government School in any subject. We have not taken the comparison to private schools yet, but expressions of children from Mukta Gyana Kutir as they write and draw and produce their newsletters, event reports, village anecdotes, and experiential descriptions testify to the beautiful and growing abilities of the children. These expressions of the children now form a significant section of Agragamee publications, and add a lot of colour and exuberance to our walls and book shelves. Each child in the school has a folder most dear to her, where she files her writings and drawings.

Children are also learning to combine freedom with basic necessary discipline. This positive discipline is visible at almost every step. Children pick up litter and throw it in the proper pit - there are separate ones for degradables and non-degradables, the older ones serve the mid-day meal to the younger ones before they sit down for theirs, classrooms have long lists of dos and don’ts, on which each class gives themselves marks every week, things are used and put back in their place, and most importantly, rules are explained and passed on to the younger ones, by the older children. Much of this perhaps would be invisible to the first time visitor, as there is lot of noise, chatter, running around, and hardly any of the rhythmic chanting that often evidences serious academic pursuit in many schools. But, even in the noise levels, there is a self check! a visitor might suddenly hear an ascending shout of 1-2-3 STOP!! And then dead silence, as a class realizes they have exceeded noise limits, and take due action.

And the teachers need to be saluted. If it was not for their effort, dedication, and willingness for continuous learning and improvement, Agragamee School would perhaps have been able to show very little. Often school manuals detail methods of improving student outcomes, and learning levels, but few detail methods of improving teaching levels. In Agragamee, the dialogic process has sustained in the school and also sustained the school. Discussions with teachers, often going late into the evenings, planning efforts, exchanges with other schools,
exchanges amongst themselves have helped teachers adopt creative, constructive methods at almost every step, including using games and fun during instructions, for co-curricular activities, as also for helping children understand the boundaries of play and discipline. The teacher-student relationship goes much beyond the classroom, as they view each other as friends and companions, and teachers know the family background of each and every child in the school. Special effort is taken for co-curricular activities, which include a wide range from library reading to theatre and song, gardening, drawing and sewing.

The community has become increasingly supportive. Having realized the standards of excellence this school has set for teaching, and development of the students in every way, they are eager to support the school as much as they can. They have agreed to cover the transport of students at least in part ensure regular attendance, and have themselves also become much more regular in attending Parent teacher meetings in Agragamee Campus.

We have also received outstanding support from our donors, without which the school’s achievements would not have been possible. They have not only supported the school for buildings and other infrastructure and uniforms apart from the day to day running of the school, but also visited, and had interactions with our students and parents, and inspired them with their encouragement and appreciation. The reports of these interactions have been described very nicely by our students. The approach, methods and practices in Agragamee School are completely replicable, and would help to improve teacher performance anywhere. With this report, we hope to reach out to other schools, and educational institutions also, so that more children from underprivileged communities can benefit.

The changes brought about by Agragamee School with its reverberations in the village are significant. A community which regarded all paper as waste or play material for a toddler, has gradually begun to understand the value of printed matter. Their daughters can now tell them what is in the notice, or the Panchayat resolution, which once was the monopoly of the Executive officer. They now have standards in their daughters to check the learning levels of their sons in the village school, so parents have begun to demand accountability of the school teachers. School learning has become important, and many more children are going to school. Even more importantly, more girls are passing their matriculation exams than ever before in Kashipur Block, and passing with flying colours! Needless to underscore most of them are from Agragamee School. In Kashipur Block, there has been a jump in the education and learning levels of children, and specially tribal girls because of Agragamee School. We are just as proud to say, even girls who have dropped out in classes VI or VII, are able to question underpayment in wage labour. The vision of creating a generation of literates in tribal villages is thus slowly taking shape.
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A Report by Students
Annual Report

The name of our school is Muktagyan Kutir, Agragamee, Kashipr. First we have prayer. Then we ask general knowledge questions, read newspapers, tell stories and have a head count. Kanaka Guruma is the headmistress of our school.

Then we enter the classrooms in queue. We read literature. Lima Sir teaches us literature. We maintain silence during the classes. Sir comes to the class and teaches us explaining the subject. He taught the prose lesson 'Bulbul of India'. We read the lesson attentively. We found difficult words from the lesson. We wrote them on the blackboard and made sentences out of them.

When Sir tells us stories we listen to him attentively and write. He dictates words and asks for notebooks from children and gives back. We write our names under the notebook. We make correction of our notebooks, rectify mistakes if any and write correctly. We write stories and songs on Friday. Then we do maths. Laxmi Didi teaches us math. We go through the math lessons in the book. We do addition, deduction, multiplication, LCM etc. I love to do maths.

We read English from 11.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. Soma Didi teaches us English.
অধ্যায় ১

A Report by Students
She teaches us everything such as our names and the names of our father & mother, block, panchayat, district, months, weeks, seasons, directions, and alphabets. After reading the English alphabets taught we could read books. We could read rhymes from the English book. We find out difficult words from the rhymes and write the word meanings. Then we write the rhyme meaning and act the rhyme. Soma Didi tells a story in Odia. We write it in English.

We are taught environment science from 12.30 to 01.30 p.m. Kanaka Guruma teach us EVS. She teaches us lessons from the text book. I love to read the topic on local self-government institutions. Didi explains the topic and show us maps, earth, trees and plants, birds and animals. Then we go for lunch.

We are provided with good food in our school. We get pampad, mixed veg curry, and eggs twice in a week to eat. After we have our lunch Didis go for food. When they are gone
A Report by Students
we play games like kabadi, bohuchori and basketball.

We have seven teachers in our school. The names of Didis and Sirs are: Kanaka Guruma, Soma Didi, Jayanti Didi, Laxmi Didi, Ranu Didi, Gita Didi and Lima Sir. We observe August 15, January 26, Children’s Day, Ganesh Puja, Saraswati Puja etc. in our school.

We draw pictures and write stories. We put them in books and in the wall-magazine outside. We make paper flowers and put them in the wall magazine. We get oil, soap, notebooks, books, pen, pencil, colour etc. from our school. We observe New Year in our school. We get fish, meat, rice, dalma, curry etc. to eat on New Year’s Day. We watch TV in our school. We see tigers, bears, elephants, horses etc. in TV.

We and our teachers get training in our school. Trainers conduct the training. We get to know and learn a lot of things from them. They too get to learn a lot from our school. We have six taps and one tube-well in our school. Important people come to visit our school.
A Report by Students
They are happy to see us. The District Collector visited our school on 2017. Her name was Poonam Guha Tapas Kumar. She was very happy when she saw us. Along with the Collector, we went to the big hall. We all sang songs. Then she visited the village.

We observe Annual Day in our school. We act, play, sing and dance on the occasion.

There are four groups in our school. They are Nagabali, Mahanadi, Indrabati and Bansadhara. On Monday Indrabati Group read library books. Mahanadi Group does gardening. Banasadhara Group cleans the toilet. Nagabali Group does stitching. The library has many kinds of books in it. We have a library room in our school. We go there to read books. On Fridays and Saturdays we read library books. We read newspapers and draw pictures in the large hall. We go for nature camps, visit block headquarters, banks,
A Report by Students
fairs, villages, post office, temples, police station etc. Back in the after school we write and draw pictures on them. Children from Purna School visited us. We made friends with them. We went fishing and planted saplings in the garden with Purna School children. We along with them planted saplings in the garden.

Our school remains closed during summer vacation. During that time we go to visit different villages. Didis and Sirs go back to their villages. We write and draw our experiences when the school opens. There is a big hall in our school. We sing, dance, play and do meetings in the hall. Teachers (Siksha Sathis) from other schools come for their training. They learn something new and go back. Accordingly they teach their children.

Our school provides us bags. Our school has a playground. We play there. We play from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. Then they teach us stitching dresses. We are provided with school dresses. Exams are held in our school. We all give exams. We write our papers correctly.
A Report by Students
We fetch good marks. Among our school subjects I like language more. For we get to learn new words and make sentences out of them. I like that. I love Mukta Gyan Kutir very much. Our school closes at 4 p.m.

Chandrika Kumbhar
Class – IV, Mukta Gyana Kutira,
Village: Kumbharashila,
Kashipur, Rayagada
School Annual Report

The name of our school is Muktagyana Kutir, Agragamee, Kashipur. Our school is in the district of Rayagada. We have Class One to Class Five in our school. We have five Didis and one Sir in our school. The name of our school Head Mistress is Kanakamani Das.

We receive good education in our school. We observe annual function once a year. We listen to and read stories and draw pictures. We paint our pictures with different colours. We make paper flowers, paint beautifully and put them in wall magazine. There we observe Ganesh Puja and Saraswati Puja in our school. We have a library in our school. We read many kinds of books after book and get to know many new things from them.

We come to the school at 8 a.m. We sweep the school premises clean and put paper litter in a pit. We also clean the class rooms. After Didis and Sirs come to school we pray at 9 o clock. Then after asking GK questions we attend classes.

One day Kanaka Guruma said she would teach us about Japan. We all said yes. Our Guruma said, as the sun rises its rays fall on Japan at first. So the country is known as the land of rising sun.
Showing us the globe Kanaka Guruma said, Tokyo is the capital of this country. She said, you all go through the world map and show me the capital of Japan. We girls found out the capital Tokyo and showed it to Kanaka Guruma. Then she told us to sit down. She asked us questions and we answered them.

During class, all the girls read their lessons attentively. After reading they ask each other questions. One who cannot answer a question, reads the paragraph once again. Then she is able to answer the questions. Teachers write down difficult word meanings on the blackboard. Then we have Maths class. First we are taught multiplication tables, then we learn addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. After that we have English, followed by Environmental Science. Then after food, we play games. During play time, we play many kinds of games.

We are provided with eraser, pen, pencil, cutter, books, notebooks, soap, oil, colour etc. in our school.
A Report by Students
We go for nature camps and write about them after we return. Teachers from other schools and famous people come and attend our annual meetings every year. Senior Sirs go to nearby villages and invite people to attend Agragamee school meetings.

August 15, Gandhi Jayanti, Teachers’ Day, January 26 etc are observed in Agragamee school. We go to different places to visit nature camps. We are asked to attend Navapallab Camp during summer vacation. We attend the camp and write about it when the school reopens.

Tulasi Jhodia
Class –V, Village: Ratapada, Kashipur, Rayagada
A Report by Students
Navapallab Camp Report 2017

On 12.06.2018, Saturday we went the Navapallab Camp at Mallijharan. After we reached, the Sirs there provided us a room. We put our bags in the room and sat quietly. That day it rained heavily. We went to eat lunch. That day there was egg curry. After food, we went to sleep.

In the morning all of us got up, finished our chores and sat in a room. Children from Padepadar, Adri, Rayagada, Talajhiri and Uparajhiri schools joined us there. We had gone there for three days. The place was very beautiful. We 84 children took part in the camp.

Guides and facilitators were there from different places. Ramesh Sir, Raja Sir, Kanti Apa, Kabita Apa and Bipin Sir came from Bhubaneswar, Chandan Sir and Kalabati Nani from Rayagada. Head Sir, Head Guruma, Kanaka Guruma, Srikant Sir, Mantu Sir, Karna Bhai from Kashipur and Ishan Sir from Delhi also joined us. Kambu Sir, Hari Bhai and Lada Bhai all from Mallijharan were present. Sabita Guruma, Gita Didi and Dina Didi came from Padepadar with children.

Then we had our lunch. After food we assembled in a large hall. There we sat quietly in a circle. They gave us notebooks, pens, files and Navapallab books. The book had many stories and songs in it. Navapallab song was in the last page. We sang that song. They taught us how to write stories and poems. One of the Sirs asked what if we had no appetite. It would be great if we had no appetite - we replied. Then they gave us papers to write on. We wrote and read what we had written. Then we had our food and after food we learned some more songs. Then Sir told we would visit Sargiguda village tomorrow. We said yes.
A Report by Students
We woke up and went to Sargiguda next morning. We drank water at Sargiguda. All of us went from house to house and asked various questions like how many people are you, what is your name etc. Then we had biscuits and bananas. Then we drew pictures of Sargiguda village and coloured them. Then we came back to Mallijharana and had our lunch. That day there was rice with dal and fish curry.

After lunch we assembled in the room again. They gave us paper and asked us to go outside and write on any topic that interested us. We wrote about birds, the sky, flowers, trees etc. Kanti Apa taught us to sing the song of Nabapallav in tune. Then we had our dinner.

On returning to the room, they told us, we would go for a visit tomorrow. We said yes. On Tuesday, we went to visit a temple. The Shiva temple was very beautiful; but its door had developed cracks. The temple priest came to meet us. We asked him how the temple was built. He said he had a dream. The Lord said He was at the nearby hill. 'So I went to the hill and brought the Shiva Linga here.' Saying this, the priest showed us the temple. He said there was a twelve feet long snake. 'This conch also had a twelve feet long snake in it', he added. Then we returned to Mallijharana.

Kanaka Guruma told us, 'Observe the trees you come across, you will write on them.' We said yes. Then we had our lunch. After lunch we sat outside on a tarpaulin and talked about our experience in Mallijharana.
We said we were feeling nice. Then we all took group photographs, packed our bags, got into the bus and left for our own homes.

**Ranjita Kumbhar**  
Class - V, Village: Kumbharasila, Kashipur, Rayagada
A Report by Students
Independence Day Rally

On 15th of August we got up early in the morning. We went to pick flowers with our friends. Then we bathed and combed our hair. We reached school when the bell rang. We gave the flowers to Kanaka Guruma. Guruma prepared a Bharat map and wrote 'Independence Day' in it.

We all went round Kashipur in two lines. Kanaka Guruma, Jayanti Didi, Laxmi Didi and Gita Didi accompanied us. We sang many songs like 'Ragupati Raghava Raja Ram', 'Bajare Baja', 'Sangrami Ame' and other songs, and also shouted slogans. A policeman took us inside the court. We and their staff stood there in queue. There was a Madam. She came and we hoisted flags, sang the national song and gave slogans. She delivered a speech, after she spoke the staffs present there spoke one by one. After all the staffs spoke we again gave slogans. They gave us biscuits.

Then we went to the block office and stood in line. The BDO came and stood beside Kanaka Guruma. We saw him talk to Kanaka Guruma. We stayed there for half an hour. They gave us chocolates. Then we came back to our school very happy.

We stood in a circle under the national flag at our school. Our school Didis, Gurumas, Sirs, staffs, Head Sir and Head Guruma all were present there. Then we hoisted the national flag, sang the national anthem and after that shouted slogans. We children delivered speeches. Then we went to the big hall and sat. Our teachers gave us all bundi. We ate them, and also carried some home.

Ishree Jhodia
Class-V, Muktagyan Kutir, Agragamee, Kashipur, Village: Ratapda

A Report by Students
A Report by Students
Poorna School

It was raining a little when the children from Purna School, Bengaluru reached our school today on 10.10.018, Tuesday. Names of the children who came to our school were: Sarika, Adya, Tanvir, Laxmi, Srija, Dipika, Nikhil, Shraban, Chinua, Siddharth, Dhananjay, Tanish and Sarif.

We came to the large hall and sat in a circle. Head Guruma told us to sit silently. Our school children introduced themselves and I introduced myself. Then Poorna School children introduced themselves. They sang a song which was, 'When you are happy'. Then we sang 'Caterpillar' and 'Little Bird' songs. Guruma told us Nikhil and Shravan both would come to your class. We sat in our class after food. They divided us into two groups and told us to read 'The Doctor's Remedy' from our English text. They taught us the lesson.

Then our school was closed and we left for home. Before we left Guruma said, 'We would be going for fishing tomorrow so come with an extra dress.' We all said yes and left. On Wednesday we came to school and assembled for prayer. Then we entered our class, changed our dresses and left for Balighat to catch fish. We took photographs with Srija Didi. Guruma fell into water twice. Children started laughing as they saw Guruma fall into the water. Guruma came out of water, then Ishree, Purnami, Tulasi, Swati and I moved on to upper part of the river to catch fish and crab. We caught fishes and crabs with Aunt Ullash.

Then we returned and assembled once again in the big hall after food. Head Guruma divided us into five groups and told to sit in line group wise. We sat in line. They gave us biscuits and mixtures. Then the first group
was asked to bring saplings from the ground floor office. Second group children would fetch manure. Third group children would plant the saplings according to their design. Fourth group children would make holes. Fifth group children would bring bricks. Then the school was closed.

We did gardening on Thursday. The first group children brought saplings from the ground floor office. Second group children brought manure. Third group children brought plant saplings according to their designs. Fourth group children dug holes and the fifth group children brought bricks. We planted saplings. Then Sarif Sir called us, and said let us play a game. Its name was 'Ka'. We played the game and then had our food. We assembled in the big hall after food. The children from Bengaluru acted a play named 'Putta Ka Ball'. Then we left for our home and Didis, Sirs went to visit Katali. They gave us biscuits and mixtures on the way.

On Friday, we all assembled in the big hall and waited quietly. Didis told us that Class Five children would sing a song. We said yes and sang the song: 'Good morning sky, good morning sun.'Poorna School children acted 'Nani Ka Chashma' play. Then Didis danced a song called 'chaka chaka bhaunri'. Sarif Sir took us out and said Class five children would play throw ball with Siddharth and Dhananjay. We got the ball from the big hall and played in pairs one by one in line near the net.

Then it was lunch break and we all went to have our food. Poorna School children, and all our teachers also came along with us.
came with us to have their food. After meals we got khiri to eat. We had great fun. After meals we went to the Haladishila River with Parajashila and our village children to wash the plates.

Gurumas Called and told us to sit silently. Class Five children sang a song: 'Bana Mulakara Kie Paraja, Banabasi Bhai Ame Paraja’. Then Poorna School children sang a song: 'Row Row Row You Boat Gently Down the Stream’. They taught us the song. We all took a group photograph together. Then we got biscuits. Poorna School children gave us library books and we read them together. We replaced the books after reading. Poorna School children gave the books back to us and left for Bengaluru. We left for our villages.

Haranti Jhodia
Class -V, Village: Ratapada, Kashipur, Rayagada
A Report by Students
About Dolls

Toy Bank sent us some toys. Our school had received five packets of toys. Those five packets contained many types of toys such as dog, rabbit, humans, girls, horse toys, balloon, queen, daughter, umbrella etc. Likewise so many were also sent to different schools. These schools were Rasijhiri, Talajhiri, Uparjhiri and Mandibisi Government Schools. These schools were Rasijhiri school, Talajhiri, Upparjhiri, Mandibishi Government Schools. We arranged the toys in our room. Children had lots of fun with the toys. Some took them to their classrooms, and if we asked for it, they would not give. The packets also had badminton rackets and footballs. We arranged these toys in the library room. There were some duplicate coins also in the toy packets. Some children played with the duplicate coins. We also played with the coins.

When the school was over, we would put the toys back in their place. We used to play badminton in a separate place. We had lot of fun. We used to do acting holding the toys in our lap. Many children fought and cried to have the toys they wanted. If we showed the toys to a weeping child, she would stop weeping. The eyes of the dolls looked like human eyes. The toys had small dresses. We used to make the dolls wear different dresses. We loved to have photographs with the toys, sometimes we would arrange them in a line, and ask for photographs. Abhiram Sir would take the pictures. We had lots of fun with the toys everyday.
A Report by Students
We also played football, and then would put it back in the proper place. We would divide the dolls amongst us and play. I played badminton, as also with other toys, with Shakuntala, Tulasi, Isri, Purnima, Swati, Nita, Jayanti, Mamamta, Parvati, Sulanti. Kanaka Guruma would distribute the toys amongst us.

Gita Jhodia
Class: V, Vill: Ratapada, School: Mukta Gyana Kutira, Kashipur, Dist: Rayagada, Odisha
A Report by Students
About Fishing

First we all came to our school. Guruma told us, we all would go fishing. We felt very happy to hear this. So after having millet porridge to drink, we all friends set out for fishing.

Children from class One to Five had come for fishing. Kanaka Guruma, other Didis and Sirs accompanied us. We had very interesting chats with Guruma while walking on the way. We all children went on jumping in happiness. We had rings fixed with nets to catch fish. The moment we reached Balighat River, all of us ran into the water.

All children soaked Kanaka Guruma in water. Two mothers from Parajashila had also accompanied us. Along with the mothers, we children let the water flow on one side and drained part of the stream, with a wall of mud and stones on the other side. After water was drained we all children started catching fish. Guruma also caught fish with us. It was very exciting to catch fish. We put them in a basket.

While catching, a fish jumped out of Mamata’s hand. Susmita caught a crab. Crabs and fishes all were hiding under the stones. Shouting happily all children were catching fishes. Abhiram Sir who accompanied us took pictures of our fishing.

After fishing we all came back to the school. We came running merrily to the school. We cooked the fish and enjoyed eating.

Then we returned home discussing our fishing experiences. Back home I also shared the story with my father. Thus it ends here.

Jayanti Jhodia
Class –V, Mukta Gyana Kutira,
Village: Prajashila, Kashipur, Rayagada
A Report by Students
Visit of Dr. Chandrasekhar to Our School

Today on 03.01.2018, Wednesday Dr. M. Chandrasekhar came to our school. Chandrasekhar Sir first entered Class One. Class One children sang and danced the songs of ‘Little bird’ and ‘Caterpillar’. They wrote their names and their friends’ names on the blackboard. Then they played name-card game.

Chandrasekhar Sir went to Class Two. The Class Two children sang and danced ‘Chuku Chuku’ song and filled up the gaps in the ‘Chaka Chaka Bhaunri’ song on the black board. Then Dr. Chandrasekhar entered Class Three. He asked the children if they could read books. He was happy to see the Class Three children were able to read books. Then children wrote their names on the blackboard.

Next he and our Head Guruma went to Class Four. Class Four children greeted Chandrasekhar Sir with Namaskar. Then Binodidni asked, ‘Sir! What’s your name? Where are you from?’ He said he was Dr. Chandrasekhar from Belgium. Then Class Four children sang ‘Row row row your boat’ and ‘Baba black sheep’ songs.

Finally he came to Class Five. All of us greeted him with Namaskar. Kanaka Guruma was teaching us the ‘Kalveria was crying’ lesson. She asked whom Kalveria was asking about the Dodo bird. We all wrote the answer on the blackboard one by one. Chandrasekhar Sir was very happy to see our notebooks and Mukta Gyana Students’ Report. Then Head Guruma asked why Kalveria was crying. We answered that Dodo bird was eating fruits from Kalveria’s trees. Dodo was sleeping near Kalveria. Now there was no one to eat Kalveria’s fruits. So Kalveria was crying.
A Report by Students
Ishree asked, 'Sir, what’s your name?’ Sir wrote his name Dr. M. Chandrasekhar in English on the blackboard. We read out his name. Parvati asked, 'Where are you from, Sir?’ He wrote he was from Belgium in English on the blackboard. We read it aloud. Ishree and Ranjita wrote his name and place in Odia on the blackboard. Chandrasekhar Sir said to attach photographs of the children whose writings appear in the magazine. Head Guruma told us about the steel industry of Chandrasekhar Sir. The wires manufactured in his industry are fitted on the teeth and musical instruments. He donates to our school from his profit. Our school runs on that money. Then we danced the Banua Mulak song. We all posed for photographs with toys in our hand. Jagannath Sir took our photographs. Then it was time for lunch.

After food we all went to the big hall. Sakuntala told a story. Rebati told about pottery making of our village. Chandrika and Mita told about our school. Haranti, Daita, Swapna and Ranjita told stories. Then Sakuntala told about Paush Parba of her village. We all sang and danced and then sat silently. They gave us chocolates. We then played for a while. Then our school was closed. We said Namaskar to all and left for home.

**Namita Kumbhar**
Class-V, Village: Kumbharashila, Kashipur, Rayagada
Nature Camp

Two days ahead, Head Guruma, Kanaka Guruma, Didi, Sirs, and all of us children sat together to plan for the nature camp. Head Guruma said that we could go on Saturday. We were all very happy.

On Saturday we asked Head Guruma if we could go to Rasijhiri Hill for the nature camp. She agreed and told that children from class iii, vi and v only would go adding that class one and class two children could not walk. We asked Head Guruma to come with us. She said, alright I’ll come.

This was 20.1.2018, Saturday. First we drank millet porridge in the school and then stood in queue near the gate. Head Guruma, Kanaka Guruma, Soma Didi, Laxmi Didi, Lima Sir, Abhiram Sir and Jaga Sir came with us. We went by Haladisila River. We got to the road after we crossed the river. There on the road we took our photographs. Rajarani hill came after the road ended. We all ran to the hill. Head Guruma and Soma Didi also ran and raced with us. We sat near a banyan tree there.

Then, after some time, we climbed down the hill and reached the road. We saw Parajashila village from the road. Walking ahead we saw people planting potatoes. We also saw mango trees, silver oak trees and cashew trees planted in line on the hills. Head Guruma asked me if such plantation was done in our village. Yes, there is this plantation in our village – I replied.

Abhiram Sir and Jaga Sir took our photographs. After going some distance we saw more cashew plantations. Lima Sir and we few children climbed a tree and sat on it. Kanaka Guruma called us. We got down from the tree, went near Kanaka Guruma and sat under a tree. Head Guruma joined us. How far have we to walk? A little distance ahead - Abhiram Sir replied. We moved on. A milepost was showing the kilometre. What is the kilometre written in the post? – Head Guruma asked us. We gave wrong answer. So Soma Didi explained us - it is 5.5 kilometres written in the post. We got it.
A Report by Students
After some distance we reached near a tree. We sat under the tree. We were told to wait till Gurumas catch up. When we ran ahead Gurumas told us to stop there. They showed us the way to Rasijhiri hill. We were happy and went that way with Guruma. We came across a dam and passed by it. There was a hill nearby.

We climbed up the hill. Up the hill: On the hill top Kanaka Guruma and we children sat under a banyan tree. Some children were swinging from the tree. Rashijhiri village was visible from the hill. Kanaka Guruma showed us the Pataramali hill. Laxmi Didi, I and Swati, Lima Sir, Purnima and other children posed for a photograph. Kanaka Guruma asked us to draw pictures and gave us A4 size papers. We had our pencil and rubber. A girl was grazing sheep and goats. Kanaka Guruma and Head Guruma talked to her. After drawing pictures we showed them to Head Guruma. Then she said let us go back to school. We said yes, and reached our school. We were very happy to climb the hill. Reaching the school we ate lunch. Then Didis and Gurumas had their lunch.

Ishree Jhodia
Class - V, Village-Ratapada, Kashipur
A Report by Students
Lunar Eclipse

On dated 31.1.2018, Wednesday, we all came to school. Bada Guruma came and told us we shall all go to see the lunar eclipse. The eclipse is at 6 in the evening, who will all come to see tell me. Some of us from Class v raised our hands. Bada Guruma said that children from far of village could go home, and the children from villages nearby will stay behind. Then when the school closed, many children went home. Some of the children from Classes v, iv, and iii stayed back. All of us went to the office downhill. There we waited for some time. Then the Didies said come let us go. We children, Vidhya Guruma, Achyut Sir, Lima Sir, Jayanti Didi, Lakhmi Didi, Bhanu Didi, Ullas Nani, and Jagannath Sir all of us went to see the eclipse.

We were really happy to go with Achyut Sir, as we had never gone out with him anywhere. That is why we went with them to see the lunar eclipse. Bada Guruma was telling us, that we would learn a lot after seeing the eclipse, as just once in a while on rare occasions, the sun, moon and earth, all aligned together. We shall see them in glorious colours she explained. Bada Guruma asked us to watch the eclipse carefully. We were very excited to hear all this from Bada Guruma.
We had great fun going up the hill. With us, Achyut Sir also climbed the hill. We all went up the Pijuli Farm hill. All of us had great fun. Then on top of the hill we all sat in a line. Then, they gave us all biscuit, mixture and finger millet cake. With Didies, sirs, we all ate happily. We asked Bada Agyan (Achyut Sir), when we will be able to see the eclipse. He said it would start in a short while, you finish eating quickly. Then we had great fun taking pictures. We all watched, as the moon came up. We saw it coming up in the east, slowly. It was yellow. We all pointed it out to each other. When the moon came up fully, it looked very beautiful. After sometime, it became even bigger.

Then, its colour became different. The moon was red when it came up. We were very excited to see it. Then its colour changed, and it also became smaller. Achyut Sir said see carefully, how the moon is changing.
A Report by Students
We watched it all eagerly. After sometime, the whole moon was visible. We saw it becoming a full round again. And its colour was almost black. Slowly it became fully black. We were wondering why it became black. The reason for this is that on the full moon night, the moon, earth and sun are all in the same line. The sunlight falls on earth, and its shadow falls on the moon. That is why at first, the moon is bright, and then when the earth’s shadow falls on the moon, it looks black. After sometime, the moon was not visible. Then we all came down from the hill. The vehicle was there, and we were dropped back home. I liked this very much.

Swati Jhodia
Class: V, School: Mukta Gyana Kutira
Village: Ratapada, Kashipur block,
Dist: Rayagada, Odisha
A Report by Students
Experience from a Visit to the Weekly Market

Today on February 7, 2018 all of us from classes iii, iv and v got together and went to the Wednesday market. Kanaka Guruma, Lima Sir, Laxmi Didi, Jayanti Didi and Ranu Didi accompanied us.

All of us drank millet gruel. Then we stood in line near the school gate. Kanaka Guruma called for the office vehicle. Two office vehicles arrived. Younger children got into one vehicle. Kanaka Guruma and Jayanti Didi accompanied them. We senior children occupied the other vehicle. Laxmi Didi, Ranu Didi and Lima Sir accompanied us. We all got down at Manikeswari temple.

Lima Sir told all children to stand in line. We all children stood in line. There was our head count. Then we went in line to visit the king’s palace. There was a gentleman in the king’s palace. Kanaka Guruma asked him if there was anybody in the palace to interact. He said, ‘The king is no more. I am his grandson.’ Kanaka Guruma requested him to tell the children something about the king. He said, ‘Please come to the other side, I’ll tell about the king.’ Then he said, ‘I am the king’s grandson. He had no son or daughter. He died in 1980. The queen died in 1982. The king’s name was Rudra Pratap Singh Deo and the queen’s was Nabakumari Devi.’

Kanaka Guruma said, Sumani Maa was also telling that the king had no son or daughter. If asked, she tells a lot about the king. The grandson said, the king was ruling in Kalahandi earlier. Then after some years he ruled at Kashipur. Then the grandson told us to make a round of the palace. So we children saw all around the palace. There we saw marigold and rose flowers, Amla tree, guava tree, tamarind tree etc.
A Report by Students
We also saw there a well. Kanaka Guruma told us this was the king’s Rajabati. Then we went to the fair in single file.

We in the fair came across tomato, brinjal, ladies finger, cabbage, cauliflower, dry salty fish, potato, onion, nuts, chillies etc. We also saw snow, powder, nail polish, hair clips etc. We went round the cloth and dress material shops. We saw people deep frying pakodas and Jalebies. A man from Katali village was deep frying Jalebies. We were asked to stand there in queue. Kanaka Guruma, Jayanti Didi, Ranu Didi, Laxmi Didi, Lima Sir bought Jalebies for us. We ate them. There we saw the people from Katali and Kumbharashila village. We saw a huge crowd of people in the fair. Then we came walking to the Laxmi Bazar Square and from there we left for our school by the vehicles.

Mamata Kumbhar  
Class-V, Village: Kumbharashila,  
Kashipur, Rayagada
A Report by Students
Kashipur Block Office and SBI Visit

Today on 23.03.2018, Friday we all went to visit the Block Office and State Bank of India at Kashipur. We were students of 4th and 5th classes who went for this visit. We were a total of 42 children Kanaka Guruma, Soma Didi, Lima Sir, Soumya Sir and Ram Sir accompanied us. First we went to the BDO’s office. He listed all the offices working there.

1. ICDS Office
2. Bharat Nirman Rajeeb Gandhi Seva Office
3. Food and Food Security Office
4. Office of the Social Welfare Extension Officer
5. Accounts Office
6. Office of the Chairperson
7. Block Development Officer and their Office
8. Computer Department

1. ICDS Office

We all went to the ICDS Office. Mukta Lakra Didi was in the Office. She explained about the ICDS Office. Pregnant women are provided with iron tablets and preventive vaccination too. Adolescent girls between 13 and 19 years of age get provisions for good health and food facilities. Lakra Didi said Kanaka Guruma, ‘I will send the tablets with Anganwadi Didis.’
2. Bharat Nirman Rajeeb Gandhi Seva Karyalaya

We went to the Bharta Nirman Rajeeb Gandhi Seva Karyalaya. They gave us a room to sit. We sat there quietly. One Sir told us about the office and its functions. His name was Ganesh Swain. He told us the department addressed problems of women in three categories. Forty per cent of them were housewives, thirty per cent were in business and ten per cent were in farming activities. We sang a song 'Odisha My Odisha'. Then we introduced ourselves. Guruma told us to visit Bharat Nirman Shramika Seva Sibir.

3. Food and Food Security Office

We went inside the Food and Food Security Office. The Sir in-charge told us about his office. He said people in your villages can appeal before the BDO in writing if they do not get rice, ration card, forest land record, works etc. So the BDO can take step to ensure the provisions. Rice, wheat, kerosene per head are provided through ration cards to all households. Besides they are also provided to schools and Anganwadi centres.

4. Office of the Social Welfare Extension Officer

We went to the Office of the Social Welfare Extension Officer. Function of the Office is to work for the development of the backward classes like SC and ST people. Schools for the boys and girls of Scheduled Tribe and Scheduled Caste run under this department. Showing us a big school he said us to see how the children there dry their dresses. Then he said to let him know over phone if ever we
A Report by Students
A Report by Students
wanted to visit that school. We all said yes. He said he would inform the school teachers about the visit of Agragamee school children. He said about a dustbin to put waste papers. Then he gave us biscuits to eat.

5. Accounts Office
We reached the Accounts Office. There we met a Sir, who told us about the Accounts Office. They keep accounts of the money coming from the bank and the expense on tribal people.

6. Office of the Chairperson
We went to the Chairperson’s Office. The chairperson is the block head and elected by the people.

7. BDO Office
We went to the office of BDO and Asst. BDO. Name of the BDO is Sunil Khara. Block Development Officer is the chief officer of a block office. Officials like WEO, GPO, IJE, PO, VLW etc work under the BDO. BDO supervises whether all the officials work properly. BDO also oversees whether the government schemes implemented by block office are running alright or not.
A Report by Students
8. Computer Section

We entered the room of Computer Section. There we met the BDO Sir. He explained about how the computers record all the data of applications, communications etc. He showed us the CCTV camera, which recorded all and everyone’s movements in the office. ‘Your visit was also recorded in CCTV’, he said.

9. State Bank of India Office

Finally we visited SBI Office. We paid our respect to the officer. Guruma requested the officer to tell children about the bank. The officer told us that people deposit money in the bank. Bank saves money for years as desired by the depositor. Bank gives different kinds of loans like agriculture loan, business loan, industrial loan etc. People also withdraw their money from the bank. He said these were the activities the bank carried out.

Haranti Jhodia
Class - V, Village: Ratapada, Kashipur, Rayagada
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A Report by Students
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OUR PROJECTS

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