

Utilizing Theatre for Enhanced Language Acquisition:

The Miracle Vision English Channel Initiative 2024-25



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MIRACLE VISION ENGLISH CHANNEL

Introduction

For centuries, English has played a complex and multifaceted role in India's linguistic landscape. While initially introduced as a colonial language, it has evolved into a vital tool for education, employment, and social mobility. As a result, English language teaching (ELT) in India has become a crucial area of study and practice. Krashen, a prominent figure in language acquisition research, proposed five key hypotheses, with two particularly important ones: the "Input Hypothesis" and the "Affective Filter Hypothesis." His theory suggests that second language acquisition happens when learners receive comprehensible input slightly beyond their current understanding and experience a low affective filter, meaning they feel comfortable and motivated to learn.

Radulescu (2011), recognizes the potential of theater in creating such an environment. In her view, theater allows non-native speakers to participate in a safe and supportive space where they can express themselves freely, away from the pressure of an authoritative figure dictating their performance. This aligns with the principles of Krashen's Affective Filter Hypothesis, suggesting that theater could be a valuable tool for facilitating second language acquisition. Miracle Vision English Channel was an initiative at CEUP School paruthur, Palakkad, Kerala in this regard.

Need and significance

It is true that establishing an English-speaking environment within schools is a significant challenge that hinders effective English language acquisition. Specifically, when it comes to developing speaking skills, students face obstacles such as insufficient practice opportunities, restricted vocabulary, and grammatical limitations. Expanding on this, the absence of an English-immersive atmosphere in educational institutions remains a critical issue. Students often encounter limited chances to engage in meaningful conversations in English, impeding their ability to express themselves fluently and confidently. It is in this context that an initiative named Miracle Vision English Channel was introduced and many theatre based activities were conducted. Insufficient exposure to English language development in the primary classroom can hinder children's linguistic growth. Children do not get

sufficient exposure to develop their English language skill at primary level as they are confined to the classroom so this English Channel aims to integrate the hidden skill of the children into English language activities and provide plenteous chances to showcase their potential. By this we can motivate inspire and support the learners to indulge in various activities in English. The overarching goal is to inspire, motivate, and support learners, encouraging them to actively participate in a variety of English-centric activities.

Additionally, the inspiration to initiate this endeavor and conduct workshops stemmed from the exposure provided by the District Centre for English through various teacher empowerment programs for the Resource group. The impactful insights gained from these programs encouraged the inception of this initiative.

Objectives

1. To increase opportunities for students to engage in meaningful English conversations through theater-based activities.
2. To foster a fun and engaging learning environment that motivates students to actively participate in English activities.
3. To ensure the participation of maximum number of learners
4. To assess the impact of the activities

Methodology

The present article is a descriptive and conceptual paper based on the different activities conducted on behalf of Miracle English Channel. The activities were targeted to all the learners in 5th, 6th and 7th STD students of CEUP School Paruthur, Palakkad district. The programme has started 3 years ago. It has got a new impetus after the teacher empowerment programmes conducted by DCE Palakkad. New revised curriculum is more supportive for running this channel.

Process

In the training sessions facilitated by DCA in July 2023, a class was dedicated to the implementation of theatre activities and language games in the classroom to enhance language acquisition. This training session served as a catalyst, inspiring and motivating me to initiate similar activities in my school for language development. Proposing the Miracle Vision idea within my SRG garnered unanimous agreement from all teachers, and subsequently, we engaged in

discussions with PTA members to seek their approval for the implementation of this innovative language development initiative.

The television channel in our school, offered the children to perform various art forms as if they were doing a reality show on TV. All these are closely associated with curriculum of primary schools. Along with this we added an additional component namely Miracle vision corner workshop. This year we have given more prominence for public speaking Children will be taken to the immediate vicinity of the school to showcase their performance. Through English workshop children can engage enthusiastically in different language games and activities. It mainly focused on language elements and sentence constructions. These are conducted once in a month with an objective of creating genuine interest among the learners towards the English language. As the programme was conducted in the immediate vicinity of the school, it offers an organic environment and opportunities for all the stakeholders to handle English language with confidence.

Planning -

Initially, we meticulously examine the English Reader, thoroughly identifying sections and discourses suitable for demonstration and performance by the children. For instance, in the 7th standard lesson "Nature's Plenty," the character "Suryamani," a nature enthusiast, can be portrayed by the children. We can also organize an imaginary interview with Ruskin Bond, the story's author, adding an engaging dimension to the presentation. Subsequently, children are provided with opportunities to practice and prepare scripts, incorporating relevant insights during their learning process under the guidance of their English teachers. This year June month onwards activities are planned according to the revise textbook. This collaborative effort ensures a comprehensive understanding of the lesson content and effective script preparation. Following this, there is a rehearsal phase involving all students, allowing them to actively participate and refine their performances. This hands-on approach aims to enhance their comprehension, public speaking, and creative skills through practical application.

Major activities

Unit	Activities of miracle vision	Learning out come
Standard-7 Unit - 1 Nature's Plenty	How far is the river- (Ruskin Bond) story : Skit Interview with Ruskin Bond Mock interview	Read and analyses story and enact it Engage in meaningful conversation
	Nature : Message slogans speech song	Prepare and present slogans, messages and speech
	The echoing Green : Poem (Extended activities Choreography) Earth is my home : song	Children can enjoy and interpret and choreograph the poem
	Miracle vision English academy Language Game	Children can engage in different language games and fun (Able to realize the use of adjectives adverb and prepositions)
	Releasing magazine and news paper ceremony Revised curriculum (New syllabus)	Learners will be able to conduct releasing ceremony of news paper and magazine

Revised curriculum (New syllabus)

7th Std - Unit-1	Robert with a virus : Skit	Read and prepare script and enact story
	Public speaking various topics	Read and prepare script Children will be able to interact and address with public.
Unit 2	AI Make us or brake us : Drama	Learners will be able to analyses and interpret Artificial Intelligent (AI)
	Glimpse Emirates	Skit
	Various activities are being conducted associated with revised text book	

Implementation of the Program

- Miracle English Channel runs every alternate month on Fridays, from 1:30 to 2:00 pm.
- The designated class presents the show on a well-decorated stage, resembling a reality show setup.
- On the scheduled day, children set up a virtual television channel in an open area beneath a tree.
- A student anchor warmly welcomes the audience and charmingly introduces each segment on the stage during the presentation.

- The children showcase their lessons from the English reader through various artistic performances on the stage. Following the Miracle show in the school, the date and venue for the outdoor performance are determined.
- English Corner workshops focusing on English language elements are conducted, alongside the Miracle show, in the selected area.
- The inauguration of the workshop and show is carried out by the concerned ward member of that region.
- Outdoor programs take place during the weekend from 10 am to 4 pm, with the workshop running from 10 am to 1 pm and the Miracle show from 2 pm to 4 pm.

Review and Feedback

We consistently gathered feedback from students, parents, and fellow teachers. After each student presentation, we conducted a review within the SRG, addressing any shortcomings and working towards improvement in the subsequent performances. The AEO, BPC, and academic coordinator also visited the school, offering valuable support. The dedicated faculties from DIET provided motivation and guidance for the program. We shared programme videos and evidences with DIET, receiving necessary instructions and suggestions.

For a comprehensive assessment of the program's impact on learners, we developed an observation schedule. This schedule includes indicators to evaluate language proficiency during classroom learning, informal interactions both inside and outside the classroom, and the use of English during play hours.

The observation phase spanned a month, from January to February, and included 120 students from 12 divisions in the UP section. To ensure a comprehensive representation, 10 students were randomly selected from each class, encompassing above-average, average, and below-average performers. Working collaboratively with fellow English teachers facilitated the smooth collection of data. The subsequent analysis provided valuable insights.

Major findings (students, parents, other teachers' comments during presentation)

- The Miracle English Channel significantly contributed to enhancing the confidence of students in listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills.
- Involvement in various English activities transformed students' beliefs, making English seem less challenging and more approachable.

- Children became more receptive and willing to undertake various activities in English, reflecting a positive change in their engagement levels.
- They expected it to be a nice space to learn English where they were able to lose their shyness or fear of speaking the language.
- The students greatly appreciated the social ties and environment created inside the group
- The initiative resulted in increased parental involvement in the day-to-day activities of the school, showcasing a broader community engagement.
- The program successfully challenged the notion among parents that English learning is exclusive to English medium schools, breaking down language learning stereotypes.
- The initiative effectively identified and supported the inherent talents of learners, fostering a nurturing environment for their growth.
- The program successfully integrated activities to accommodate children with special needs (CWSN), promoting inclusivity.
- English learning became a memorable and enjoyable experience for the children, indicating a positive shift in their perception of language learning.
- The Miracle Vision English Channel maximized the potential of English theatre, demonstrating its effectiveness as a tool for language acquisition.
- Children demonstrated the ability to self-assess and refine their language skills, indicating a sense of autonomy and reflection in their learning journey.
- Teachers experienced significant professional growth through their involvement in planning, organizing, and executing the Miracle Vision English Channel. The initiative provided them with opportunities to enhance their teaching methodologies and creativity.

Conclusion

Miracle Vision has effectively tackled obstacles like insufficient practice opportunities and limited vocabulary by incorporating theatre-based activities. The initiative goes beyond language acquisition, breaking stereotypes about English learning exclusivity and promoting inclusivity by accommodating children with special needs. The impact on students, parents, and teachers are evident in increased confidence, engagement, and collaboration within the school community. Continuous assessment and improvement, coupled with external support from entities like the District Centre for English, demonstrate a commitment to excellence. Miracle Vision English Channel stands as a beacon for innovative language teaching methodologies, offering a dynamic and

enjoyable learning experience. As English remains a crucial tool for education and social mobility in India, initiatives like Miracle Vision pave the way for effective language acquisition and a more inclusive learning environment.

References

1. Radulescu, D. (2011). Finding liberation through performance/disguise in a foreign language/culture: A feminist perspective. *Dramatic interactions: Teaching languages, literatures, and cultures through theater—Theoretical approaches and classroom practices*, 35-62.)
2. Schütz, R. (2007). Stephen Krashen's theory of second language acquisition. *English made in Brazil*, 2(2), 2007.

VISUAL EVIDENCE OF MIRACLE PROGRAMME

PHOTOS & VIDEO LINK (2019 – 2024)



Inaguration of english channel



A visual in connection with environment day.



7th standard English reader Unit-1 Snake in the garden (Skit)



Advertisement of umberlla

Online Show during covid period

CEUP SCHOOL PARUTHUR
INAUGURATION
ENGLISH GALA CLUB & FEAST



CHIEF GUEST
DR. PADMA NITIN JADAV
MBBS.M.DC.
(OB/GYNE)

ON
THURSDAY AUGUST
26/08/2021
@ 6 PM

CEUP SCHOOL PARUTHUR
Gala English Club
English Feast

VIB
Inauguration by
Mrs. Geethika



Teacher @ GMS ARAICHAN
Punjab, Ludhiana

on Thursday 3/03/2022
@ 8.30pm

C.E.U.P.S PARUDUR
English gala club

ENGLISH FEAST 7th A
INAUGURATION



Mukta sharma(Delhi)
Motivational speaker
Welcome all



Monday(4.10.2021)
@ 12:00 pm

CEUP SCHOOL PARUTHUR
ENGLISH GALA CLUB
English Feast V A

INAUGURATION



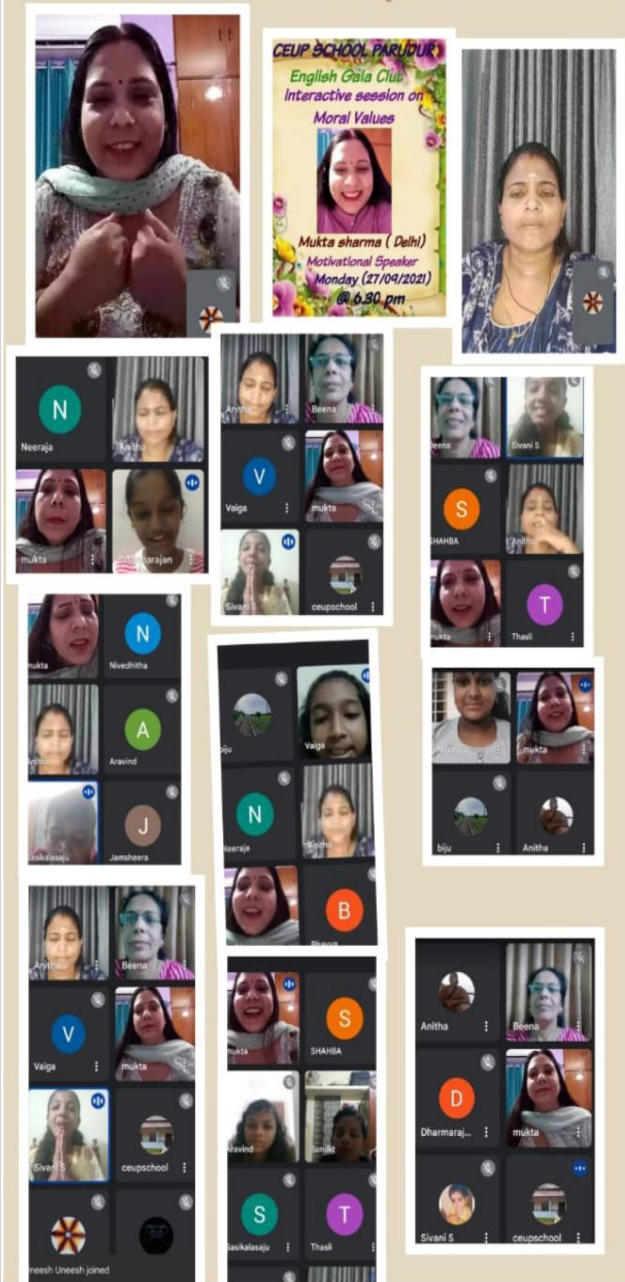
NANDITHA DAS
(Former accomplished
student of CEUPS
PARUTHUR)

on Thursday 23/12/2021
@ 6.30 pm

CEUPS PARUTHUR English Feast VB



English Gala club Motivational Speaker



Miracle vision 2021-22





Miracle Mega Show 2022-23



MIRACLE INAUGURATION 2023-24



Episode-1 (parudur-pakal veedu)

Work shop 1





EPISODE-2 (PARUDUR LIBRARY)

- Work shop 2





EPISODE-3 (KARIYANNUR-TP MANZIL)

WORK SHOP- 3



PERFORMANCE

UNIT-1 NATURES PLENTY

(SURYAMANI)



HOW FAR IS THE RIVER



INTERVIEW- RUSKIN BOND



UNIT 2 (SNAKE IN THE GRASS)



ECHOING GREEN-POEM
(CHOREOGRAPHY)



DAY CELEBRATION ONAM



**Miracle Vision
2024-25**

**Based on Revised
Textbook**



Gala Fest 2018

<https://youtu.be/AOBQsYr3P9I>

Miracle vision English Channel Inauguration

<https://youtu.be/CJk0W5bpNnQ>

Miracle vision English Channel inauguration 2023

<https://youtu.be/WNhEXcDfBIO>

Miracle Mega fest procession

<https://youtu.be/-Rry3SfSci4>

Miracle vision Mega Show inauguration

<https://youtu.be/bWKJ-JlayAk>

<https://youtube.com/watch?v=zDVMqaaKwO4&feature=share>

<https://youtube.com/watch?v=EBBmSw4p3X8&feature=share>

<https://youtube.com/watch?v=-UYAjk0KKSw&feature=share>

Evidence of Miracle vision English channel (Video)

Channel Interview

<https://youtu.be/CJk0W5bpNnQ?si=62gZ8nFC9xjhQPG1>

Official Inauguration 2023

<https://youtu.be/WNhEXcDfBlo?si=xURRLeIcWG0njxRc>

NCV Channel News

<https://youtu.be/flR2928MBP8?si=yZw9e18XQSHmqfLC>

Miracle Vision Mega show 2022-

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1aEhZycXKKAzMX2bqs65z0ir_Ks5bBFvF/view?usp=drive link](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1aEhZycXKKAzMX2bqs65z0ir_Ks5bBFvF/view?usp=drive_link)

Miracle Vision in library 2023

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1TarFfW4Rs4r686auoBLMFrq5CnMxldp-/view?usp=drive link](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1TarFfW4Rs4r686auoBLMFrq5CnMxldp-/view?usp=drive_link)

Miracle Vision English channel Inauguration 2023-24

<https://youtu.be/i7JWgvu93Cs>

Miracle Vision Corner English workshop and Show 2023-24

https://youtu.be/8ZdozE_eQVg

Revised text book Robort with a virus

https://youtu.be/IY2b7HFQw8o?si=M8PpU_-hjkC8HZ9a

<https://youtu.be/3wD0mj5X2IM?si=99kuBCXTV44T5dgn>