Collaboration on Learning Enhancement – SSA Meghalaya in ARK

Principles Of collaboration
* Child Focused
* Transformative
* Catalytic
* Systemic
* Sustainable
* Measurable
* Replicable
* Scalable
The vision in Meghalaya being....

“To empower under privileged children through quality education with a special focus on English and to provide children access to good quality schools”

This to be achieved through:
• Uplifting the quality of education in Meghalaya for the needy students
• Providing opportunity for marginalised families to learn quality English comparable to quality schools
Method:
Through ASPIRE Programme
Allow Synthetic Phonics to Improve Results in English
The programme is an innovative effort to improve English literacy of students across Government and low cost Private schools
Results in other schools in India

Average Scores for Low Cost Private Schools - After 5 months Intervention
Feb 2011

- Reading: 28 ASPIRE Schools, 19 Non-ASPIRE Schools
- Writing: 16 ASPIRE Schools, 7 Non-ASPIRE Schools
- Conversation: 16 ASPIRE Schools, 8 Non-ASPIRE Schools
India Picture:

Average Scores for Government Schools - After 5 Months Intervention
Feb 2011

- **Reading**: ASPIRE Schools 6, Non-ASPIRE Schools 2
- **Writing**: ASPIRE Schools 2, Non-ASPIRE Schools 0
- **Conversation**: ASPIRE Schools 6, Non-ASPIRE Schools 3
ARK IN MEGHALAYA

• ARK launched ASPIRE as collaborative partnership with the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan Meghalaya in April 2012.

• Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan took ASPIRE under the wings of the Learning Enhancement Programme.
Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan

LEP

ARK ASPIRE
ACTIVITIES IN MEGHALAYA

• ASPIRE is being implemented in 41 SSA schools in East Khasi Hills District.

• Location: 4 Blocks.

• 4 schools in Mawphlang Block, 20 schools in Mawryngkneng Block, 13 schools in Mylliem Block and 4 schools in Shillong Cantonment

• ASPIRE Project is being monitored both from SSA and ARK side.

• Regular school visit and classroom observations is being taken up by ARK Team & supervise by State Pedagogy Coordinator, SSA
What benefits will ASPIRE deliver?

Benefits for students:
- Read, write and speak English more fluently
- Stronger foundation for higher education
- Improved job opportunities

Benefits for schools:
- Improved English fluency and results
- Greater ability to meet parental demands
- Greater recognition of teaching quality

Benefits for teachers:
- Expert training and materials
- Continuous support and monitoring
- Internationally recognised programme experience
USP’s of ASPIRE

Children will-
• Become confident in English Language usage
• Have increased vocabulary repertoire
• Become fluent readers
• Be able to learn with peers

Pedagogy will become-
• Child centered
• Teaching and learning will become fun for you and children
• It’s a multi Sensory Approach and hence addresses children with multiple skills
ASPIRE package includes

The Jolly Phonics, Genki English and Read Write Inc approach teaches letter sounds, conversational English, reading and writing in an enjoyable and multi-sensory way, resulting in concrete learning experiences and long-term retention.

Aspire kit
Jolly Phonics

• Jolly Phonics Big books 1 - 7
• Blending Boxes
• Teachers manual
• Tricky flowers
• Workbooks
ASPIRE package includes

Aspire kit

Genki English

• Genki cassettes
• Picture Cards of 1-20 Genki themes
ASPIRE package includes

• Training for teachers (6-8- days in an academic year)
• Children and teacher assessment
• Regular monitoring by CRCC and BRCC
ASPIRE training by an international expert Imke Herold
A learning component
Participatory approach
Initiatives taken up by the teachers/school

• Jyoti Sroat teacher, Ms Shahnaz Sohliya has converted the first set of words, Big Book 1-s, a, t, i, p and n into Braille as she has 2 kids in the Class who are visually challenged.
• Due to the non availability of music player or electricity in few schools, teachers are still doing GENKI course, manually
• Mary Rice School has introduced ASPIRE classes to other classes too apart, Class 1 in the school. During extra curricular period, these classes would have ASPIRE classes.
Teachers are saying....

In spite of the hectic normal schedule, I manage to be on the track with the curriculum planner as ASPIRE Classes is interesting, both for me and the children’ - Varina, Providence school

‘This training is very helpful as it makes the students to pronounce the words properly with help of sounds’ Darika, Sein Raij Secondary School

‘Children are enjoying and having fun, they get the chance to participate freely. They also get confused with some sounds’ Tynraisyntiew, Pahsyntiew Memorial LPS

In spite of the hectic normal schedule, I manage to be on the track with the curriculum planner as ASPIRE Classes is interesting, both for me and the children’ - Varina, Providence school
Contd...

- Teachers have grown more confident in their teaching and have developed a comfort level to the programme.
- Few of the ASPIRE trained teachers have taken it upon themselves to involve other classes besides their own during ASPIRE lesson delivery.
- Children have shown progress in their reading and writing skills.
COMMUNICATION/GOVERNANCE MECHANISM IN MEGHALAYA

- TEACHER
  - CRC
    - SSA
  - PROGRAMME OFFICER
    - PROJECT HEAD
      - ARK/SSA
Genki in progress.....
The response to opening the Big Book
Phoneme Fingers in action........
ASPIRE activities in classroom......
ASPIRE IN AN INCLUSIVE SCHOOL
Children performing the action of the letter sound
A visually challenged child enacting the letter sound
The excitement of the Big Book...
• Ms. Marylin Wansai, St. Ann’s Upper Primary School: “I have been a teacher for the last nine years and have faced a lot of problems teaching children the alphabet. I have looked for a solution for many years, but with little success. This was a golden opportunity to come here and receive this new teaching technique. I am thankful to SSA & ARK and I hope that all teachers of all states in India implement this method of teaching”.

• Ms. Banari M. Umlong, Seven Huts Sec. School: “I found the 3-day programme by SSA & ARK very useful, not only for me, but the State as a whole. It’s hard to teach children in our school, because children come from villages and converse in their own dialects. The training will help us teach better and approach teaching professionally”.
Learning Enhancement Programme & ASPIRE in the News

The Shillong Times

System to impart quality education launched

By Our Reporter

SHILLONG: With an aim to promote international standard and impart quality education among underprivileged students in the state, the new system—Allow Synthetic Phonics to Improve Results in English (ASPIRE) was formally launched by the Meghalaya and the Absolute Return for Kids-India (ARK) here at Shillong Public School on Wednesday.

The new system launched in Shillong is a part of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan’s Learning Enhancement Initiative in 50 SSA supported schools on a pilot basis for Class I teachers during academic year 2012-13 in East Khasi Hills District in partnership with ARK which is working in the realm of improved quality and access in school education.

Speaking at the five days LEP-ASPIRE Training Education State Project Director SSA and RMSA FR Kharkongor said this programme will help promote quality education in public so that they can be at par with the other private run schools in the state.

Stressing on the importance of the English language, Kharkongor said in most parts of the state especially in rural areas students lack efficiency language. “Govern schools in the state all get an image of not having efficiency and excellence”, he said. Landing the initiative Kharkongor said the launching of the system ASPIRE it is hope that even students from rural areas will be at par with the students coming to private schools.

The Telegraph

Innovative way to learn English

The Sentinel

SSA takes initiative to improve learning

SHILLONG: To improve the quality of learning in primary schools for children coming from low income families of Meghalaya, the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), Meghalaya and Absolute Return for Kids-India (ARK) will launch ASPIRE (Allow Synthetic Phonics to Improve Results in English) on April 11 at Shillong Public School at 3.30 pm.