

ADVERTISEMENT


THE TIMES OF INDIA

Bengaluru

The Times of India

Advanced Search »

[Home](#) [City](#) [Bengaluru](#) [Crime](#) [Civic Issues](#) [Politics](#) [Schools & Colleges](#) [Events](#) [More Cities](#) [Buy@Amazon.in](#)
You are here: [Home](#) » [City](#) » [Bengaluru](#) »

Make good, affordable books accessible to kids: Rohini Nilekani

TNN | Sep 8, 2013, 04:06 AM IST

Bangalore Office Space

No Hidden Costs & Flexible Options. Workspaces To Suit. Get A Quote Now

regus.co.in/Bangalore_Office_Space

Monthly SIP Investments

Invest as low as Rs 1000 in Top SIPs in just 2 Mins. ZipSIP Now

www.mvuniverse.co.in/ZipSIP

Ads by Google

READ MORE [Enid Blyton](#) | [Rohini Nilekani](#) | [Pratham Books](#)

BANGALORE: One story was narrated to hundreds of children across the country on Saturday, thanks to the initiative of Pratham Books, headed by Rohini Nilekani. Rohini speaks to STOI on the importance of reading and why it lags among children.

Q: Why are our children unable to read what they are expected to in their grades?

A: As per the ASER 2012 survey, even after five years in school, 50% children are not at the proficiency level expected of them three years earlier. There are many reasons, including the fact that these first generation learners may not come from an enabling environment at home, and do not have adequate facilities in school. It is also because even when they begin to read, they simply do not have the material to take the next steps to fluency and the reading habit.

The problem of providing joyful, engaging books to children from low-income families can be resolved by providing greater access, affordable books and books in local Indian languages.

Q: How good are library facilities in government schools?

A: Many schools do not have well-equipped libraries. Many reading program books for children but books and libraries continue to be scarce.

Often the school libraries that we visit have local literature books which are plain black-and-white, text-heavy ones or donated books like Harry Potter, Roald Dahl, Enid Blyton etc. The problem is one, children find it difficult to relate to these characters. Two and more importantly, even class 6 children find it difficult to read such long English books. Therefore these are of little value in such environments.

Q. How can we improve the reading ability in schools?

A: It is not difficult to get children to fall in love with reading. But they need access to good quality, joyful material appropriate for their reading level. This enables a child to confidently select a level appropriate book and have the pleasure of finishing it.

Thirdly the books should be in the child's native language, or at least in the medium of instruction in school. And lastly, regular reading period should be a must in every school and a trained teacher should be present to

help those who need it.

Q: How did you come up with 'One Day, One Story' initiative?

A: Ours is a societal mission. Many communities need to be involved to create a reading nation. One easy way is to get people involved through as many book readings as possible. And since we cannot be everywhere, we reached out to a wider community to conduct book-related events in

Connect with us

FROM AROUND THE WEB



Staying Connected With Your Family
ITOK



Reuters

MORE FROM THE TIMES OF INDIA



When Kejriwal's daughter offered 'bribe' to official
May 17, 2015



Diamond worker's girl secures 100 percentile
Jun 05, 2015



10 hot smartphones launched recently in India- The Times of India
Jun 13, 2015

Recommended by

COMPLETED ONLY TEST

256 & 23/0

15.0v

462/6 dec IND

Match drawn

their towns, on their own. We now have an annual nationwide event where everyone reads the same story on the same day.

Q: What is the importance of inculcating reading habit in an e-age? Is reading from books different from that of reading on ipad/laptop? Which one would you recommend?

A: Reading is reading, whether consumed in print format or digitally. Children who have engaged well with the written word can adapt themselves to consuming information any which way. Today's children, irrespective of their socio-economic background, are digitally savvy than their parents.

As a generation we are still in love with the feel and smell of the printed book, the comfort of curling up in bed and reading our favourite novel. Younger generations might become equally comfortable with new gadgets.

Stay updated on the go with Times of India News App. Click [here](#) to download it for your device.

Post a comment

FROM AROUND THE WEB



Unique Method May Regrow Lost Hair
Lifestyle Journal



Help Acid Attack Victim Sheela Rebuild Her Life
Milaap



3 Best Sites to Build your own Website [Review]
Website Building

MORE FROM THE TIMES OF INDIA



Aarti Agarwal no more
Jun 06, 2015



My dad threw money at me to stop me from doing films:
Ridhima Sud
Jun 12, 2015



Debjani's secret notes found in Kolkata's horror house
Jun 16, 2015

Recommended by

Promoted Stories

- [How he learned 9 languages fluently](#)
Babbel
- [India's Economy Prepares for Takeoff](#)
TheFinancialist by Credit Suisse

More from The Times of India

- [In search of freedom, she killed spouse with club used for ragi balls](#) 13 Jun 2015
- [Caught stealing money, 14-yr-old kills brother](#) 11 Jun 2015
- [Sikh beats US army in court for turban right](#) 15 Jun 2015
- [Surat teenager arrested for murder of mother's lover](#) 12 Jun 2015
- [Girl refuses to marry "elderly groom"](#) 29 May 2015
- [Hard to imagine similar ops on Pak soil: Experts](#) 11 Jun 2015

Recommended by

FEATURED TODAY IN BENGALURU

Former US President Bill Clinton defends family foundation

6pm

New 2015 Tata Nano GenX launched at Rs 2.69 lakh

New 2015 Tata Nano GenX launched at Rs 2.69 lakh

SC rejects telcos' plea for extension of 2G licences

[more](#)



Hi there,
Login with your Facebook ID to see what your friends are reading on Times of India.

[Log In with Facebook](#)

TOP STORIES ACROSS CITIES

Yoga helps stroke survivor regain body balance

Don's daughter to wed police officer in Varanasi

No NDA-Pappu Yadav alliance in Bihar: Min

Cops acting at LG's behest: Tomar

20-year-old slits throat in Bandra court

Blood tests in Pune show high lead levels

BMC to hike water charges from June 16

Two persons were killed in a huge explosion in Kanpur

Six persons injured in acid attack in Farrukhabad

Very high rate of elder abuse in Guwahati: Report

[more](#)

TOP STORIES

Modi plays host to envoys from Muslim nations, praises Islam

Cong attacks PM, says he's shielding Sushma

Centre may unveil roadmap for J&K today

VHP key meeting on Ram mandir in Ayodhya today

Modi's Yoga Day grips India, 'Om' Meets 'Ouch!'

[more](#)

MOST POPULAR

Read | [Commented](#) | [Shared](#)

From City

Married at 2, now widowed at 13 by Tonk tragedy

Sikh beats US army in court for turban right

Tussle with LG: Kejriwal, Sisodia meet Rajnath

HK-bound bride, 25, dies as cab rams into parked bus on Bengaluru's Ballari Road

Sobha Halcyon Whitefield

www.sobha.com/sobha-halcyon
Designed for IT People Enquire Now. Pay 5% Now to Book an Apartment.

Buy House in Koramangala

indiahomes.com/House-Jayanagar
Houses for Sale in Your Budget. Get Prices & Details. Search Now!

Ads by Google

ALSO ON TOI



Sharad Pawar, nephew grabbed l...



Delhi law minister Kapil Mishr...



Jitender Tomar's police custod...



Shark attack: 'North Carolina ...



New York: Residents worry as e...

Follow the Times of India - City section

Search for News

Search

Recent Messages (5)



Add your comment here

Characters Remaining: 3000

SIGN IN WITH

Facebook Twitter Email

OR PROCEED WITHOUT REGISTRATION

Full Name

Email

Location

POST

X

Sort By: Up Voted

Vasanthkumar Mysoremath • Unknown • 1 year ago

617 **4383** more points needed to reach next level. [Know more about Times Points](#)

Very good initiative and needs to be encouraged. In addition, children should be kept away from the TV sets which broadcast umpteen number of cartoon channels. Parents should discourage their children sitting in front of TVs and make them more amenable by keeping them engaged with their presence in the house and also by giving them responsibilities. Kids love stories and parents must engage their children by either reading moral stories with actions or make the kids read the stories with action so that they can listen to the interesting scenes of stories.

10 • Reply • Flag

Find this comment offensive?

Your reason has been submitted to the Admin. Choose your reason below and click on the Submit button. This will alert our moderators to take action

Reason for reporting:

- Foul language
- Defamatory
- Inciting hatred against a certain community
- Out of context/Spam
- Copied from article
- Others

Report this ! Close

Canarese • 1 year ago

Just sitting inside the AC room and commenting on books and libraries does not serve any purpose. Go out and get it done.!

00 • Reply • Flag

Find this comment offensive?

Your reason has been submitted to the Admin. Choose your reason below and click on the Submit button. This will alert our moderators to take action

Reason for reporting:

- Foul language
- Defamatory
- Inciting hatred against a certain community
- Out of context/Spam
- Copied from article
- Others

Report this ! Close

Karthigesu Arinesali • 1 year ago

Level 100 comments to earn the **Wordsmith Level 4** badge.

Know more about Times Points

Level 3 Frequent Flyer

Vasanthkumar Mysoremath has visited Timesofindia.com 50 times to earn the **Frequent Flyer**

more

Across Times of India

Once her targets, now her shield: Irony is not lost as Narendra Modi, Amit Shah defend Sushma Swaraj

SC cancels AIPMT, directs CBSE to conduct fresh exams within four weeks

Swaraj Kaushal: Sushma Swaraj's Achilles heel or her pillar of strength?

US curbs: Nestle hints at counterfeit Maggi

more

FEATURED TODAY IN TRAVEL

Here comes the Monsoon!



Bali's most happening nightclubs and bars



Wildlife spotting in North India



Places to stay in and around Periyar



The 5 best bars in Goa



NAVBHARAT TIMES

Weather in Bengaluru

FROM OUR GLOBAL PARTNERS

TOI Leaderboard

Rank	Name	Points
1	Brown American	109
2	Evans Christopher Sumitra	95
3	Sainath Kalpathy	95
4	KEJRIBAI	94
5	Godfather Senior	92

Know more about Times Points

SimplyMarry.com

Looking for Age -

Bride 22 -

2569 **2431** more points needed to reach next level. [Know more about Times Points](#)

Level 3 badge.

Know more about Times Points

Good libraries with well planned children section equipped with very attractive children's book must be established.

0 0 • Reply • Flag

Find this comment offensive?

Your reason has been submitted to the Admin. Choose your reason below and click on the Submit button. This will alert our moderators to take action

Reason for reporting:

- Profanity
- Defamatory
- Influencer
- Inciting hatred against a certain community
- Off context/Spam
- Copied from article
- 2590 people

Report this ! Close

6212 **16788** more points needed to reach next level. [Know more about Times Points](#)

Agreed Bengaluru • 1 year ago

Recommended

his/her

Maximum not subsidise cost of books to young readers out of your Charities.

0 0 • Reply • Flag

Find this comment offensive?

Your reason has been submitted to the Admin. Choose your reason below and click on the Submit button. This will alert our moderators to take action

Reason for reporting:

- Profanity
- Defamatory
- Influencer
- Inciting hatred against a certain community
- Off context/Spam
- Copied from article
- 2900 people

Report this ! Close

6212 **16788** more points needed to reach next level. [Know more about Times Points](#)

IN THE NURSERY CHILDREN S SHOULD BE THOUGHT ONLY THE BASIC LANGUAGE SUBJECTS. MAKE THEM PERFECT IN THE GRAMMARS.

FROM THE 1ST TO 3RD OR 4TH STANDARD A LIMITED SUBJECTS SHOULD BE INTRODUCED. IN THE CHILDREN S GRADUALLY IMPROVE. FROM 8TH STANDARD THE STUDENTS SHOULD CHOOSE THEIR FAVORITE FIELDS. THE SCHOOLS SHOULD ONLY CONCENTRATE ON THOSE SUBJECT SPECIALIZING IN THE VARIOUS FIELDS.

Wordsmith

THE RESULT WILL BE EXCELLENT AND IT WILL BE USEFUL FOR OUR COUNTRY.

0 0 • Reply • Flag

Find this comment offensive?

Your reason has been submitted to the Admin. Choose your reason below and click on the Submit button. This will alert our moderators to take action

Reason for reporting:

- Profanity
- Defamatory
- Influencer
- Inciting hatred against a certain community
- Off context/Spam
- Copied from article
- 2900 people

Report this ! Close

6212 **16788** more points needed to reach next level. [Know more about Times Points](#)

Viewed 1400

More inside The Times of India

Know more about Times Points

WORLD
Modi's Yoga Day grips India, and 'Om' Meets 'Ouch!'

IAF plane crashes near Allahabad, pilots eject safely

Property: Daughter has share but father has will

Monsoon gets a boost, rains 13% above normal

More from India

Comments on Timesofindia.com

to earn the

WORLD
Invite to Obama party: Signed, delivered, but private

Finnish mother gets life sentence for killing 5 newborns

South China Sea island building to finish soon: China

Mexico's top court quietly legalizes gay marriage

» MORE FROM WORLD

BUSINESS
Sensex feels profit-booking heat, down 85 points

Rupee gains 9 paise against dollar

Nestle to take 320cr hit on Maggi recall

Rosneft may buy 49% in Essar refinery

» MORE FROM BUSINESS

TECH
10 hot smartphones launched recently in India

Indian IT outsourcing contracts under US scanner

Here's Apple India's plan for the next 3 years

After-sales service: Xiaomi, Motorola go beyond the norm

» MORE FROM TECH

SPORTS
Tougher test awaits Team India in Bangladesh

We can't afford to repeat mistakes now, says Chhetri

Hazlewood, a rare combination of consistency and subtlety

New BAI rule to 'eradicate' fake birth certificate menace

» MORE FROM SPORTS

25

Location
Doesn't Matter

Search Now

Well Connected
Vasanthkumar Mysoremath

has linked both

Facebook and

Twitter accounts to earn the Well

Connected badge

on Timesofindia.com.

Know more about Times Points

Badges Earned

WORD SMITH

Wordsmith

FLYER

Frequent Flyer

WELL CONNECTED

Member

Know more about Times Points

Wordsmith Level 1 THE TIMES OF INDIA

Know more about DIATIMES
Points

About us
Privacy policy
TOI Mobile
Archives

Advertise with us
Feedback
ePaper

Terms of Use and Grievance Redressal Policy
RSS
Sitemap

Other Group news sites
The Times of India
इकनॉमिक टाइम्स | एंजेलोमिड टाइम्स
Pune Mirror | Bangalore Mirror
Ahmedabad Mirror | ItsMyAscent
Economic Times | Brand Capital
Mumbai Mirror | Times Now
Influencer
महाराष्ट्र टाइम्स | विश्व कर्नाटक
Gujarat Samay

Living and entertainment
Timescity | iDiva | Entertainment | Zoom
Healthmeup | Luxpresso | Gadget Reviews
| Online Songs

Hot on the Web
World | Politics
Business | Sports
Entertainment
Science & Tech
New Cars
Xiaomi Mobile
Motorola Mobile

Services
Book print ads | Online shopping | Free SMS | Website design | CRM | Tenders
Matrimonial | Ringtones | Astrology | Jobs | Tech Community | Property | Buy car
Bikes in India | Free Classifieds | Send money to India | Used Cars
Restaurants in Delhi | Movie Show Timings in Mumbai | Remit to India | Buy Mobiles
Listen Songs | News | Real Estate Developers

Interest Network
itimes

Trending Topics
Samsung Mobile | Micromax Mobile | You Tube | Delhi Travel Guide | Katrina Kaif
Photos | Sony Mobile | Hindi Songs | Horoscope 2015 Predictions | Asus Mobile |
Facebook | Sunny Leone Photos | Hindi News

Moderator
PREMIUM

Copyright © 2014 Bennett, Coleman & Co. Ltd. All rights reserved. For reprint rights: Times Syndication Service

WORD
SMITH

Wordsmith

NETWORKER

Networker

NEWS
KING

Networking

FREQUENT
FLYER

Member
Frequent Flyer

INBOXER

Inboxer

MEMBER

Member

Know more about Times Points

Know more about Times Points

Know more about Times Points