

EDITORIAL

Raja Rammohan Roy (1772–1833), a prominent nationalist and social reformer, believed education to be a necessary tool to bring about societal changes and eradicate the prevailing social evils. He advocated induction of western sciences in the Indian education system. He also stressed that English should be used as a medium of instruction in educational institutions across the country so that citizens, especially students, could be made aware of the advancements taking place in the areas of science and technology in western countries. He realised that India, being a multilingual country, offered its citizens a verbal repertoire, thereby, encouraging cognitive growth and divergent thinking.

The first paper titled 'Problems faced by English Teachers in Doimukh, Arunachal Pradesh' by Cheenang Pertin and Vivek Singh highlights several factors that affect language learning in students, especially, at the primary stage, which only a language teacher is able to identify and understand. It brings forth some of the common problems faced by teachers teaching English, which is the medium of instruction in the area.

Ruchi Kaushik, in her article titled 'Using Games to develop English Speaking Skills in Children', discusses some research studies that underline the benefits of using games for inculcating such competencies in young learners, as English, in most cases, is the second language in the country. It suggests that in order to develop communicative skills in students, particularly, spoken English, games may be incorporated in the teaching-learning process as activities.

In the article, 'Intertwining Innovative Teaching-learning Practices in Classrooms', the author, Sunita Singh, underlines that teachers need to use innovative teaching-learning strategies, apart from the conventional lecture and chalk-and-talk methods, so as to enable a clearer understanding of concepts to the learners. She describes different teaching-learning methods like peer learning, peer tutoring and blended learning that would make the teaching-learning process more effective, informative and interactive.

In the next article, 'Catching them Young — Nurturing Primary Students into Global Citizens', author, Sangeeta Pethiya, emphasises that teachers can help students to inculcate global citizenship values right from the primary stage. One may undertake activities that would encourage the young learners to engage in reflective thinking, and also make them socially tolerant and respectful of diversity, while being ethically responsible for one's own actions.

In the article titled 'Primary Education e-Access Initiatives in India', authors, Pooja Jain, Parveen Babbar and Garima Dalal, provide an overview

of various digital platforms available for primary education in the country. These platforms have, primarily, been initiated by the Government of India for open access resources in different formats and languages.

The paper, 'Child Development — A Psychological Perspective', by Krishna Chandra Choudhary and Prabhat Kumar Mishra touches upon various domains of child development, such as physical, mental, emotional, psychological, and so on. It stresses that a learning environment, allowing maximum opportunities for play, is best suited for children's overall growth and development.

Vandana Kerur in her article, 'The Wind beneath their Wings', describes how Katharine, the lesser known sister of the famous Wright Brothers, fuelled their passion to invent an airplane. The article elaborates that though Katharine did not design, build or pilot the Wright Flyer, she still played a pivotal role in the lives of its inventors, i.e., her brothers — Wilbur and Orville, and was the wind beneath their wings in true sense. The article aims to encourage teachers to help the young learners realise the contributions of their silent supporters like parents, grandparents, siblings, neighbours, friends, etc., and acknowledge them.

The Journal also carries its regular features — 'From the States', 'Book Review', 'Did You Know' and 'My Page'.

In the 'From the States' section, author, Neeraja Rashmi, sheds light on how community effort helped establish India's first floating school in Manipur's Loktak Lake. The Loktak Floating Elementary School, inaugurated in the year 2017, is the country's first-ever floating school.

Ujjwal Banerjee presents a review of the storybook, '*What a song!*' by illustrator Jitendra Thakur, who also happens to be its author. Banerjee tries to underline the point that the roots of a country's literary traditions may be traced to its oral literature, which has survived over generations.

In the 'Did You Know' section, V. B. Patil talks about various educational kits designed and developed by the Division of Educational Kits (DEK), National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT), New Delhi. These portable kits are used by teachers across the country in classrooms as supplementary material to textbooks in order to ensure an interactive teaching-learning environment.

In the 'My Page' section, Varada M. Nikalje in the article titled 'The Scales of Languages', addresses the proposition that all languages are equal, and that no language is superior or inferior.

— Academic Editors