

## DID YOU KNOW

### NCERT Kits for the Elementary Stage

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The Division of Educational Kits (DEK) at the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT), New Delhi, is responsible for designing, development and production of various teaching-learning kits. Teachers across the country use these kits in classrooms as supplementary material to textbooks in order to ensure a participatory and engaging teaching-learning environment. Each kit, comprising aids and apparatuses, along with user manuals, comes in a portable container. The kits have the following benefits.

- Availability of necessary aids and apparatuses, along with the user manuals, at one place
- Easy portability from one place to another

The *National Curriculum Framework* (NCF) 2005, too, recommends the use of these kits in order to ensure a clearer understanding of concepts

by learners through hands-on learning approaches.

While textbooks serve as a springboard for instruction and learning, hands-on learning activities stimulate the mind of the students, encouraging reflective thinking and critical analysis of the concepts learnt in classrooms. At the completion of each chapter or unit, practical exercises and activities (using these kits) help the students to establish a relationship between concepts and synthesise their knowledge.

Such educational kits may be given to the students before teachers start a new topic. They should be given the opportunity to explore the material enclosed in these kits. This will help in retaining their interest in a particular subject. Hands-on activities may be used to enable the students observe the phenomena presented in their textbooks.

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The Division has developed kits for Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE), language, science and mathematics for various stages of school education. The kits are of multipurpose usage and appropriate for micro-scale techniques. They are priced reasonably.

### **UPPER PRIMARY SCIENCE KIT**

The Division has reviewed the old integrated science kits and modified them to suit the needs of new textbooks and curriculum. The Kit prototype has been developed in collaboration with the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Delhi. It offers scope for more than 200 activities at the upper primary stage (Classes VI, VII and VIII). The Kit contains more than 130 equipment and models, among other items. The user manuals for the Kit are available in English and Hindi.

### **EARLY SCHOOL MATHEMATICS LEARNING KIT**

The Kit has been developed as per design details provided by the Department of Elementary Education (DEE), NCERT. It contains 37 type of items like clock, stamp, Velcro items, tile, play money, place value cards, dominos, etc., which may be used for performing activities as outlined in the manual. This Kit is useful for students studying in pre-school and Classes I and II.

### **UPPER PRIMARY MATHEMATICS KIT**

The Division has developed a Mathematics Kit for the upper primary stage. It contains 19 type of items that may be used by students of Classes VI, VII and VIII for performing practical activities. This Kit would help the students to understand the mathematical concepts better in a joyful learning environment. A user manual in English and Hindi is also available. A video guide for the Kit has also been developed.

### **LANGUAGE KITS**

#### **Raindrops — English language learning kit**

The Division has developed this Kit for students of Classes I to V to improve their communication skills, particularly, spoken English. It contains story charts, poems, alphabet letter cards, language games, pronunciation cards, etc., The Kit facilitates active engagement with the English language in easy and fun-filled manner. A user manual is also included in the Kit.

#### **Primary Urdu Learning Kit**

The Division has developed a prototype Urdu Language Learning Kit for Classes I and II. It contains stories, word tiles, skill games, anagrams and riddles in Urdu.

## **EARLY CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION (ECCE) KIT**

### **Resource package for awareness in ECCE**

The NCERT has also developed a resource package for awareness in ECCE in English and Hindi. It consists of banners, posters, leaflets, badges, puppets and other items. It also contains manuals in Hindi and English. The Kit may be used for enhancing the awareness of teachers and teacher-educators as regards to ECCE.

### **PROCEDURE FOR PROCUREMENT**

These kits may be purchased from the DEK, NCERT, by States and Union

Territories (UTs). After making the purchase, the kits are distributed among government schools in the concerned States and Union Territories.

### **CONCLUSION**

It may, thus, be concluded that the NCERT has brought out educational kits in almost every subject for the elementary stage in order to make teaching-learning a fun-filled and an enjoyable experience for students, thereby, promoting interactive, participatory and learner centric environment. These kits are attractive, safe, portable and easy to use. The students may perform activities and experiments, using these kits, individually or in small groups under the supervision of a teacher.