

## LEARNING BY PLAYING: CREATING GAMES TO TEACH EDUCATIONAL TOPICS

TEACHER	Jineshaben L. Shah
SCHOOL	Sajna Talavdi Primary School, Karamsad, Anand 388325
PHONE NUMBER	9825-6789-95
E-MAIL	jinesha@gmail.com
YOUTUBE	Jinesha Shah
FACEBOOK	sajanatalavadi.primary



Scan QR-code  
to watch video



Ms. Jineshaben Shah became a teacher in 1998 and then head teacher at Sajna Talavdi Primary School in 2014. This Class 1-8 school has 200 students. The attendance was, however a problem – the children were working with their parents leading to a problem for poor attendance. The boys helped in running roadside stalls and engaged in retail labor. The girls did housework in other people's houses. The playground was very small – just a square of about 60 feet and so not many games could be played there. Jineshaben gave birth to the concept of “Learning by playing” involving many innovative games made by using waste material. Over a period of about four months, a number of games were designed with the help of the children. The children could play the games during the recess and some even during regular classes. They also helped in conducting the activities: teams were formed and a register was prepared for the young students to play a game according to their level. And for the benefit of all the children of the school, day-wise and standard-wise planning was also done.

Some of the games were “The world of numbers”, “My shadow”, “My house”, “My steps”, “Get up and sit down”. Math Checkers Game, Board Game, Puzzle Game for Fractions were created for easy addition and subtraction. Various games were created using balls and puzzles for teaching subjects like English and social sciences. The cost of making these games was very low but some donors contributed for the banners. These contributors included the local Lions Club, Madhuvan Foundation and some non-resident Indians.

The games have been tested by cluster and block resource centre coordinators and other teachers. They have also found place in Innovation Fairs.

Students have benefited greatly from the games, a fact that is well reflected in increased engagement with the subjects and the consequent increase in their performance. There has also been a marked improvement in their attendance and an interesting fact to note is that there are more girls than boys present in school on any given day. As a result, they get to wave the flag almost every day,



TLM for addition



Students learning tables



Student and teacher playing word game on the banner

which is a matter of great pride for them. About 75 children from private schools have come back to the school. There is a significant improvement in the academic quality of the students. They have been leading in NMMS, Navodaya and Std. 6 Scholarship examinations and have to their credit several Inspire Awards. The school's merit grade has increased to A + which is noteworthy. The students have been recognized as talented students by the Gujarat government.

Teachers from other districts have adopted many of these games introduced by Ms Jinesha. Government and private school teachers of nearby places visit the school to study these games and then implement them in their classrooms.

Ms. Jinesha Shah has received many awards such as the State Innovation Award, Nehru Science Centre Innovation Award, Makerfest Vadodara Innovation Award and India Star Proud Award.

The table below gives the details (for standard 1 to 8 students).

NO	STD	NAME OF GAME	DESCRIPTION
1	1-2	Anko ni duniya(world of numbers)	Alphabets and numbers in Gujarati and English banner
2	3-5	Maru ghar (My House)	Various shapes and colours information banner
3	6-8	Maro padchayo(My shadow)	Annexure between Maths and Language banner
4	1-5	Mara pagla (My Steps)	A banner about intelligence
5	1-5	Uthak bethal(Get-up-sitting)	Banner on physical strength
6	1-8	Chalo Nishale (let's go to school)	Maze-like game banner
7	3-5	Math Checkers	Multiplication Addition Subtraction Game Board
8	1-2	Mane jodo (Join me)	Card game about number knowledge
9	1-2	Maro number aapo (give my number)	Addition Subtraction Board game
10	1-2	Ketla thya (how many)	Addition Subtraction Board game
11	1-8	Bingo Ball	A game for numerical addition and subtraction of planets using useless bottles
12	1-2	Mane Nishan bano (Target me)	Numeracy game using different water bottles
13	1-8	Paherao ring (give ring)	Concentrate game
14	6-8	Fraction By Parts	A game for understanding numbers line
15	1-4	Maru fal mane aapo (give me my fruit)	Numerology game using useless hooks
16	6-8	Mane jodo (join me)	A game for understanding the flags of different countries in the social sciences
17	6-8	Fractional stairs	Game board for fractional understanding

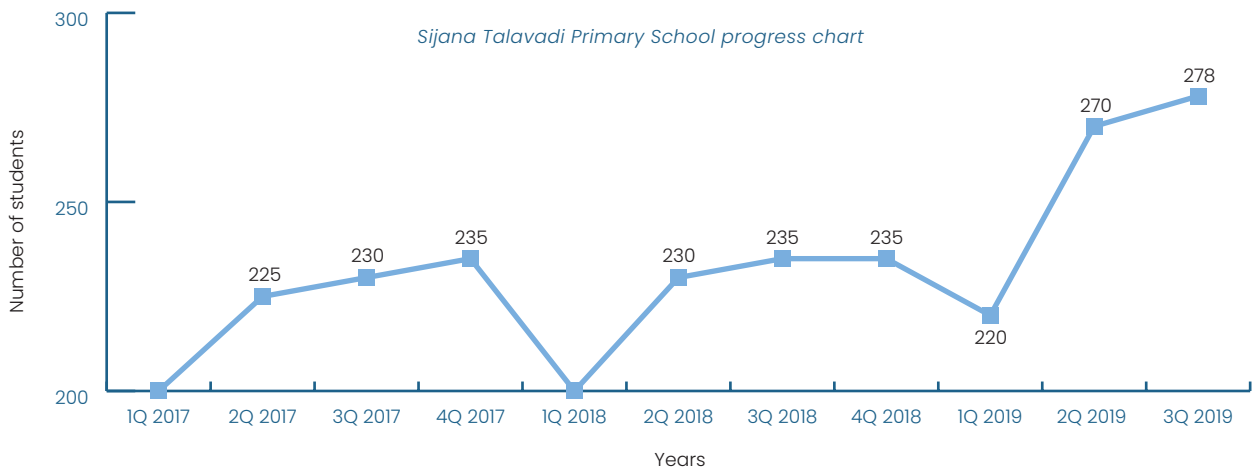


Table continuation

NO	STD	NAME OF GAME	DESCRIPTION
18	3-5	Give me Water (Mane pani aapo)	Multiplication game using a useless thermocol cup
19	6-8	Fraction bingo	Game board for fractional understanding
20	6-8	Machhliben kya chalya (where did you go fish)	Spellings game
21	3-8	Tables board	Clock learning game from useless water bottles
22	1-2	Tmaro ank kya (Where is your number)	An understanding game of numerology from a waste water bottle
23	3-5	Mane jodta su bane (What will you get after joining me)	A game of understanding small and large numbers and location value
24	3-5	Maro bhar ketlo lage (How much is my load)	Weightlifting game
25	6-8	Khuna ne jano (Know the angle)	Game for understanding different angles from Thermocol
26	5-8	Hu bije kya jau (Where else am I)	Game for understanding Ghadia, L.C.M. / H.C.F.
27	1-2	Maru kutumb (My Family)	Numeracy game
28	1-2	Mane pakdo to khara (catch me if you can)	Numeracy game
29	1-8	Rann ma sarjan (creation in the desert)	Alphabet game
30	3-8	Mane purn karo (complete me)	Attach the story from the ice cream spoon game
31	3-4	RollAShape	Game for shapes
32	3-4	Tangram puzzles	Game for understanding the shapes of tangram

NO	STD	NAME OF GAME	DESCRIPTION
33	5	Tu maro gunak, hu taro avayav	Game about factors
34	6-8	Fit Man Fat Man	Game for eating habits
35	6-8	Fire Safety Game	Fire safety game
36	6-8	Parts of the Body Game	Game for body parts
37	6-8	Board game	Game of volcano
38	6-8	Board game	Game about global warming
39	6-8	Maru jivan (my life)	A game about the life cycle of butterflies and frogs
40	6-8	Maths calendar	A calendar showing the various processes of mathematics
41	6-8	Word consonant number	Game for language comprehension
42	6-8	Bhai bhai hu kya chhu	Game for language comprehension
43	6-8	Play card game	Game for language comprehension
44	6-8	One minute please	Game for language comprehension
45	6-8	Anti-synonym word game	Game for language comprehension
46	6-8	The parable of the proverb	Game for language comprehension
47	6-8	Idiom	Game for language comprehension
48	6-8	Word game for word set	Game for language comprehension
49	6-8	An animal-bird proverb	Game for language comprehension
50	6-8	Conversely	Game for language comprehension



### QUESTIONS FOR TEACHERS

1. What co-curricular activities should be organized for the development of functional skills in children?
2. What do you think about the fact that school should strive for physical development along with mental development of children?
3. What activities can be carried out for the physical development of children in school?

### QUESTIONS FOR TRAINEES

1. What games can be played to explain maths to children?
2. What care should be taken while playing games to give children an understanding of the content?
3. What activities can be undertaken to motivate children to come to school?