

## TONIC OF LOGICAL POWER

TEACHER	Parmar Ashokbhai Mohanlal
SCHOOL	Hiten Dholakia Primary School, Ta - Bhuj, Dist - Kutch - 370001
PHONE NUMBER	9427-2493-62
E-MAIL	mr.ashokmp@rediffmail.com



Scan QR-code  
to watch video



Ashokbhai Mohanlal Parmar obtained a Primary Teaching Certificate in 1993 and started teaching in 1998 at Babiya Primary School in Mundra, Kutch. He later completed his graduation from Gujarat University, B.Ed. from Dr. Ambedkar University, and MA in Education from Jain Vishva Bharti. He is now engaged in doctoral studies (Teaching of Mathematics through Video Games) from C.U. Shah University.

In 2005, Mr. Parmar was selected as SRG (State Resource Group) member for mathematics. He became involved in Math textbook writing and editing for classes 5 to 7. In 2018, when the government shifted to NCERT textbooks, he translated Class 1-2 books and reviewed Class 3-8 Math textbooks. He was also involved in preparing numeracy material for Classes 1-2. He has also taught Math through satellite (BISAG) of the state government, besides being involved in various other distance education initiatives. He has also participated in the manual and video preparation of the NCERT Math kit.

To develop reasoning ability in children, Shri Parmar, in 2016, introduced the concept of puzzle solving. Every day during the morning assembly. He called this initiative “Tonic of Logical Power.” Every day a puzzle was written on the board during the morning assembly. Students would note it down in their notebooks and solve it during the day. The next day, during the assembly, the answer to the earlier day’s quiz was discussed. The number of students giving the correct answer increased noticeably over time. The puzzles included number patterns, word patterns, missing figures, cause-effect relation in numbers, problem-solving, social-relations web – all designed to develop mathematics ability. The activity gradually went electronic through WhatsApp groups. The names of the students giving the right answers were then circulated. This evolved into puzzle competitions, with three of the best students receiving books as prizes. Similar puzzle competitions were organized for teachers through WhatsApp groups. The main



Daily puzzle solving in morning assembly



Girl solving puzzles in the classroom



*Solving puzzles in group*

outcome was the development of reasoning ability, pattern understanding, and problem-solving ability in children as well as adults.

Mr. Parmar also runs a YouTube channel, in which videos related to mathematical concepts, word problems, and maths activities are posted.

Also, a Facebook page by the name Maths Puzzle is in operation. Every day a new post on maths problems and simplifying teaching of the subject is posted. Teachers from the state give puzzles on WhatsApp groups to their students to solve. The project is thus not limited to a school but expanded across the state.

The activity is monitored through the number of students who can provide the correct answer. Interest surveys have also been carried out, and about 60% to 70% of the students participating in the activity find it useful. In all, about 3000 students and teachers are part of the activity. In four and a half years, 1662 puzzles have been used, and the activity is still continuing. Parents are also getting involved now.

Mr. Parmar has been recognized for his work – he has received the best teacher awards at the district level and from various organizations, including the Gujarat Science Academy. He strongly believes that activities like “Tonic of Logical Power” improve the mathematical abilities of students as well as teachers.



#### QUESTIONS FOR TEACHERS

1. What activities can be done to explain the use of puzzles in everyday life?
2. What are the benefits of doing math with activity?
3. How should children be persuaded to analyze information?

#### QUESTIONS FOR TRAINEES

1. What qualities do children develop through group activities?
2. What activities can be organized for the development of reasoning in children?
3. What can be done to motivate children for self-study?