

Report on Jal Itihaas

‘Water is life’s matter and matrix, mother and medium. There is no life without water.’

The Jal Itihaas project, an educational programme, spearheaded by the Itihaas organization in partnership with the National Water Mission of India, was aimed to ignite a passion for water conservation among the energetic students of Class V. It also enhanced their knowledge, critical thinking, experiential learning, and respect for water and its historical significance. Students participated in various interactive sessions spreading over four months and thoroughly enjoyed the activities.

The highlights of the project were:

* **Be water-wise to become ‘Paani ke Pehredar’:** A hands-on experience of using a single glass of water wisely and briefing about the science behind the usage of clay pots helped the students to understand that even simple practices can make a big difference.

* **The ‘Water’ Word Wall and Class Dictionary:** This engaging activity involved visualizing and compiling words related to different aspects of water. It enhanced the students' vocabulary.

***The Colour of Water:** Students made a statement by wearing t-shirts in hues that mirrored their vision of the colour of water.

* **Know your Rivers:** Marking the rivers of India on a life-size map and guided discussions helped students explore the historical, cultural, and ecological significance of water bodies. It also helped them understand how civilizations thrived along their banks.

* **Song Composition:** A collaborative songwriting activity in Hindi, English, or bilingual, worked very well with the young creative minds, as it helped in promoting creativity, teamwork, and self-expression.

* **Excursion:** An educational day excursion to the stepwell, Rajon ki Baoli, in New Delhi created awareness about ancient water conservation methods.

* **Pani ke Patrakar:** The students turned into investigative reporters, gathering vital information on water usage and drainage systems in their surroundings, and presented their findings using innovative styles, showcasing their journalistic skills and water awareness.

* **River Corner:** Students showcased their knowledge by creating a dedicated corner highlighting their allotted river's current state and proposing innovative restoration methods.

The project culminated with an incredible learning experience which fostered their understanding of water conservation and river protection. They explored the ancient methods of water harvesting and distribution and learnt how these practices are still relevant today. They also worked together to create models, share ideas, and reflect on how we can revive rivers and conserve water in our daily lives.

