

# **Pudiyador Times**

Special Edition : Arts & Crafts

Issue 39 April - June 2019

**Dear friends,** Vanakkam! In this special edition of our quarterly newsletter, we will see the works of our budding artists of Pudiyador and the art programs that help them create their masterpieces. We will also read about how the kids have spent their summer. *Warning : some content may inspire jealousy.* 

This summer had been particularly brutal on our youngest children and everyone else at our learning centers, resulting in heat strokes and temporary closing of centers. To improve our learning environment over the hot summer, we are considering placing inexpensive air coolers. Please consider extending your support! Click on the donate buttons below or email us at info@pudiyador.org.

Our team strives hard to facilitate many such programs to enrich the lives of those at Pudiyador. Thank YOU for enabling Pudiyador to go from strength to strength with your continued support! Together lets continue our process of creating many a memorable childhood at Pudiyador.

Warm regards, The Pudiyador team



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## **Pudiyador Art Exhibition**





"Every child is an artist. The problem is how to

#### remain an artist once we grow up." - Pablo Picasso

The adults visiting Elliot's beach on *Car-free Sundays* of April 28 and May 5 were able to interact with the artists of Pudiyador and re-engage with the art-lover within them. The wares on display - Pudiyador's masterpieces - were available for purchase by the visitors of the beach. Overall, **the kids sold all their handicrafts** and made around **Rs. 5000** towards the development of their Pudiyador centres - an excellent couple days of work!

Our children not only created beautiful works of art but also got to transact with a real-world audience, which isn't always easy. The potential "clients" were a mix of smiling, admiring, encouraging, and sometimes ignoring or harsh adults. Our children smiled charmingly through every customer interaction and made us all proud by exhibiting their artistic, language, and mathematical skills



Kids wait at their "store-front" for the visitors during the wee hours of the morning. Perhaps a few butterflies in the stomach.



Kids worked together to create these works of art which were on sale - look at those earrings and

bangles! It was truly a great bonding experience for the kids to work together on creating their artworks after school.



Every single child loved this new experience of interacting with visitors of all ages and backgrounds. It was truly remarkable to see how confidently they interacted with the customers, switching between Tamil and English with ease

### **Summer Camp for Arts**



Clockwise from top left : Oyilattam, zen-doodling, wildlife photography and parai attam

Summer Camp of 2019 was vastly successful with plenty of teachers spending time at Pudiyador teaching their craft to the children. Children were coached on traditional art forms such as **Oyilattam, Parai attam, Bharatanatyam, Koothu, Kattaikuttu** and skills such as **Photography, Stop-motion video making** (check out some magic <u>here</u>), **Street theatre, Handicraft making and Robotics**.



Robotics sessions have been a recent addition to the activity-based learning curriculum

## The Art of Living

#### "Life is the art of drawing without an eraser." - John Gardner

At Pudiyador we believe that while it is important for children to learn how to wield a brush, it is equally important for them to learn how to architect a better self and society for the future. A child needs a productive and enriching childhood to lay the foundations of development in the process of creating a better tomorrow. Particularly, it is vital that the childhood experiences inculcate the ideals of civic responsibility, health & nutrition, communal bonding and education, with a underlying thread of happiness. Honing these traits and applying the amalgam effectively in daily life is an art that the kids at Pudiyador work on everyday.



(Clockwise from top) The Pudiyador teenager program included a **kabaddi training session** at the beach. The teens **partnered with the Bhumi NGO for a cleanup at Elliot's beach** that the society had neglected. **Monthly Child Parliament "Assembly Meetings"** are organized to create political awareness among the teens from an early age. We provide education on current policies, policymakers and processes of elections and governance in an activity-based learning format in order to empower kids with the right tools to implement the change in the world they want to see.



Exclusive sessions on **life skills**, with personal attention to each child, are a primary agenda at Pudiyador. Here we see children teaming together to build a habit of reading the dailies and exploring new locations for their evening reading. Our weekly curricular and co-curricular activities (yoga, outdoor games, music etc.) continue with **over 90% regular attendance** on average across the sites.

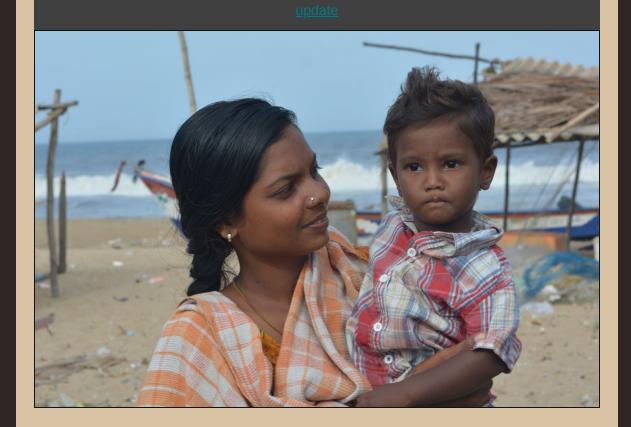
Pudiyador staff helped create **post office savings account** for children in all centres. Children learned how to complete paperwork to deposit into their recurring deposit accounts.



Every one of us who have had a meal on the terrace under the moonlight, or a bbq cookout at a campsite can understand the bonding experience that "going out" to eat brings to our lives. The Pudiyador version of it this summer was a **farm visit to Vengal** - a bullock cart ride followed by open-fire cooking (with guides - no worries) culminating in a group meal under shady mango trees. Excusable that some kids are too occupied to pose for pictures ;)

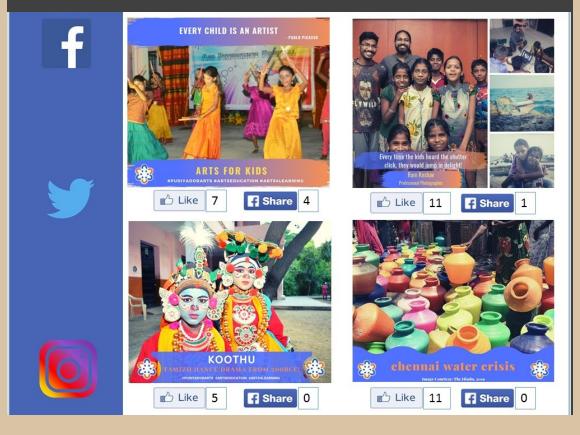
#### **Cradle Program Update**

Read more about the updates to CRADLE programming towards empowering young mothers and providing them healthcare counseling at <a href="https://tinyurl.com/cradle-june-">https://tinyurl.com/cradle-june-</a>



#### **Pudiyador at Social Media**

Our social outreach team continue to extend the presence of Pudiyador on social media. Please check out the content using the links below and make sure to like/follow us for frequent updates about Pudiyador events. Bonus points for spreading the word :)





Thank you for reading on ! Until next time with the next newsletter, best wishes from your Pudiyador newsletter team.

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