Journey From Learning to Read Towards Reading to Learn
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"The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more you learn, the more places you’ll go.”
— Dr. Seuss, “I Can Read With My Eyes Shut!”

Indeed, reading brings us to places ‘far away from home’ and it is part of our development goals to support our children in Nepal, in particular the most vulnerable ones, not just to simply understand what they are reading, but also to give them chance to broaden their world view. World Vision International Nepal (WVIN) works to support of the Government of Nepal’s Education Priorities to improve children’s learning skills, in partnership with the parents, school, education authorities and local implementing partner organisations. We are humbled to be part of the efforts to provide support for the operations of 239 Reading Camps in 5 districts namely Doti, Jumla, Lamjung, Sindhuli and Udayapur. In total, to date, we have supported more than 685 Reading Camps! It is a moment of joy to see the local volunteers enabling a joyful learning environment every Saturday with children from the community joining the reading camps with excitement in their eyes and smile on their face of exploring new reading materials.

We believe we share the a common view that education is the best development investment for our children in Nepal to reach their full potential, aligned with World Visions’ vision for ‘every child to embrace life in all its fullness’. Challenges and long read ahead remain, but we are committed to continue working hard with the Government of Nepal at all level, parents, school, and local partners to strive achieving this goal.

Janes Imanuel Ginting
National Director
World Vision International Nepal
Nine years old Bhumika, the third child of her parents and a resident of the Himalayan district - Jumla, is currently studying in grade three. Bhumika used to be busy in local games with her friends on Saturdays before the initiation of Shankar Reading Camp in the village. Nowadays, she gets up early in the morning every Saturday washes her hands, eats breakfast, and gets ready for reading camp. Upon arriving at the camp, she sings child songs with other classmates and reads interesting storybook and plays educational games in the classroom. Along with the local songs, they dance in other songs too and craft different shapes in Sketch. They also tell stories. Her favourite activity in class is singing.

“\textit{The local teachers mentioned that it is now easier to admit 100 percent children in school because of the camp.}”

Bhumika
Jumla

Exams have become easier

- Bhumika
- Jumla
After joining the reading camp, Bhumika has learned to manage time. She has also started sharing everything with her parents that happened in the camp. She mentioned that it has become easier to give school exams because of the camp. Now she has developed a habit of maintaining sanitation, reading and has also stopped playing in the dirt.

The parents here were unaware of developing schooling habits in children and generate their interest in reading. With the help of World Vision International Nepal, parents get orientated monthly under ‘Raw Session’ where parents are taught to check on their children’s studies through use of pictures and stories. Children have also realized that learning is fun and entertaining if done right. The local teachers mentioned that it has become easier to admit 100 percent children in schools because of the camp.

Bhumika suggests that the duration of education camp is too short. She wishes there were more classes per week. She says, “It would be better if classes were run in other holidays too and the class hours should be increased to three hours instead of just two hours”. The local stakeholders also agree with Bhumika’s statement and stressed that there should be at least three hours of classes and more educational materials. They also wish that the classes would continue beyond the project for which they are willing to speak with authorized personnel.
I have discovered my love for studying

Shri Krishna
Jumla

Almost all of the children in Shri Krishna's village used to spend Saturdays and other holidays by playing and running around in the dirt. Thoughts of studying on Saturdays was something that never occurred to them.

Nine years old Shri Krishna was no different and spent Saturdays and holidays by playing. Shri Krishna, who lives with his parents and one sister, has witnessed changes in his daily life after attending Kalika Reading Camps on Saturdays.

At camp, he reads, plays, paints, sings and dances with other friends. His favorite activity at camp is to hear and tell stories. Shri Krishna, who used to get fourth position in his school before coming to the camp,
has now upgraded to second position. He says; “I had always thought studying was a boring task until I joined reading camp. Now it is fun to read and I have started loving it.”

“I had always thought studying was a boring task until I joined reading camp. Now it is fun to read and I have started loving it.”

Not so keen in sanitation, Shri Krishna used to go swimming in a dirty river near the village on holidays but after coming to the camp, he has developed hygienic habits and has stopped going to the river:

“He even tries to fight with me if I ever stop him from attending the camp”, says his grandfather with laughter. Shri Krishna is also disciplined more than ever and has taught his family members to be disciplined too. Shri Krishna’s parents are also fully supportive and have provided him with everything he needs for his studies.

Local stakeholders have expressed their desire to extend the training camp duration and make extra educational material available for the camps. The camp has improved studies of not only Shree Krishna, but many other children as well. This has motivated the stakeholders, including parents of the children, to collect beans and maize from all the houses to be sold later for running the reading camps even after the project phases out.
Simana

Simana is nine years old and lives with her father, mother, grandparents, a brother and a sister. As a third-grader she used to spend her holidays, including Saturdays by playing with her friends. Nowadays, every Saturday she gets up early in the morning, washes her hands and heads towards Namuna Reading Camp after lunch. At camp, she sings with other friends, tells stories, makes pictures, and even plays games on the roof of the camp. Among all activities she mostly adores narrating the stories.

Simana’s performance in her school wasn’t very great. After attending Reading Camp, her studies have improved a lot and she has been paying more attention to personal hygiene such as bathing, brushing

“At first I had difficulties in speaking but now neither I speak bad words nor let other in my family make such utterance.”
her teeth and she is always busy reading her story books in home as well. It was very difficult to motivate students to attend schools regularly in the village. Most of them did not like to go to school and some students could not even recognize the alphabets even after going to school for a few years. Also, the challenge was to bring 100 percent of the children to school.

Simana Buda also used to go to school, but she never had the impulse to study. She always loved to play with friends. Not only that, she was also unaware of how and what to speak. She says, “At first I had difficulties in speaking but now neither I speak bad words nor let other in my family make such utterance”

Unlike past Simana’s result in class have now improved a lot. As said by her grandmother; there has been drastic improvement in Simana’s accent and she is more inclined to cleanliness of house too. Simana’s parents who attain monthly meeting of Reading camp have brought computer for her to help in her education. There have been significant improvements in the education of the children from the study camps and 100% of the students are going to school. Therefore, there is a need for continuity of camps and adequate educational and sports materials.
Focused on reading

Anjana
Sindhuli

Children from Anjana’s village in Sindhuli used to spend holidays like any other average child, playing in the dirt. Parents were constantly worried about how to change their children’s playing habit into reading. The initiation of World Vision International Nepal and Chandi Banjyang Reading Camp has taken away their concerns. Currently, 12 students are attending the camp among whom, 9 year old Anjana is one of the brightest. She lives with her parents, three sisters and a brother. Her father works as an office assistant in a local school.

Anjana studies in class 2 and before Reading Camps, she loved Saturdays for one and only reason; which is, not having to go to school. She used to play all day long during Saturdays but now, her routine has taken a positive turn. Every Saturday, she gets up early in the morning, freshens up and goes to camp after having breakfast. At the camp, she plays various creative games with other friends, sings songs, reads story books, writes, paints, and even writes daily notes. She is very fond of drawing.
She eats her lunch as soon as she reaches home from the camp and takes bath after which, instead of going to play, she reads story books and plays educational games at home with her siblings. “Since she participated in the camp, she has gotten much better at recognizing letters and pronunciation. She immediately finishes her homework after returning from school on weekdays too”, says her mother. She likes to teach her sisters what she has learnt in the camp. She has been teaching her sister not to eat dirty foods and says that they should not go anywhere without their parent’s permission. Though her father has not received any training, he has set up a separate study room for his children. He recalls the support of World Vision International Nepal during the earthquake and how his children received educational materials during those hard times. The Reading Camp has not only improved the education of Anjana, but most of the children who attend Reading Camp have achieved positive changes in one way or around. Every child has different needs and different ability to learn which is why the camp provides various educational activities to better suit the needs of individual children. Children have found their love for books due to the camp.

Teachers, Local Guardians, facilitator and people’s representatives have expressed their desire to conduct monitoring activities time and again in the Reading Camp to ensure the quality of education provided there. They further wish that the camp being operated in a room of its own and not in a community building mainly due to lack in adequate space and infrastructure.
Boost in Confidence

Shishir
Sindhuli

It was difficult for children in Shishir’s village in Sindhuli to be motivated to attend schools regularly. Most of the children loathed schools because of the primitive methods used in the school for studying. Since the establishment of Shokhubesi Reading Camp, children have rediscovered their love for learning. Currently, 17 children are regularly attending the camp every Saturday. Shishir is the one with a good sense of humor. He likes to crack jokes and make everyone laugh in the class. This was all due to the active participatory activities in the camp and Shishir has already forgotten how shy he used to be before the reading camp came into operation.

Shishir lives with his parents, grandmother and an eldest brother. Every Saturday, he wakes up in the morning, brushes his teeth...
and washes up, eats lunch and rushes towards Reading Camp. The camp has activities like studying by playing, singing, telling stories, question answers on general things, writing down the names of various objects, noting down the daily activities and making pictures. His favorite thing to do is reading storybooks.

“My handwriting has improved a lot now and I am able to read with more fluency. I am the second boy in my class and the camp has helped a lot to achieve this”, says Shishir, who is studying in class 3 in Shri Sunkoshi Ma Vi.

“My son used to have trouble speaking even Nepali fluently, now his fluency has improved a lot”, says Shishir’s mother. She adds, “He used to dislike school mainly because of his lack of speaking but now he enjoys his school as well. He is a diligent student and never misses schools. His behavior has also improved and his general knowledge on things has gotten better. Besides studies, he has started embracing sanitation and is disciplined too. He has learned several new games and even asks us to sing songs and recite poems”. Shishir’s father is a school teacher and assists Shishir in his studies. Reading Camps have improved the education and personal hygiene of many other children like Shishir which is why the parents have suggested that the funds used to pay for their snacks during parents’ meetings to be utilized for sustainable operation of the Reading Camp.
Manoj lives in a remote geographical location and is 7 years old now. He studies in class 3 in Shri Aadharbhatt School. He has younger sisters and they live with their parents in a village in Sindhuli. Prior to the inception of the Mathillo Thulo Dhunga Reading Camp, Manoj used to spend holidays, including Saturdays by playing. Nowadays he wakes up early every Saturday, gets his morning routine done and heads to the Reading Camp. In the camp, the first thing they do is have an introduction round, which has helped build the participant's social
“It is easier for me to remember things because of reading by writing in the Camp. Now I have started being first in my class at school.”

Manoj hasn’t only improved in his studies, he is equally focused on his personal hygiene. He likes to take a bath himself, brushes his teeth daily, and washes his clothes himself. “He reads daily in front of us. He is very much interested in reading and tries to play new educational games”, says Manoj’s father who could not pursue education due to various reasons and wishes his son does not go through the same.

Manoj has a separate study room in his house, thanks to his father. His father has even arranged for solar lights in his study room since the village has no electricity. Manoj’s father is very much keen on his children’s education and has even enrolled him in a tuition in the morning and evening. He likes to sit with his children when they study and likes to help them with all he can.

Raju, Ward Chairman of Fikal Rural Municipality-5, says that there has been a huge change in the education and reading habits of other children like Manoj in the area due to Reading Camps. He said that during meetings, concerned people were showing desire to have more Reading Camps in the area and the camps that are currently in operation should continue with additional facilities even after the project phases out.
Kumbeshwari Reading Camp lies at about four hours after crossing the road from Katari Bazar in Udayapur district. Every Saturday, 23 children attend the camp with the goal of improving their education. Daiya Kumari is one of them.

Daiya Kumari is 6 years old and currently studying in class 3 in Shree Secondary School. She has two brothers and her parents in the family. Before attending the Reading Camp, her primary holiday activity was herding goats with her friends. She had to walk through dangerously tough terrain in order to feed her goats. Now that she is an active participant of Reading Camp, her holiday activities has changed for good. Every Saturday, she attends the camp in the morning and engages in productive activities in her house for the remainder of the day. “Of the various activities at the camp, I like to make paintings,” says Daiya Kumari. She said that the camp has enriched her interest in various extracurricular activities. “She has started reading books at home daily. Now her free time at home is spent making pictures, reading story books and singing songs.”

Daiya tells us about her daily routine on Saturdays
activities such as singing, educational games and storytelling. “I used to be in fourth position in grade 2 and now I stand in second position” she adds. Daiya Kumari’s father was imprisoned many years ago so she was raised by her mother. Her mother, DilKumari, says, “After attending the camp, I have noticed gradual changes in her discipline. She has started reading books at home daily. Now her free time at home is spent making pictures, reading story books and singing songs.” She has also developed the habit of helping with household chores like cleaning and cooking.

Daiya Kumari’s family members continuously assist her in studies and are always encouraging her by listening to her songs, praising the sketch and inspiring to improve them. Besides Reading Camp, Daiya’s family have also received clothes and blankets from World Vision International Nepal in the past.

Som Kumari, the facilitator of Kumbeshwari Reading Camp says, “Participants of this Reading Camp have developed a sense of regularity in attending their schools after they joined this camp. I see happy faces every Saturday”. She adds that the students were more motivated to study after World Vision International Nepal provided stationeries and bags to the participants. She has also taken various training to teach her students in new ways. Her only concern is the sustainability of Reading Camp once the project is phased out but she is also positive that the community will help continue the camp even if there is no additional support from donors.
Keshika’s village is one of the most rural areas of Udayapur and was recently connected to the highway by road and electricity connectivity is something that may take another few years. No wonder there is a lack of awareness on education in a place like this. That is why World Vision International Nepal has set up Machhapuchhre Reading Camp with the aim to improve studies of the students residing there. Keshika is one of the participants in this camp. She studies in class 1 in Shree Madhyamik Bidyalaya.

Keshika is 5 years old living with her father, mother and a brother. She is a regular student of Machhapuchhre Reading Camp where she plays, sings, dances, draws and learns while doing those activities in the camp. She used to have difficulties reading texts but now she can read storybooks without effort. She loves stories and takes storybooks to her school regularly to read stories to her friends as well.
Her mother delightedly says, “She used to hand me storybooks to read so that she can listen. I read to her a few times but later I stopped reading for her. To my surprise, she started reading stories by herself in a few weeks. I couldn’t be happier.”

Keshika likes her books and takes good care of them. She is constantly waiting for Saturdays so she can attend Reading Camp to read and listen to more stories. The camp has helped participants in maintaining discipline and hygiene through stories. Besides reading, Keshika likes to sing and dance as well. Her parents help her by listening to her stories and explaining meanings of difficult words in the story.

Ganga Bahadur, a member of Ward 4, says that there are many positive aspects of the Reading Camp. He says, “After attending the camp, I have noticed that children have started greeting seniors whenever they met. Not only that, Keshika is now able to introduce herself at such a young age. This indicates development in their social skills from an early age”.

Reading Camp: Journey from Learning to Read towards Reading to Learn

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“To my surprise, she started reading stories by herself in a few weeks. I couldn’t be happier.”

Keshika shows her drawing in her study corner
Keshika poses for a photo
Keshika is the sweetest girl in her class

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There is a beautiful village inside Udayapur where Sagarmatha Reading Camp is located. Every Saturday, 22 children gather in the camp to start their day with entertaining education. Devraj is one of the 22 participants in the camp. Devraj is the eldest son in his family and currently studying in grade two. He who is 7 years old has a brother with whom he likes to play and do activities learnt in the Reading Camp. Devraj’s family has received various types of support in addition to Reading Camps; in agricultural sector from NESPEC to make tomato tunnel, training to grow cauliflower and even has received nutritious food with other support.

Like every other kid in his village, he used to spend his Saturdays playing games with his brother and friends. By the

“*It’s easier to learn through songs and I have started to feel more comfortable to listen and tell stories.*”

**Devraj**  
**Udayapur**
end of the day, all of them were usually covered in dirt. Now that he attends the camp, he has no time to play in the dirt. Instead, he is busy in various activities in the camp after which he returns home, eats his lunch and takes bath. Since he joined the Reading Camp, he started paying special attention to his personal hygiene. He likes to listen to stories in the camp. He says, “The camp has developed my reading habits. It’s easier to learn through songs and I have started to feel more comfortable to listen and tell stories, doing different activities and drawing”. He says that he is currently focusing his attention on storytelling, painting, cutting nails and cleanliness.

His mother, says that his studies have improved after joining the camp. “He is also active in playing games, singing songs and reading stories. It was hard for him to pronounce letters before coming here but now he has improved a lot”, she adds. Devraj has collected the drawings he has made in the camp and has them displayed in Reading Corner in his house. With World Vision International Nepal’s support, Devraj’s family has received help in farming tomatoes and cauliflower.

Devaraj’s teacher Phulkumari says, “Back when he was in class 1, he had difficulties reading Nepali letters but now he has improved a lot. Children pay more attention to story books than their text books but they are learning words as well. I have also seen positive changes in their cleanliness as well”.

Reading Camp: Journey from Learning to Read towards Reading to Learn
Climbing positions in class

Lakshmi
Doti

Lakshmi lives in a small village in Doti in the far west province with her parents, grandparents, two brothers and a younger sister. She studies in class 3 at Sri Kali Bhairav Secondary School. Nuwakot Reading Camp came into operation in the village where Lakshmi and 23 other students are being taught with love. Lakshmi used to spend her holidays by playing all day long but now, that has changed and her holiday activities after enrolling in camp includes reading stories, singing, dancing and painting. She is one of the cleanest kids in the camp who takes regular care of her hair, nails and cleanliness.

Whenever the facilitator of the camp runs late due to various reasons, students including Lakshmi play independent games, which is playing whatever educational games that are available in the camp. After the facilitator arrives, they sing songs, share daily activities, tell stories, make different things from local ingredients and return home with their creation of the week. Lakshmi loves playing with friends most. After returning home from the camp, Lakshmi continues her day eating, bathing, washing clothes, combing her hair, playing and

“I used to be in the 24th position in grade two. After attending the camp, I have upgraded to 8th position and all of my teachers are in awe.”

Lakshmi is all ready for Reading Camp
reading books. She proudly says, ‘I used to be in the 24th position in grade two. After attending the camp, I have upgraded to 8th position and all of my teachers are in awe’. This has proved the effectiveness of Reading Camps among school teachers as well which is why Lakshmi’s school teachers encourage others to attend the camp as well.

“I used to think my daughter was too lazy to read books but now I know that the techniques for motivating children to read really matters. She even studies books after the camp during Saturdays and tells us stories from the book. She also makes drawings of us sometimes”, says Lakshmi’s mother with a smile. Lakshmi’s mother further added that her daughter has learnt the importance of hard work, cleanliness and especially has understood the concept of time from the camp. Lakshmi’s supportive spirit has evolved more than ever and likes to help her mother at home.

Doteli language is the mother tongue of people in Doti and most of the children aren’t comfortable with Nepali language. Lakshmi’s case was the same. Speaking Nepali language correctly was very hard for Lakshmi but now that has changed dramatically. All of the children in the area have developed good Nepali language skills. Lakshmi is always curious about whether the stories in songs and poetry are real and tries to get the lessons from those stories. This has made her a more disciplined child. Fortunately for Lakshmi, her parents are well educated and they are very much supportive in her learning activities at home as well. They ask about what she has learnt in the camp as soon as she returns home which motivates her even more. Lakshmi’s mother has also received training from the Child Protection Committee, Healthy Village Training and more. Lakshmi’s sister is listed as a Registered Child and gets regular support from World Vision International Nepal.

Bhojraj, the principal of Shri Kali Bhairav Mavi, says that the camp has properly utilized children’s free time on Saturdays. He also acknowledges the provision of monthly meetings with parents and training for members of the management committee.
11 year old Suresh from Doti lives with his elder brother, a younger sister and parents. Suresh always had the idea that Saturdays weren’t meant for studying. Instead, he used to graze animals every Saturday with his friends and play.

Kucheda Reading Camp has changed Saturdays for children like Suresh. Every Saturday, Suresh and 20 other children attend the camp to study. Suresh has stopped grazing goats on Saturdays and started productive activities in the camp like reading, writing, drawing and recognizing alphabets. Among all these activities, he likes to play games such as Mice and Cat, Hot Potato. “I did not even know ABCD back then, but now I know,” he said.

Suresh’s father is a mason by profession. Suresh’s mother is ill most of the
times. Thousands of rupees have already been spent to treat his sick mother. His family has no other sources of income but they have the willingness to educate their children. World Vision has given him educational materials and toys in the past.

Suresh did not like to attend school before participating in the camp. Now he has started going to school regularly due to his new found interest in learning. Unlike past days, he has started doing his home assignments regularly and takes care of personal hygiene. He used to refuse reading books due to his lack of skills but now he fluently reads them with his parents in front of him.

The camp has not only changed reading habits in Suresh but also developed his learning habits. He urges the facilitator to create new songs and invent new games. Facilitator Rambha recalls that Suresh used to keep his nails long and sometimes used nail polishes. Now he has become more aware of sanitation. “His naughtiness has also calmed a lot since he came here”, she adds. Although his family has a hard time arranging nicer things for Suresh, they have prepared a study corner for him. His father never misses the monthly parent’s meeting, ‘Raw Session’. According to the local guardians, school teachers, School Management Committe and even local Representatives, the children are using their Saturday productively after the camp started in their village. The camp has been operating in school building due to lack of proper facilities but he school building is no better as they have to suffer during rain because of seeping roof. They wish The Reading Camps were built in permanent infrastructure with plenty of educational materials and toys for children.
Most of Doteli children are uncomfortable to speak to new faces because their native language is not Nepali. Nine years old Bibek was the same. He used to be a shy boy who didn’t want to open up to strangers. He used to spend his Saturdays grazing bulls and playing hide and seek. He also used to help in other household chores. When Matela Reading Camp started in the village, his Saturday activities have changed drastically. He wakes up early on Saturday morning, cleans himself, brushes teeth and takes breakfast before going to the Reading Camp. He has quit grazing animals which is a danger in hilly areas.

In the camp, he is involved in singing, reading books, writing and drawing. He loves drawing pictures and has a good collection at home in his study corner. Bibek has climbed his way to the third position in his class from being in the 15th position. “A child who did not know a single
alphabet has now started reading after joining this camp”, says his father: “Bibek is equally focused on his hygiene and is more disciplined than before”, he adds.

Like most of the parents of Reading Camp participants, Bibek’s parents have also built a separate study space for his study. His elder sister supports him in his studies at home. His parents have also realized the importance of their children’s education because of which, they constantly visit his school and the Reading Camp. While his parents have not received any assistance from any organizations, they are happy to see their son’s improvement in studies sue to the Reading Camp.

His father shows his gratitude towards World Vision International Nepal for their effort in improving education in the area.

Dharmaraj, a teacher at NavodayaAadharbhot School says, “I usually see the children start their preparation for Saturday’s Reading Camp from Friday. I had never seen children so excited for studies”. According to him, participants of Reading Camp have better knowledge of external subjects compared to those who don’t attend Reading Camps. The locals, including Bibek’s parents, wish the camp would run at least two days a week and would enroll children from higher grades as well.
Diwash, from a small Dalit family of Lamjung is 9 years old. He lives with his father, mother and a brother. Diwash used to spend his Saturdays and other holidays by playing with friends. But after joining Deepjyoti Reading camp, his diary has changed. Diwash, who didn’t use to pay much attention to his personal hygiene as well as his studies, has become accustomed to activities like cleaning his teeth, washing his hands and getting up early in the morning. Now a days, after returning home from school, he ignores going to different places with friends and focuses on doing homework. Diwash has also developed the habit of drawing pictures, writing and even has opt out the habit of roaming unneccesarily during the holidays.

Since joining the camp, his attachment towards education has increased a lot. He participates in a
variety of activities it the camp. He enjoys reading and playing in the camp. Among the various creative activities at the camp, Diwash’s favorite task is painting. Diwash says, “My education has improved since I came to the camp. Now I get good grades in school exams and my handwriting looks better as well. I have also learnt how to read better”.

Diwash’s parents agree that his learning habits have changed. Though Diwash’s family have not received any kind of training on the issues, they are constantly supporting him with all they know. Diwash agrees that his family has played a big role in sending him school regularly. Diwash’s family have also received stationery materials, Track-Suit, tooth brush and paste, umbrella and son from World Vision International Nepal. The Reading camp has improved many children’s studies since its inception. “Positive changes can be seen in their discipline and style of speaking”, says the facilitator. As the camps are directed towards teaching with fun, the guardians, teachers, school management committee members and people’s representatives have also acknowledged the children’s increased attachment to studies.

“**My handwriting looks much better and I have also learnt how to read better as well**”.
The Reading Camp has brought about major changes in routine of children who used to engage in various unproductive activities during Saturdays and other holidays. They have developed the habit of entertained learning, meaningful participation, developed discipline and focusing on personal hygiene. Here is a sweet story of a student who began to become serious in his studies after participating in Reading Camp.

Shreejit is a nine year old who studies in class 3 at Shreejana Jagriti Aadharbhut School in Besisahar of Lamjung District. Nowadays, he spends his saturday in Janajagriti Reading Camp, Chiti. Shreejit lives with his father, mother, brother and a grandmother who believes in spirituality which is why he has set aside 1 minute a day for spiritual activities. Shreejit has the habit of arranging his bed himself every morning and after his daily morning routine, he heads out to his school.

“Boosted creativity through Reading Camp”

The camp has established various positive development in children; like drawing, poetry, and writing.”
There have been many new changes to his daily routine after participating in various activities in the Reading Camp. The activities include singing, playing ball, drawing, and taking active participation in the classroom during camp hours. Among the various activities that take place in the camp, he likes to arrange and clean the classroom. He says, “I like to clean the classroom and put scattered slippers in the rack. I also love to narrate and write stories in the class”. 

Courtesy of the Reading Camp, he has developed the skills of effective reading, drawing and storytelling. Even his learning habits have changed. His parents mentioned, “He has a better understanding of what color to paint while drawing and uses his holidays in productive activities. Apart from education, the camp has improved his hygiene habits and discipline too”. The positive changes resulted by the camp has encouraged his parents which has led to better support for Shreejit in his studies.

According to his mother, “The camp has established various positive development in children; like drawing, poetry, and writing”. World Vision has assisted in the management of toilets, libraries, cleaning materials and other educational materials to help children with learning. The parents seemed happy that they are also provided with monthly training to help them provide better support to their children’s learning habit. The training, also known as ‘Raw Sessions’, has helped them to monitor their children’s studies and even create lesson plans to study at home. They stressed that the camp is much better than expected and has exceeded everyone’s expectation.
Born 8 years ago in Lamjung, Rajan is the youngest member of the family. Currently studying in class 2, he is a regular participant of Bhujel Samaj Reading Camp which has changed the routine of students like Rajan, who used to be busy playing with friends and grazing animals on holidays.

“After brushing my teeth in the morning, I watch a bit of television, go to school, return home from school and do homework in the evening. Before Reading Camp, I used to play with friends all day on Saturdays and we used to go up to the hills with our goats. The camp has changed it all. Now-a-days, as soon as I wake up, I wash my face and drink tea and reach camp at seven o’clock. We play games like handkerchief game, know the object, reading in turns and others but I like drawing the most.
The camp has not only improved my drawing but I am getting better in writing Nepali, grammar and mathematics as well”, he explains. Like Rajan, many other children’s daily routine has changed due to the Reading Camp.

His mother is surprised to see the excitement of Rajan on Saturday mornings. He is always eager to reach camp and draw pictures. After attending the camp, he has begun to support in household activities and he has also started to make paintings in his free time. Rajan always shows his work done in the camp to his family.

According to the Chairman of Sundar Bazar Municipality Ward No. 9, children have discovered a new way of learning due to the Reading Camps. After the completion of the WVIN’s project in the area, the ward will take necessary actions the Reading Camps continuity, even though it could be in small scale during the transition. He stresses that much work has to be done in the areas of drinking water, sanitation and education. Programs like these needs continuity, he adds. He also appreciates the approach of Registered Children (RC) by World Vision International Nepal which is helping poor, disabled and economically backward children with educational materials.

“The camp has not only improved my drawing but I am getting better in writing Nepali, grammar and mathematics as well.”
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