

A Note on Comet Media Foundation

Our work

Comet Media Foundation is a trust registered in 1992. Its name is an acronym of the expression **C**entre of **O**pen **M**edia for **E**ducation and **T**ransformation.

We see our role as fostering education, social change and sustainability. Comet's dream is a society of individuals, empowered from childhood to seek knowledge and to create knowledge. In such a world, everyone would realise her or his potential and experience fulfillment, within an equitable and sustainable way of living.

Our work is the enhancement of educational processes. We are not delivering classroom-based education as schools and colleges do, but doing activities that build curiosity, invite questions and open out discussions. In other words, we would like to building critical thinking and enquiry, challenging the limits to knowledge traditionally placed by educational systems. To this end, we work collaboratively with schools and other organisations, create activities that help children to learn through experience and create opportunities for children to express themselves and to show their potential in public festivals.

What we do is make communication materials in a range of media. We encourage reading and familiarity with culture of children's books and films and make teaching-learning materials available to classrooms and informal learning spaces. We conduct workshops for parents, teachers and students and hold knowledge festivals. We run a website with writings of teachers that addresses issues concerning equity and quality in education.



Children hear a theatre performer tell a story in the green environment of the Mahim Nature Park, at the *Mera Pustak Mera Dost* children's literature event. This was done by Comet in collaboration with the Bombay Community Public Trust, with the participation of a number of schools and organisations.

Public events

Apart from book exhibitions, we do workshops to improve skills of language, maths & science, provide advice and training to schools and other child-centred organisations, conduct *Filmi Chashma* childrens' film festivals with screenings and film-making workshops.

From time to time we conduct a *bal vividha*, an educational resource festival developed around specific themes, as appropriate to the partners who wish to host the festival. One year it may be energy, another time it may be food or maths. A diverse range of participative exhibits are put up to entertain children and to widen public awareness on educational issues. These are contributed by organisations with an interest and expertise in the chosen thematic area. We try to provide students with an experience of ways of teaching and learning beyond the familiar exam-and-marks-oriented approach. This event provides a cultural alternative to the usual commercial educational fairs.



Children at *bal vividha* on the theme of energy and the environment, Mahatma Gandhi High School, Mumbai



Interactive corner on poetry & calligraphy where children made posters on their own poems and a corner featuring origami and maths where children made paper-folded figures. At *bal vividha* festival of knowledge organised in collaboration with Birla Industrial & Technological Museum, Kolkata.

At our office in the Fort we hold a number of film screenings, book discussions, music workshops and other events related to children and education.



Contact us



Comet Media Foundation

media for education and social change

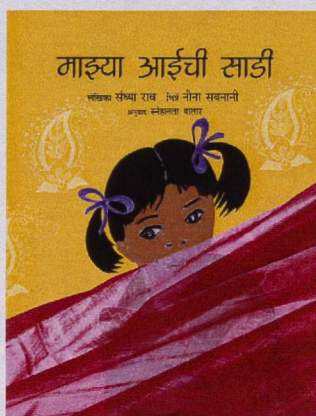
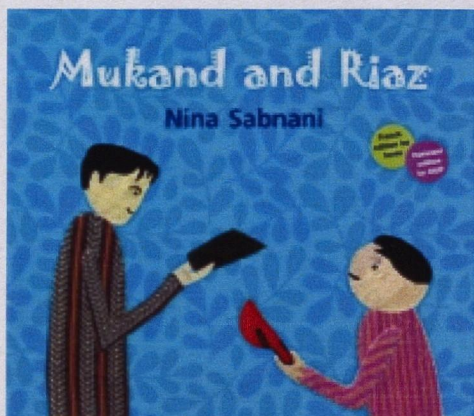
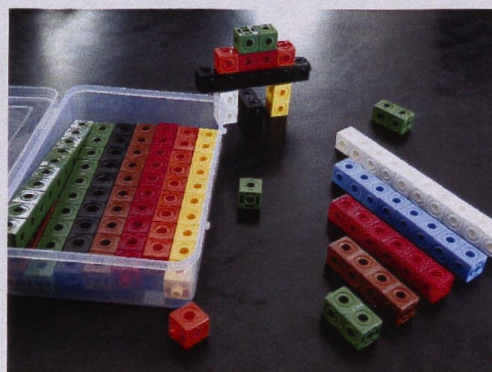
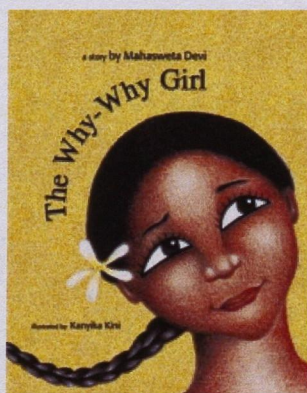
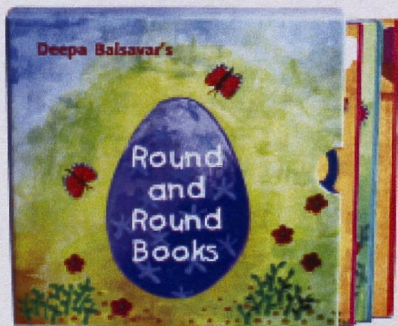
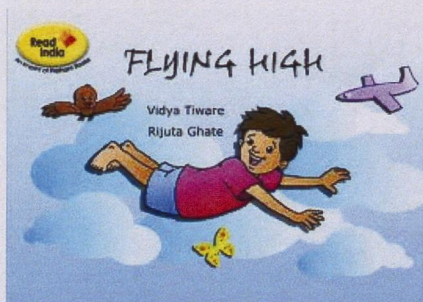
301 Meher House, 15 Cawasji Patel Street, Fort, Mumbai 400 001

+91 22 2287 6033 | cometmediafdn@gmail.com | www.cometmedia.org

Learning Resources

Comet seeks out learning resources in the form of books, toys and various learning aids and connects people who work with children with such resources. Our partners in this curatorial activity are trusts and small-scale producers like Eklavya, Pratham, Tara, Tulika, Children's Book Trust, National Book Trust, Katha, Young Zubaan TERI books, Navnirmitti and several others.

Some book covers and toys brought out by our partners



samata.shiksha

The project currently occupying us is a website called *samata.shiksha* built by us in collaboration with the Maharashtra State Centre for Educational Research and Training of the Government of Maharashtra and UNICEF. The website has three basic areas of interest: equity, quality and the role of teachers in bringing about change in education.

The screenshot shows the website's header with a search bar, a language selector for 'मराठी English', and a search box. The main navigation menu includes 'HOME PAGE', 'ABOUT US', 'BLOGS', 'DIGITAL LIBRARY', 'EMODULES', 'SHARE CONTENT', and 'CONTACT US'. The 'LATEST UPDATES' section features a photo of children with the caption 'The new generation of Ansarwadi'. The 'IN ASSOCIATION WITH' section displays logos for the Maharashtra Sahakar Mandal and UNICEF. The 'FOLLOW' section includes icons for YouTube, Twitter, and Facebook. The 'GET STARTED' section contains the text 'Contribute to samata.shiksha' and 'Become a Samatadoot'. The 'FEATURED CONTRIBUTIONS' section highlights 'SAMATA SHIKSHA THE E BOOK'.

samata.shiksha has been set up to share thinking and experiences on equity (samata) of educational opportunities and on enhancing the quality of education among all school-goers in the state of Maharashtra, particularly those from the under-served sections of society. The role of samata.shiksha is to create a meaningful dialogue on education and it draws on ideas and resources from across India and the rest of the world. The website seeks to meet the need for a website where experiences of work in equity and quality are shared among education professionals.

As Comet Media Foundation, we are happy to have been invited to build a platform where teachers, researchers, policy makers and other stakeholders can communicate their experiences. samata.shiksha welcomes contributions from education professionals and other readers.