

## Timbaktu Badi:

Timbaktu Collective started a residential alternative learning centre, Timbaktu Badi, in Timbaktu campus in 1994 to cater to the needs of the children from most marginalized backgrounds of the three mandals of CK Palli, Ramagiri and Roddam, its working area in Ananthapur, AP. Timbaktu Badi provides free residential and educational facility to 56 children. The residential children come from very difficult family circumstances - orphans, children with single parents, neglected children and those from very poor rural households. It provides free food, all round education and caters to health needs of these children. Children enjoy their childhood in a free, joyful and open environment of learning in the nature's lap. From June 2011, the Badi facilities have also been made available to 43 children from C.K.Palli village as day-scholars.

**Environment Education :** As part of Environment education, 2 major activities have happened this month. One is the starting of the vermin-compost. 21 children of Grades 8 and 9 dug two pits with 5ft X 5ft size and they will slowly fill it with waste paper and other waste generated in the school. The second activity was taken up by 22 children of Grade 5 and Grade 6, who have started a herbarium by collecting different types of leaves, pasting them in notebooks and also writing the various uses of those leaves.



**Music Training:** Music training which includes vocal training in Carnatic music, playing harmonium and Tabla started last month has been going on well. 4 sessions of vocal along with harmonium have been conducted this month. Children have learnt 2 songs and sing them well. 1 Tabla class has been conducted this month and children have learnt one rhythm and have been practicing Tabla with the support of Hanumanthu, teacher of our school who is familiar with playing it.



**Yoga-Chekkabhajana-Kolatam :** All the residential children of the school everyday morning do their regular physical exercises in form of Yoga under the



guidance of a teacher. We interacted with children to find out what other activities would they find interesting to do in the mornings. Children were interested in practicing 'Kolatam' and 'Chekkabhajana' - both are the traditional folk arts of this region. Renuka of Grade 10 took the leadership in conducting Chekkabhajana , while Nagamani

(Grade 8) and T Amani (Grade 7) took the leadership of conducting 'Kolatam'.

**Marathon run :** Asha -Bangalore team which had been instrumental in setting up 'Support a Child' wanted to organize a small marathon run for children of the school. They organized a 9 km run for children of the school on the 11th of this

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month.30 children and a few teachers participated in the run.



**Others :** The Children's resource centre,CK Palli conducted an Essay writing and drawing competition on 11th and 13 children from the school took part in the event.

The school is closed from 21 December to 7 January for December vacation and during this period, 9 teachers of the school went on a 4 day learning visit to 'Harita Ecological Institute', Palvancha which runs a innovative programme for children with focus on environment and language skills. The teachers learned about various techniques used in the educational process and also about their environment education programme. The teachers also visited a few historical places nearby and also learnt about thermal electricity production during a visit to a thermal station.

