ADINET e-News Digest

No. 45   June 2018

PAUSE & PONDER

Studies have shown that *positive thinking* can help with stress management and better health, two very important components that are needed to move through life with energy and enthusiasm.

Librarians' Day 2018

ADINET in collaboration with MICA, will be conducting a Seminar on 25th August 2018 at MICA, Ahmedabad.

The Seminar theme is: Start-up India and Role of Libraries.

21st century India boasts of remarkable initiatives that can catapult the economy of the country to the ranks of the developed countries and one such initiative is developing and nurturing the Indian Start-up ecosystem.

More than 10,000 technological, start-ups now exist in India. The Government provides many schemes, funds and policy and institutional support to encourage Start-ups in the country.

The involvement of premier institutions in the Start-up activities includes establishing entrepreneurship cells and technology incubators. This calls for a proactive role for libraries to actively participate in this movement and provide information support.

Dynamic Libraries can play an active role in transforming the Indian society into an enterprising one by providing learning spaces, maker spaces, access to Internet, access to numerous subscribed and free online resources and many more services. Hence it would be useful that various Start-up schemes should be linked with libraries so that they provide crucial information support that Start-ups need.

Sub-theme 1. Resources Required to Support Start-up India by Libraries

Resources required for start-ups may include Market Research Reports, Directories of Mentors, Investors, Incubators, industry information, product reports, learning resources on ideating, marketing, finance, networking, legal, strategy, case studies, and so on. The libraries can also develop local subject expert banks and database of various government schemes supporting entrepreneurship and contact details. The libraries can thinks of developing local information resources in addition to providing access to international information resources.

Sub-theme 2. Essential Skills & Competencies of LIS Professionals to Support Start-up India

The skills and competencies of LIS Professionals need a total relook in serving the information needs of startups in India. Digital literacy, information analysis and repackaging, researching, communication skills (written and oral), networking, marketing, and so on are some of the essential skills and competencies needed by LIS Professionals to make meaningful contribution to the Start-up India movement.

Sub-theme 3.Types of Services to be Provided by Libraries for Start-up India

Libraries need to develop innovative services that are needed by start-ups like makerspaces, developing relevant information products and services, virtual reference services, topical displays, meet the mentors, compiling startup trends, etc. Special services like information literacy sessions for entrepreneurs, effective searching of databases, identifying relevant information resources, networking with other special libraries and information centres, etc may need to be offered to start-ups.

Please do attend this Seminar, submit your papers, send your Registration Form ASAP, before 17th August.

Now, digital universities to soon offer higher education @ Digital India 2.0

As part of its Digital India program, the government has started the process of formulating a policy for digital universities across the country. Once formulated, such universities will be set up to enable people to access high-level education at their convenience. These universities will be given accreditation and courses will also be recognized by the government, a senior official from the ministry of IT and electronics told DNA Money on condition of anonymity.

In India, online education mainly for schools has been gaining steam over the last many years with many private players venturing into this segment. Even ministry of IT has started providing e-learning courses in some schools in villages where there is internet connectivity. Besides, many state governments have started smart classes to impart education.

A draft proposal for digital universities is already in the works by the ministry of human resources and development and has been circulated for inter-ministerial views, the official said. The structure and course content of the digital universities will be at par with global standards.

The next phase of Digital India is crucial as the government is targeting to make the country $1 trillion digital economy by 2022. 'Digital India 2.0' will usher in a new India, which will increase the digital economy 3.5 times from currently Rs. 20 to Rs. 70 lakh crore by 2022.

"The cost of education will be low through online universities. Besides, the quality will be at par with physical ones. Moreover, with this initiative, we can compel students, who leave studies after school, to study further. One can even work while studying with such universities," the official explained.

Through Digital India program, the ministry of IT has already started skilling program to train people in Information Communication Technology or ICT skills. It has also been financially supporting research and development projects in the area of e-learning at various academic educational institutes and labs.

According to a report by KPMG and Google last year, online education industry will be a $1.96 billion industry by 2021 in India. The paid user base will grow six times from 1.6 million users in 2016 to 9.6 million users in 2021. Reskilling and online certification was the largest segment in online education at $93 million in 2016, expected to reach $463 million by 2021. Primary and secondary education category had the largest addressable audience and expected to become the largest category by 2021.

Source | Daily News Analysis | 20th April 2018

When readers go digital! On the occasion of World Book day - printed word against the convenience of the electronic version

American novelist Ernest Hemingway had once said, 'There is no friend as loyal as a book'. That sadly holds true only for a very few readers today. Gone are the days when people would be sitting endlessly in the libraries to finish a good book, or walk into a cool and musty smelling bookstore, past the racks full of titles.

Nowadays, it is so much easier to browse through the net and download books on smartphones or Kindles. As UNESCO celebrates the World Book Day on April 23, we find out what readers think.

SravanthiTalluri, founder of Write Club Hyderabad, feels nothing can be more engaging than a physical book. "In this fast-paced world of technology, books help us get away from the chaos of daily life. While one can certainly read on a tablet or kindle or listen to an audio book, they don't give you the same experience

of a story as a physical book would," she says.

"Another thing to consider here is that it would be pretty difficult for a reader to go past 100 pages of a book on kindle or their phone. That is because you are constantly engaged on the screen and your eyes would get tired. This is not true while reading a book printed on paper. That's why people chose to read a paper book before going to bed it relaxes them," Sravanthi adds.

Dr J Pratyusha, a practising homoeopath and an avid reader, believes that despite the advent of technology, books haven't lost their charm. "Books can never lose their charm. It's just the easy accessibility of e-books that makes them more sought-after." she shares.

The interactive nature of peripherals available with e-books is another lure. Siddharth Naidu, founder and CEO of VoxSpace, says, "If an enthusiast were to pick up a comic book from say, Comixology, he would find not just the comic but also trivia, games, quests and much more in this digital version. Another reason for the switch is that while parents want their children to inculcate a reading habit, they don't have the time to spend with them. So, they simply buy digital alternatives to keep the children engaged."

Author Sriram Karri agrees, saying India doesn't have many readers. While the author prefers printed books, he believes that any form of reading should be encouraged.

Source| https://www.deccanchronicle.com

A pick of offbeat, non-mainstream blogs and sites

Is loneliness bad? If you google the question, your first few answers will be links to general articles that quote researchers, or people's views on Quora. You could use some of these to write your own essay or presentation, but it would seem dishonest. Now, you have a better tool than plain vanilla Google for quick research — a new Google tool called 'Talk to Books'.

As Google explains: "when you type in a question or a statement, the model looks at every sentence in over 100,000 books to find the responses that would most likely come next in a conversation. The response sentence is shown in bold, along with some of the text that appeared next to the sentence for context."

Here are some of the answers Talk to Books pulled in answer to our question on loneliness: "Loneliness has produced several public health concerns, including depression, increased illness, and earlier mortality. People who self-isolate are caught in the middle of a double-edged dilemma"; "Although loneliness is not specifically an internalizing disorder in itself, it is a symptom of mood disorders and an especially important predictor of suicidality, particularly in adolescence (American Psychiatric Association, 2000)"; Pretty good, isn't it?

Source | Times of India | 22nd April 2018

E Book Converters

If you are an avid reader and don't want to be tied to a particular platform, you'll need a tool to convert your e-books to different formats. While truly excellent free e-book converters are hard to come by, here are some of the best you can choose from. These e-book converters will handle all common formats – PDF to Mobi, Kindle to Epub, Epub to Mobi, and virtually any other combination you might need.

Source | Economic Times | 23rd April 2018

Book Lovers, There's A New Open Library in Mumbai That Is Free To All {And You Can Contribute Too}

Book lovers, a special library,

The Open Library Project, is now a reality in Mumbai, and it is free to one, and all. The Open Library Project has been started off by Mumbai entrepreneur, Satyajit Roy who will be running this library out of his office in Worli. The idea behind the library is simple, and rather utilitarian, in the next three months, the library will stock at least 500 books {mostly non-fiction} that can be borrowed by anyone completely free of cost.

For Satyajit, the library will aim to stock books that will create a space for entrepreneurs to have access to genres that will inspire other entrepreneurs. Find auto biographies, success stories of companies/people, and people who're out there doing well in the start-up/ business space. Though not limited to business or start-ups, the books included will be on varied topics like gardening, landscaping, surfing, and other unconventional fields that ought to be explored more.

More Details Available @ Book Lovers, There's A New Open Library In Mumbai That Is Free To All {And You Can Contribute Too} | LBB

The Special Way Rural India is Learning to Read

In its Annual Status of Education Report (ASER) 2017, the Pratham Education Foundation, a non-profit working towards improving learning outcomes for rural children, found that nearly 25% of rural youth between the age of 14 & 18 cannot read in their own language.

What this story tells us is that a lot of children are falling through the cracks of our public education system. Besides uncertain economic outcomes for students growing up in the system, the inability to read in their own language has the potential to shatter their self-confidence—the one human characteristic that has the potential to change lives drastically.

When children hear or read stories at home or in school, they begin to enjoy process of reading. On the occasion of World Book Day, where the overarching theme is 'Share a Story', Tata Trust's motto of inculcating reading habits for less privileged students is a timely reminder of what's at stake.

"Tata Trusts through its work on early literacy works on capacity building of primary school teachers, providing them knowledge, skills and onsite support to support children from non-literate background to become proficient readers and writers. This work is supplemented by the Parag initiative that focuses on development of storybooks in Indian languages, setting up of libraries and running professional development courses for librarians and illustrators. This is to address multiple gaps in the children literature sector," says Amrita Patwardhan, Head of Education and Sports at Tata Trusts, speaking to The Better India.

Besides English, Tata Trusts has laid its focus on supporting the development of engaging reading material/books in many mainstream vernacular languages like Hindi, Marathi, Kannada, Telugu, Urdu, and Gujarati. Tribal languages such as Bhili, Pavri and Mundari have also become a major focus.

These children literature books touch upon multiple themes—biographies, women's empowerment, and nature. There is also a great deal of emphasis on folk literature for children from 3 to 14 years, besides the dissemination of picture books, poetry, fiction, non-fiction and folk tales.

"It is important that the young children are supported by adults in their early attempts at reading and writing. With the vision of building a community of readers, we chose to take libraries to the communities rather than restrict them to anganwadis and schools," says Amrita.

Every book sent to a particular school library is chosen with great care. These schools are also given tin boxes to keep the books, stationery, and art material. One volunteer from the block undergoes

selection and training in the upkeep of a library.

This volunteer goes to the assigned government school and disseminates reading material from Class 1 to 4. For students up to Class 7, books are lent out, while even some adults are allowed to do the same. On school holidays, these libraries are painstakingly shifted in and out to the librarian's home or Anganwadi room, thus leaving the books available all year round.

Thus far, Parag has supported the development of 680 books with an estimated readership of 40 million across ten states. Tata Trusts supports publishers meet the cost of developing the books. But the cost of the paper, printing and marketing is met by book sales. " says Amrita.

Developing foundational literacy skills through spreading the joy of reading over one or two generations of young students could very well improve learning outcomes for rural children. Moreover, it will give them some semblance of the confidence required to take on the world.

Source| https://www.thebetterindia.com /138837/parag-rural-india-tata-trusts-learning-read-world-book-day/

Make Education a lifelong endeavour

Too many workers lack the skills employers demand. Here's how to help. As the pace of technological change accelerates, so will the need to educate, and re-educate, workers. The long-term goal should be to revolutionize educational systems -- to make them places that adults revisit, as needed, throughout their working lives.

Source | Financial Chronicle | 24th April 2018

Raising Readers @ Reading Aloud

Reading aloud to your child for a minimum of 15 minutes a day from birth to at least

Kindergarten helps build the foundation for future academic, social and emotional achievement, says Anjali Kalani

Benefits of Reading Aloud

- It strengthens brain development, promotes literacy skills and prepares children for school
- Expands vocabulary, which helps children communicate confidently
- Leads to a nurturing relationship between parent and child
- Increases concentration and better listening skills
- Promotes creativity and a wider knowledge base
- Provides a gift of a life-long enjoyable pursuit.

Source | Afternoon | 26th April 2018

You Tube Kids gets New Overhaul @ Introducing new choices for parents to further customize YouTube Kids

We are excited to announce that throughout the year, we will be rolling out three new options in YouTube Kids:

- **Collections by trusted partners and YouTube Kids**: Starting this week, our partners and the YouTube Kids team will offer collections of trusted channels on a variety of subjects from arts & crafts and music to sports, learning, and so much more. This makes it easy for parents to select only the channel collections and topics they want their kids to access. Just go into Profile Settings, and select from available collections such as Sesame Workshop and PBS KIDS. We will continue to add more partners over time.
- **Parent approved content**: Parents know better than anyone what they want their children to watch. For those parents who want even more control over the videos and

channels in the YouTube Kids app, we're rolling out a feature later this year that will allow parents to specifically handpick every video and channel available to their child in the app.

- **Improved search-off control for an even more contained experience**: Parents have always been able to turn search off within the YouTube Kids app, but starting this week turning search off will limit the YouTube Kids experience to channels that have been verified by the YouTube Kids team. This means that search off will not include recommendations from the broader YouTube Kids corpus.

Announcement Available @ https://youtube.googleblog.com/2018/04/introducing-new-choices-for-parents-to.html?m=1

Digital Detox @ Grab a book to do - Afraid that libraries are losing their appeal to the new generation, Madurai man gifts one with some special features to the city

A year ago T.S.Govarthanan chucked his job as director of a pharmaceutical company to start a library. His teenaged son was the reason he says."We earlier lived in Vellore and my son grew up as an avid reader as there were no kids of his age to play around with in our locality. But four years ago when we came to Madurai, **h**e changed, sucked in by peer pressure and technology," he says. To distract his son from gadgets, Govarthanan purchased books worth Rs.35,000 in one year for the boy."He returned to books, but I realized not every parent can buy books worth so much money and not every home has enough space to keep so many books," he adds.

And so after 12 months of research, study and surveys, he conceptualized 'Readabit.in' as an online library that would deliver books to readers at their doorstep anywhere across the country free of cost. He has tied up with courier companies and is also in talks with India Post for reaching the books to his valued members as they grow by the day in every nook and corner.

Readabit.in was launched on April 18 and by World Book Day (April 23), more than 50 members had registered. "I only shared my idea with a few friends and people from Dindigul, Sivakasi, Chennai enrolled. The immediately positive response has made me realize that libraries can still give a competition to iPads and mobiles," he adds. It has also propelled him to attempt Guinness record for enrolling maximum number of members in single day. "The big day is on June 10 and Guinness officials have set a benchmark of 1,200 members but I am targeting 5,000," he informs

People from the neighbourhood have already started visiting the library though it is established as an online library which readers can browse from anywhere to choose a book from Readabit's catalogue. They can also recommend books of their choice to other readers or suggest one that they themselves want to read and Govarthanan promises to promptly add them all to his bookshelf.

"Libraries are safe places to find empowering and transformative information," he says and quells doubts about the online access to books. Though he is stocking several popular and best sellers underfiction and non-fiction for adults as well, Govarthanan's focus is mainly on children's reading habits. And he is encouraging memberships from schools and colleges. He says Readabit will give the unique logins only to the parents while for every 100 students of a school one teacher will get admin login. "This is to ensure cyber safety and keep a check on what books are read by students," he adds.

Developing a reading habit with online library is extremely economical, asserts Govarthanan. "Those who do not find time to visit a library can

save time, money and shelf space by renting books," he says and adds, "community engagement is important to keep the libraries going."

Source| http://www.thehindu.com/society/afraid-that-libraries-are-losing-their-appeal-to-the-new-generation-madurai-man-gifts-one-with-some-special-features-to-the-city/article23696106.ece

Reading Aloud @ Play & Social-Emotional Development

"We think of reading in lots of different ways, but I don't know that we think of reading this way," said Dr. Alan Mendelsohn, an associate professor of paediatrics at New York University School of Medicine, who is the principal investigator of the study, "Reading Aloud, Play and Social-Emotional Development," published in the journal Paediatrics.

Study Available @ http://pediatrics.aappublications.org/content/pediatrics/early/2018/04/05/peds.2017-3393.full.pdf

Government to offer 'Swachh Bharat internships' to students

The ministry of human resource development (MHRD) will offer "Swachh Bharat Summer Internship — 100 Hours of Swachhata" to students of universities and higher education institutions this academic year.

The internship, meant to improve sanitation and hygiene in villages, will give students a chance to win cash awards up to Rs 2 lakh and two academic credits.

In his letter to the heads of universities and higher education institutions, MHRD higher education secretary, R Subrahmanyam wrote, "The internship is open only to the registered students of the higher educational institutions... A website has been developed for the purpose of registration and reporting throughout the internship period..."

An internship report needs to be submitted by the candidate on the online portal through the supervisor within 15 days of completion of fieldwork. Students will be categorized into two clusters — information-education communication (IEC) activities and solid waste management related activities.

Source | Times of India | 29th April 2018

April 29, 2018   a project of Service Space

If the cause of poverty is marginalization, the cure is inclusion.

- -Richard John Neuhaus- -

The 12-Year-Old Who Brought Education to His Community

Life is often difficult for children of poor or outcast communities in India. They may not be afforded the same opportunities as those from more mainstream groups, and so often become wary out outsiders, even if they mean well. But there are people in these communities who are willing to take a risk to find a better way of life for themselves and those around them. The Narikurava are one of these communities; an indigenous group known for their hunting skills, they became stigmatized under The Criminal Tribes Act of 1871, introduced by the British. Although India has since gained independence, and the Act was repealed in 1949, many groups like the Narikurava still battle stigma and bigotry daily. However, in the southern Indian state of Tamil Nadu, one boy is working to bring education and opportunity to his community. { read more }

Be the Change

What marginalized communities are in your area? It could be a specific tribe or culture like the Narikurava, or group of people in a common situation like the poor or homeless. Take a few minutes out to stop and say hello, and learn more about them. After all, at the end of the day, we are all human.

How Technology Is Changing @ The Way Blind People Get Visual Information

Many of the apps on your smartphone are for fun — or distraction. But there are apps out there that do good and help people with a disability. For the blind or visually impaired, there's Be My Eyes, an app that asks a sighted person for help via a video call.

App @ Be My Eyes, How it works

Every day, sighted volunteers lend their eyes to solve tasks big & small to help blind & low vision people lead more independent lives.

Blind or low vision person requests assistance

As a blind or low vision person, whenever you need visual assistance, our volunteers are happy to help. Through the live video call, you and a volunteer can communicate directly and solve a problem. The volunteer will help guide which direction to point your camera, what to focus on or when to turn on your torch.

Sighted volunteer receives video call

As a sighted volunteer you can help just by installing the Be My Eyes app. A blind or a low vision user may need help with anything from checking expiry dates, distinguishing colors, reading instructions or navigating new surroundings.

Join the community!

Be My Eyes' goal is to make the world more accessible to people who are blind or have a low level of vision. We couldn't do this without the help and dedication of our community.

Source| https://www.bemyeyes.com/

NCERT issues guidelines to schools on cyber security

The National Council of Education Research and Training (NCERT) has sent the detailed guidelines to schools defining the role of teachers as well as parents in promoting safe, legal, and ethical use of internet by students.

NCERT @ Tips on Cyber Safety & Security

☐ Guidelines for Students (http://www.ncert.nic.in/pdf_files/Guidelines_Students.pdf)

☐ Guidelines for Teachers (http://www.ncert.nic.in/pdf_files/Guidelines_Teachers.pdf)

☐ Guidelines for Schools (http://www.ncert.nic.in/pdf_files/Guidelines_Schools.pdf)

Source| http://www.ncert.nic.in/iss.html

Your Students Learn by Doing, Not by Listening

The word suggests that our job as faculty members is to put new knowledge into our students' heads. But in my experience the best learning occurs when students teach themselves — when they discover something on their own. And that's what happened in this medical study.

Small class sizes? Fewer lectures? More active-learning activities? Does any of that sound familiar? Students are most successful in our courses when they learn for themselves — much as the participants in this study did. The trick for all of us in academe is designing courses that help students do that.

Full Article Available @ https://www.chronicle.com/article/Your-Students-Learn-by-Doing/243277?cid=at&utm_source=at&utm_medium=en&elqTrackId=321a1079c8304acf99971271a838cda4&elq=bf7162ad4314434298f5503526671c31&elqaid=18900&elqat=1&elqCampaignId=8526

Writing it with a beautiful hand! Handwriting is an important developmental skill

Understanding the techniques and some serious practice can help students acquire good handwriting

Shameem Khan You may not be born with a flair for good handwriting, but it can be acquired if you really want your written word to stand out. After all, handwriting is an important developmental skill.

Why good handwriting is important? Handwriting is said to activate the brain more than using the keyboard because it involves more complex motor and cognitive skills.

Source | Mid Day | 2nd May 2018

Now book Google domain name in .app

Just like .com or .org, Google has now rolled out ".app" top-level domain (TLD) for app developers who can book the domain name from Google Registry.

A TLD is the last part of a domain name, like .com in "www.google.com" or .google in "blog.google". ".app that comes with added security is the first top-level domain (TLD) to require HTTPS encryption," Google said in a blog post on Tuesday. A key benefit of the .app domain is that security is built in. "The big difference is that HTTPS is required to connect to all .app websites, helping protect against ad malware and tracking injection by ISPs, in addition to safeguarding against spying on open WiFi networks," Google said.Till May 7, users can register ".app" domains through Google's "Early Access Programme." Users can also pay more to secure other domains before the general public can get to them, the search-engine giant confirmed. Google acquired the top-level domain (TLD) ".app" in 2015 for $25 million.

Source| https://www.financialexpress.com/world-news/now-book-google-domain-name-in-app/1152973/

What parents can do to protect children from online hazards @ e - KAVACH

Entrepreneur Noopur Raghunath, who has developed the digital parenting application e-KAVACH, says parental-control software enables content filtering and safe search, monitors games and other applications, sends parents alerts for boundary breaches, and tracks children with geo location. Parents can monitor their children's online activities by: Warning them about not clicking on links from strangers, not sharing personal information, location and photographs with strangers. Monitoring their browsing history and reviewing or resetting their privacy settings with consent. Staying informed on the latest apps, social media platforms and slang used by children and teens. Establishing rules about the amount of time children can spend online or on their devices. Watching for altered behavior like excessive moodiness or secretiveness, changes in eating and sleeping patterns, and academic decline.

Source | Mint | 3rd May 2018

Standard Chartered launches reading app for visually impaired - Effort part of the bank's global community investment programme

Standard Chartered Bank has joined hands with Daisy Consortium, a network of not-for-profit organizations from 55 countries, to launch a unique digital initiative 'Simply Reading' app.

This cost-effective and flexible app, an India-led initiative, seeks to make digital reading convenient for low vision and visually impaired people, Karuna Bhatia, Head of Sustainability, SCB, told BusinessLine here.

Available for free on Android (Google Play), this app enables the visually impaired to directly download and read books from any online platform such as SugamyaPustakalya and Bookshare.

This effort is part of SCB's global 'Seeing is Believing' initiative, which is this bank's global community investment program to tackle visual impairment and avoidable blindness.

"This year is special as it marks the 15th anniversary of 'Seeing is Believing' programmers. While we are launching this app in India, it will be available anywhere internationally through Google Play," Karuna said. To begin with, SCB and Daisy Consortium are eyeing at least 50,000 downloads, according to Karuna.She also said that SCB will strive to put a digital element in all its future community programs.

From 2003 to 2017, SCB has in India provided over 13 million eye care interventions through the network of 125 vision centers across 22 States catering to people in the urban, rural and remote parts of the country. One estimate puts India is home to about 5.3 million people with blindness or low vision.

Maha State Agri University @ Earn While you Learn – pay students for field work

Agri univs urged to pay students for field work

Chief minister Devendra Fadnavis on Saturday asked agriculture universities in the state to start a unique "earn while you learn" scheme where students would be roped in to carry out ground-level work to create awareness among farmers in the state and paid a stipend for it.Fadnavis said that as a part of the stipend plan, students could be used to send advisories to farmers, collect data and disseminate information to ensure a better year for the farmers.

"We need to create a mechanism for speedy communication to the farmers so that they can make the right decisions and avoid losses," said Fadnavis.He also asked weathermen to increase the accuracy of their predictions to ensure that farmers get right warnings and crop losses are prevented.

Fadnavis also asked all the banks to ensure that the farmers who had been given loan waiver are extended credit as well. The government is aiming to reveal an agriculture credit plan of Rs 62,000 crore this year.

Minister for dairy development MahadevJankar said that the state government had worked out a plan to bail out the loss-making milk industry as well as the farmers who are dependent on it.

Tips which can make you more secure online

It will protect the security of your devices, your data, internet traffic, and your online identity

☐   Explore the security tools you install

☐   Use unique passwords for every login

☐   Get a VPN and use it

☐   Use two-factor authentication

☐   Use passcodes even when they are optional

☐   Pay with your smartphone

☐   Clear your cache

☐   Do not fall prey to click bait

Open library for kids

Bhowanipore: The outer wall of a school in south Calcutta will be converted into a library for children.

Vidyanjali International School will start the street library on its premises. The shelf on Ram Mohon Dutta Road will stack up to 1,500 books, including fiction, non-fiction and magazines, primarily for children of the locality who can't afford books.

"The idea behind the open street library is to encourage and revive reading among people. There are underprivileged children who cannot afford books... this initiative will give them an easy access to books," SaswatiDatta, principal of the school, said.

The library, which is coming up in association with a management institute, will be inaugurated on Sunday.

The organizers aren't worried about books being stolen. Even if books are picked up by people who don't intend to return, the good part is they would perhaps read the books and it would serve the objective of a street library, she said.

One such library has been started about a couple of months ago on the balcony of the principal's home. "I have not seen books disappearing or being stolen."

Students, teachers and anyone who wishes to contribute will provide the books.

"Our students, too, can borrow and contribute books. There are many books that they have already read and they can donate them to this library," Datta said.

The library won't have any catalogue or membership fees.

The responsibility of reading the books and returning them is on the readers, she said.

Source| https://www.telegraphindia.com/calcutta/open-library-for-kids-228200

IIT Delhi to set up three research parks

One on campus; two in Haryana

New Delhi, May 7 Indian Institute of Technology Delhi (IIT-D) is setting up three research parks to facilitate design and development of advanced technology, incubate more start-ups and promote industry collaboration.

Research parks will come up on IIT Delhi campus and in Sonepat and Jhajjar in Haryana. The parks are funded by the college and managed by the Foundation for Innovation and Technology Transfer (FITT).

FITT is one of the oldest technology innovation centers established in 1992. It launched the Technology Incubator Program in 2000 to promote entrepreneurship, but it is only now that the institution is setting up research parks.

Knowledge transfer

Anil Wali, Managing Director, FITT, explained that while the organization is old, the research parks are a response to growing demand not only from Delhi but also from the surrounding regions. The objective of the parks, Wali said, is to establish avenues of engagement with industry, transfer knowledge and create value.

The research parks will have research & development labs, set up by corporates jointly with IIT Delhi, incubators, Impact Lab for Path, a global health innovation hub, high-end central research facility and Centre of Excellence in Smart manufacturing. In addition, the research parks will have training centers and convention facilities.

Sonepat facility

The first phase of the Sonepat research park is completed and can incubate around 15 start-ups. It also has residential facility, which the start-ups can use for a fee. So far, four start-ups have been incubated. Around □175 crore has been invested in the first phase.

"We are planning the second phase that will be able to accommodate close to 100 start-ups," Wali said. "We are waiting for environmental clearance for the one coming up at IIT Delhi, which should come any time now," he said. Once the approval is obtained, Wali said, the park will be operational in 18-24 months.

It can also house 100 start-ups and close to ⬚140 crore has been invested. The proposed third research park at Jhajjar is likely to take time due to delay in land deals, he added.

Start-up incubation

FITT has so far incubated 82 start-ups and works with establishments such as the Department of Science and Technology, Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council (BIRAC) and Technology Development Board for funding and partnerships. In addition the organization also protect, maintain and commercialize patents.

FITT has filed for 630 patents so far and around 5 per cent has been commercialized, generating a value of ⬚2-3 crore.

Source | Business Line | 8ᵗʰ May 2018

Common Room @ Public Libraries

Nick Poole, Chief Executive of CILIP – the UK's library and information association – spoke at the joint CILIP Ireland and Library Association of Ireland conference on 19 April 2018

Imagine a room. It's a simple room, this room but it is wondrous nonetheless. It is wondrous because it belongs automatically to anyone and everyone that wants to make use of it.This room of ours belongs to the young mum who can't take five more minutes cooped up indoors with the kids. It belongs to the 55-year-old man whom life has brought low, who spends his nights in a homeless shelter. It belongs to the young entrepreneur with limited funds but unlimited ambition.

Full   Info @ https://www.cilip.org.uk/page/TheCommonRoom
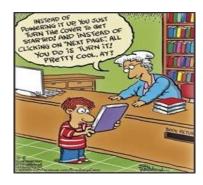
The fine art of Book Reading

To some in the older generation, there is perhaps nothing more pleasurable than turning the pages of good book, one after another, slowly wading through the words as they conjure up images and ideas in one's brain.

Yet, strangely enough, with the coming of social media, the Internet and book-reading apps like Kindle, not to mention good old television, the time we can afford to spend on having a leisurely read has dwindled, don't you think? And as the pace of life further intensifies and people are involved in the race for education, homemaking and prosperity at the workplace, book libraries have all but become extinct as have second-hand bookshops. The world does change but there are many who still swear by the art of reading the old-fashioned way, even if they exist mainly in the older generation.

We found this cute cartoon by Bill Whitehead that raised a chuckle within us and we share it with you – it might well be the scenario for book reading in the near future, if it isn't already?

PR @ Afternoon | 9ᵗʰ May 2018

Study   @   Impact   of Internet on Education

A recent study by the Delhi-based NGO, Consumer VOICE found that the average 4G internet speed is India is not even

5 mbps and the most recurring problem reported by the respondents with respect to their internet services is 'low speed and poor connectivity'. The study also identified factors relating to 'Education' that are impacted by the quality of internet and are given below-

☐   Access to information & global databases

☐   Enhancing skills & learning

☐   Performance/ result improvement

☐   Attending online courses and live tutorial/ chatting

☐   Taking competitive exams/ tests

☐   Preparing projects/ assignments/ reports

☐   Providing online material to students

☐   Ease of data collection

Study Available @ https://www.consumer-voice.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/volume-i.pdf

PR @ Financial Chronicle | 9th May 2018

The Information Diet

Information, it is everywhere. I can't escape its intoxicating pull each time I come across an interesting article or news topic. The problem is that I consume too much of it. I am bloated and lethargic from "eating" too much of it. Our digital society has many pitfalls.

Our obesity rates are rising; attention spans are shortening and our ability to think is diminishing. Visit with any school teacher and they will tell you today's kids are wired differently.

The constant barrage of electronic stimulus has re-wired brains. It has caused a permanent shift in thought processes and patterns. One of the greatest problems arising from information overload is the inability to think for ourselves. Most people accept at face value the information they consume. They fail to consider its validity or value.

They don't think beyond the words on the screen. Information is like food. Consume too much Twinkie information (information that looks good but has no real value) and your mind begins to bloat and slow down.

Consuming good information causes you to think, stimulates brain activity and sharpens focus. Our brains must find ways to filter all the information we are force-feeding them or they will go into overload and shut down.

Like a muscle, the brain needs exercise to continue to function at a peak state. Feeding our brain nothing but junk food is a recipe for disaster. An interesting way to see how much exercise your brain is getting is to create an information consumption log.

The information consumption log functions like a diet plan. It helps you track the information you consume in a day. For example, a typical day may look like this: 60 minutes reading emails, 45 minutes reading blogs or newspapers, 30 minutes Googling information and 120 minutes on social media.

I challenge you to spend a couple of days filling out an information log and see what your consumption patterns look like. The results will surprise you. To overcome the overload an information diet is necessary.

It will also give you energy for important things. Go ahead, give it a try, you have nothing but a few brain cells to lose.

Source | https://idahostatejournal.com/

Forty-two Indian institutions have made @ THE Emerging Economies University Rankings 2018

India remains the second-most represented nation — after China — among the 42 countries across four continents in the Times Higher Education (THE) Emerging Economies University Rankings 2018.

Forty-two Indian institutions have made it to the 2018 table, a significant increase from 27 in the previous year. Times Higher Education ranking comprises more than 350 universities, expanded from 300 last year.

Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru, at number 13 (up from 14) has taken the top spot among the Indian institutes, while several others, too, have climbed the charts, including IIT Kharagpur which has jumped 26 places to break into the top 50 at No. 45. IIT Bombay maintains its position at number 26.

"India has reached a pivotal juncture. It is ambitious and has undoubtedly the potential to emerge as a key player in global higher education in the coming years," said Phil Baty, editorial director of the THE Global Rankings in a statement.

On the flipside though, the majority of India's previously-ranked institutions have slipped in the rankings, and both IIT Madras and IIT Delhi have fallen out of the top

50. The nation remains the third most represented in the Top 200 — behind China and Taiwan – but it has slipped to the 17th spot from 19th. China continues to dominate the overall ranking: it has 63 institutions represented — up from 52 in the previous year. For the fifth consecutive year, Peking University leads the table, with Tsinghua University ranked at number 2.

Ranking Available @ https://www.timeshighereducation.com/world-university-rankings/2018/emerging-economies-university-rankings#!/page/0/length/25/sort_by/rank/sort_order/asc/cols/stats

PR @ Economic Times | 10th May 2018

What Is the Deep Web?

The Deep Web describes the hidden parts of the internet that can't be found using search engines such as Google. There's a vast amount of data on the Deep Web, including some perfectly everyday stuff, such as the contents of your own webmail inbox. The Deep Web is victim to a lot of misconception, though, and is frequently confused with the Dark Web, and its own associated illegal activities.

There's far more data hidden – around 500 times more – on the Deep Web than what's on the standard "Surface" Web. But, unlike the latter, this data isn't indexed by search engines, so can't be found by typing a few phrases into Google.

Don't worry, it's not as scary as it sounds. We explain everything you need to know about the Deep Web: What it is, how it works, how it's different to the Dark Web, and what everyone gets wrong about it.

You can't get to every single webpage on the internet through a search engine. No, not even with Google. A search engine works by tracking links: It finds pages by tracking which ones have been linked to from another webpage and prioritizes the ones that have been linked to the most often.-----

The Deep Web vs. The Dark Web

"If you're on the Deep Web, you're exploring the wild west of the internet. If you move into the Dark Web, you're choosing to walk into the bandit's den on the far outskirts of town." The Dark Web is effectively a subset of the Deep Web. Although the two terms are sometimes used interchangeably, this isn't correct.----

Not So Hidden, After All

Since it's designed to be hidden, the Dark Web is actually easier to identify than the disparate elements that make up the Deep Web: Dark Web users often host their sites on the ".onion" domain rather than the ".com" one, as this domain is only accessible through a Tor browser (Tor is short for "The onion router").

Unlike the Deep Web, the Dark Web is fairly small, and likely just a 30 or 40 thousand sites — more criminal activity happens on the rest of the internet than on the Dark Web, simply because the regular internet has billions of users.

How the Deep Web Works

"Thousands of databases on the internet — all of which are free to access — can't be found by Google or Bing." There are a few different reasons why a page or the data it holds might not be indexed by a search engine.

- It intentionally doesn't use http:// or https:// protocol, opting for a non-standard protocol, such as a .onion domain.
- It is password-protected — this includes subscription services, private social media accounts, and everyone's Gmail inbox.
- It is hidden behind a CAPTCHA or similar machine-input filter.
- It simply hasn't been linked to by any other online page.
- The data is only accessible through a database query.

Deep Web Databases

The last possibility is why the Deep Web holds so much potential: The raw, unlinked information found in online databases is part of the Deep Web. Visitors must type a keyword into a search function to find the information they want, and the page's hyperlink remains the same even while its portal delivers the right results.

In other words, thousands of databases on the internet — all of which are free to access — can't be found by Google or Bing.

Useful databases that commonly escape search engines' notice include census data, patient lists, insurance information, and scientific papers.

Three Misconceptions about the Deep Web:-

"Have a Gmail, Hotmail or Outlook.com email address? Then you're already using the Deep Web."

The name "Deep Web" makes the topic sound intriguing. After all, it's easy to fear the unknown. People assume that if a search engine can't find information on the internet, it must be important and could be dangerous.

Misconception #1: The Deep Web is Illegal---

Misconception #2: The Deep Web is for Experts Only---

Misconception #3: The Deep Web Can't Be Searched---

How You Can Use the Deep Web---

How to Search the Deep Web---

Source | https://tech.co/what-is-the-deep-web-2018-05

List of top 10 best Android educational apps in India

The world is shrinking, now the world is just a few clicks away. The education is rapidly changing from being limited to the classroom to the pockets of the people who want to learn more.

As the people are getting Tech freaks, almost everyone has Smartphone and in India, every two out of three people have Smartphone and Android is the most used

OS in India, It offers a variety of educational apps which can teach you almost anything and anytime.

These educational apps act as a great asset to ones learning as they provide a combination of innovative learning and core learning. Many apps include animated videos to enhance the learning experience on their app.

No matter what are your learning goals, there are apps for almost every subject, exam, or Interest.

Meritnation

BYJU'S – The Learning App

Wikipedia

TED

myCBSEguide – CBSE Papers &

NCERT Solutions

Duolingo

Dictionary.com: Search Words &

English Vocabulary

SoloLearn: Learn to Code for Free

Khan Academy

Coursera: Online courses

Link| https://www.theindianwire.com/education/best-android-educational-apps-india-56205/

Study @ How Book Vending Machines Up….Reading Habits

In an April 2018 study, researchers from New York University installed book vending machines in poor communities where books for children are scarce or nonexistent. This not only provided books for the community but the buying patterns provided a lot of insight into book buying habits, as the authors surveyed the people.

These areas are called "book deserts", as access to books is limited at best here.

The participants were asked about how they used local libraries and found that they were "rarely seen as an option." Moreover, the hub of those libraries seemed to be the computers rather than the books. It's worse for children in the summer months as schools are closed and their access to school libraries is down which puts them at an intellectual disadvantage as compared to their privileged peers.

Reaching Families Where They Are: Examining an Innovative Book Distribution Program

Susan B. Neuman, Jillian J. Knapczyk

National Technology Day 2018 @ Top technologies that are Impacting the Way We Think, Love and Communicate

The pace at which human-machine technologies are evolving and getting seamlessly integrated into our lives is unimaginable. On National Technology Day 2018, here's a look at the top technologies that are impacting the way we think, love and communicate.

• **Artificial Intelligence (AI)** – Undoubtedly, this is the biggest trend that has grown exponentially. Combined with machine learning, AI has the potential to not only bring about enormous changes in business, it can help create solutions for prevalent social issues. A large number of organizations have begun to realize the direct implications of infusing AI in their operations. While the groundwork in AI has already begun, the times ahead are exciting as the ideas and prototypes are taking shape in real projects across multiple sectors - healthcare, retail, construction, banking, manufacturing, etc.

• **Internet of Things (IoT)** – It has been predicted that IoT will comprise 200 billion 'smart' devices by the year 2020. That roughly equals 26 'smart' devices per person on the planet. These smart devices would need to be collaboratively connected through the internet, converting the devices into one big integrated system driving a major shift in human-machine interaction. Implications of this technology are immense, which can be as simple as a smart home to an entire city! At present, IoT is being used by businesses to increase process efficiencies and deliver better customer experiences, thus generating new revenue streams.

• **Blockchain** – Blockchain as a technology has immense prospects in the field of digital transactions. After the initial hype around blockchain in the financial services' industry, we are seeing many more potential use cases for the government, healthcare, manufacturing, supply chain/logistics, F&B and other industries. In 2018, mthe any blockchain technology platforms will move from developmentphase to pilot phase in the banking, media and industrial sectors.

• **Cloud-based architecture** – Cloud based architecture has been around for quite a while now but in 2018, we expect to see many more organizations take advantage of the simplicity and high-performance the cloud guarantees, as well as a sharp uptick in cloud-hosted Software-as-a-Service (SaaS) that provides an opportunity to grow computing capabilities without costly investments in infrastructure, physical or technical.

• **Augmented Reality (AR) and Virtual Reality (VR)** - Worldwide spending on AR and VR is expected to reach $17.8 billion in 2018, which is 95% more than the $9.1 billion spent in 2017. Businesses are quickly understanding the potential of AR and are integrating the technology into their business and marketing plans to make most of the first-mover opportunities available. Industries like telecommunication, manufacturing, energy where the workforce is scattered to remote

areas are already using AR extensively for communication, training, etc. The scope is even greater in healthcare where AR can be used in the operating room by bringing the virtual elements to the real world.

To conclude, half of the year has gone by and it already looks very promising for technological innovations. The exponential improvement of technologies will not only allow every business industry to flourish but also impact our daily lives.

Link | https://pralhad-fyilibrarian.blogspot.in/2018/05/national-technology-day-2018-top.html

Library as a Magical Kingdom of Books & Librarian as a Miracle Worker

One of the first sketches I wrote for the college magazine – now, alas, irretrievably lost – was about an imaginary heroic character called Roy. Roy was soft-spoken but strong, mild mannered but steadfast. He spoke truth to power and championed lost causes. A rugged scholar, he was by profession a librarian.

That confused my friends and readers. A librarian? It was clear to me that nobody thought of the librarian as a heroic figure. A librarian was expected to be a namby-pamby clerk, who kept an inventory of books and loaned them to scholars and students for short periods – and pestered them if the books were not returned in time. In the US, the image was that of a woman with moon glasses, gray hair in a bun, shuffling about noiselessly, shelving books and maintaining a place of sepulchral silence.

This was vastly different from my mental picture. To me a library was a magical kingdom, where everything was possible. And everything happened. Every villain had his comeuppance at the hands of the just hero; every detective followed abstruse clues to the right murderer; and every prince found the impeccably beautiful, doe-eyed princess. There you discovered mysterious new worlds. How two brothers worked on an impossible

dream and started flying. How Eskimos built houses of ice and raised families in them. How an arrogant boy from tiny Macedonia made huge empires prostrate at his feet. And how – trust the avid adolescent to look for that above all – men and women come together to have fun and produce babies.

To be sure, the aura of books for me came partly from their sheer scarcity in the India of the 1950s and sixties. There were few community libraries and their collections were pathetic. Schools and colleges had outdated inventories, and restrictive library practices seemed designed to keep students away from books. Open access was unthinkable and you could get only one or two books on loan at a time.

The US and British Embassies created a sensation in my city, Kolkata, by opening large libraries where you could walk up to the shelves, browse to your heart's content and sit and read as long as you liked. I became a member of as many libraries as I could, and then persuaded friends who worked for academic and professional organizations (and never used their large libraries) to let me use their membership cards.

When I moved to the US, I was delighted by the easy availability of books in large stores and also in libraries. The delight has shrunk over the years as libraries have reduced their staff, working hours and new acquisitions. Smaller budgets have gone mostly to popular magazines and best-selling potboilers, and the focus has moved to useful and how-to literature. Serving the community is a laudable goal, and librarians seem largely devoted to improving literacy, assisting seniors and children, helping the disabled and educating the computer Luddites.

All are perfectly understandable and perhaps defensible. Yet I cling to my idea of the library as a magical kingdom, where impossible things can and do happen. Where your mind is blown by staggering new ideas, your imagination takes awesome leaps as you discover a new

poem or play, your heart expands and sings as you read Murakami, Kundera or Rushdie, and you finally know what it is to be truly alive. A library, above all, is a haven where you discover yourself, joyfully and with abandon.

Roy, the librarian I had imagined in my college days, was modeled on an elderly friend I had acquired, a man who after a successful career as a professor and senior administrator had decided he wanted to be a librarian. He served as a wonderful mentor in a professional organization to students and executives alike, and opened new doors for anybody who cared to walk through his library doors. He was a miracle worker and I am thankful he introduced me to the miracle that a library can be.

Source| https://www.thestatesman.co/

UK University to offer medical courses for surgeons in India

Canterbury Christ Church University (CCCU) is all set to offer medical courses for surgeons in India. With 17,000 students across Kent and Medway, its courses span a wide range of academic and professional subject areas.

Source | Asian Age | 15th May 2018

Scan and Store Your Documents Digitally @ Apps

Though we live in an increasingly digital world, many organisations still print out important documents on paper. Receiving bank statements, retail invoices and important notices in print may seem redundant when you can access most of this information online, although you can't shy away from the fact that paper still dominates society.

But technology can save the day in the form of document scanning apps. With these, it's possible to scan paper-based items such as letters, receipts and contracts using the camera of your mobile device. You can then keep them safe and

stored on the cloud for future use. Here are the best document scanning solutions out there right now.

Disk Cleanup Vs Storage Sense @ Tech Tip – New ways to delete old files

Disk Cleanup is an older utility program that has been included with the operating system since the days of Windows 98.

Storage Sense @ As Windows 10 has evolved, Microsoft has automated some of the housekeeping chores performed by Disk Cleanup and moved them into the system settings in a feature called Storage Sense.

Online resource for academicians soon @ Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya National Mission on Teachers and Training (PMMMNMTT)

They can connect with experts, access books and journals in their fields of study

University and college teachers across the country will soon be able to connect with experts in their fields of study and also pose queries on academic questions that they wish resolved through suggestions offered by these experts or other teachers of their discipline.

A National Resource Centre, envisaged as a one-stop point for Indian academicians to enhance their research and teaching skills, will make such cooperation across universities possible with the launch of a portal within months from now.

The National Institute of Educational Research and Planning (NIEPA) is in the process of rolling out the centre, an initiative that is part of the Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya National Mission on Teachers and Training (PMMMNMTT), an ambitious scheme launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in Varanasi.

Detailed database

The centre will enable college and university teachers to access a detailed database of academic resources, including lists of books, top journals and subject experts in their area of interest. It will also suggest a mechanism to higher education institutions to assess students' satisfaction with teaching and research in the institutions, so that the faculty are able to figure out what students think about their college/university and make improvements.

NIEPA will hold a series of intensive workshops with experts in various disciplines in the next two months to put together an effective resource centre, said an official who did not want to be named.

The PMMMNMTT calls for a National Resource Centre to be "set up with the vision of developing teachers who are able to enhance their potential and push the frontiers of knowledge through research, networking and sharing of existing resources in the competitive knowledge world". The portal will be launched with detailed information on resources in some key subjects: History, Political Science, Sociology, Economics, Physics, Chemistry, Mathematics and Biology. Education and Management will also feature among the chosen disciplines.

Information for this issue has been provided by Mr. Pralhad Jadhav, Senior Librarian, Khaitan & Co. Mumbai