



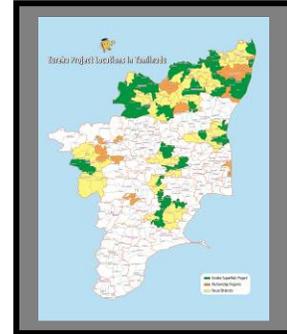
## Greetings from Eureka Superkidz!

*This is the last month of classes in Eureka centers before we close for this academic year. It has been a terrific year –from 50 villages in June 2010, thanks to your support, we now reach close to 35,000 children in 717 villages. It has been a year of learning for our team – how to get parents involved, how to focus on outcomes, and how to ensure that every child participates in class and learns. The final evaluation of skills has just been completed in all villages and we will share the results with you in the next report. Our team is now all charged up for the next academic year – starting with Summer Camps in May, enrolment in June, followed by a whole new year of activities, learning, fun and new experiences ahead.*

**10** Districts

**55** Blocks

**717** villages



## Student Exchange Program in Cuddalore Eureka Centers!

Every few months, the children of the Eureka center at **Nangudikuppam** village in Cuddalore go for an ‘educational tour’ along with their Eureka Teachers Rajeswari & Ranjitha. This month they wanted to do something different – and so they decided to visit Eureka children studying in the SuperKidz center in neighboring **Ayipettai village**. Once they reached Ayipettai, they were received with cheers by the other children. They mingled immediately and started asking each other questions in English!



*Eureka Teacher Rajeswari says, “Our children asked the others which story cards they had read from the library story bag. They were thrilled to know that Ayipettai children had also read the same stories and started discussing them! Shilpa and Sriman (Std. 3) were the most interactive – they started a game of ‘Simple Instructions’ in English and asked Ayipettai children to do the action as they called out instructions – Close the door! Touch the floor!”*

*“Then children from both centers demonstrated Science experiments. Ayipettai Eureka Teachers were very happy to see how interactive and confident our children were. They now want to do new things in their center too and asked us for ideas.”*

Once they came back from this visit, the children wanted more! The next week Nangudikuppam children went to visit the Eureka Center at **Manjakollai** village. When they got there, they found that Manjakollai Eureka SuperKidz had prepared a dance for their little visitors! It was a great moment for the Eureka Teachers to see their children get to know each other and share ideas and experiences. Truly, a student exchange program of sorts!

District	Blocks	Villages
Coimbatore	4	47
Cuddalore	4	48
Dharmapuri	4	40
Kanchipuram	6	65
Krishnagiri	6	48
Sivagangai	6	62
Tiruvallur	4	110
Tiruvannamalai	7	78
Trichy	6	76
Vellore	8	143
<b>Total</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>717</b>

## Meet our Young Teachers...

**Bijitha** (Std. 5), studying in the Eureka Center at Srinivasapuram village, Thondamuthur Block, has 2 younger sisters and an older brother. Her father is a construction worker and her mother is a daily wage laborer. When Project Manager Shyam visited the Eureka center in the village, he tested a few children on division. He says, "As we were giving division problems to the children, we noticed that Bijitha completed her sums much faster than the other children. I found that some of the other children were making mistakes in a particular step of the problem. I asked Bijitha whether she could teach the other children how to divide.



Within 15 minutes, she taught the division procedure to all 8 children, and explained to them where they were going wrong. Before I left, I tested these children again on division. Almost all of them got it right! I asked Bijitha if she wanted to be a teacher. She smiled and said that she wanted to become a doctor!"



**Prathap**, (Std. 4) of Parameswara Mangalam village, in Latur block is a very bright child and very eager to learn. He especially loves the English sessions at the Eureka Center. He wants to be an advocate when he grows up. He loves teaching the younger children in his class. He has told his Eureka Teacher that he will quickly complete all the activities and go home earlier every day since he wants to teach English to his younger sister at home!

- **Celebration:** The hamlets in Puvalai and Olugurai villages are divided caste-wise and people from one section of the village usually do not attend any function conducted in the Dalit area of the village. In a rare event, people of all castes came together to celebrate the Eureka Children's village event. Sports competitions, debates, dances and kolam competitions transformed the atmosphere of the village and united all sections of people!
- **Visit:** Callie Lowenstein from Pratham, Delhi visited several of our villages in Trichy. She reports, "The Eureka Math materials and activities are excellent! I also found the concept of the 1-week intensive Math focused teaching very interesting.

*In Tamil, reading seems to be focused almost exclusively on fluency. Starting at word and sentence level, we should have children drawing and illustrating/labeling their work, then moving to "analytical" (comprehension-based) and creative writing! Regarding implementation, lighting in class is an issue in some villages. It would be worth denoting which villages are most prone to power outages and prioritizing solar lamps for those class spaces."*

## News Snippets from Eureka Villages...

- **Awards:** In Tiruvannamalai, the District Collector Dr. M. Rajendran (IAS) participated in a function to award certificates to some of the best Eureka Teachers. In his speech, the Collector appreciated them for their work in villages and said that it was heartening to see so many young women working for the education of children in villages.

