

CASE STUDY

SHIV KUMAR

DIAGNOSIS- MILD MENTAL RETARDATION AGE -14 YEARS

Shiv Kumar was born on 12-09-2002 at Mustafabad village of Mustafabad block, 25 km from Yamuna Nagar district (Haryana). His mother has 3 children. He is the second son born to Mrs. Amarjeet. His developmental and medical history says that his mother got injury on her tummy during pregnancy and during delivery umbilical cord wrapped around Shiv Kumar's neck as a result his developmental milestones were a little slow and his cognitive development was poor as a result his understanding level and reactions were very slow but had no impairment in sensory organs.

Although his father with a very low income, has to support members of the family yet Shiv Kumar was admitted to a private school named Saraswati school situated near to his house. This school was a school for normal children. He studied there for one year but could not cope up with his peers because of his poor scholastic performance as a result he was dropped out.

He sat idle at home for one year. His parents were literally upset and confused and they did not know where to go and what to do. Fortunately, it was his immediate neighbour who guided his parents to go to Civil Hospital Yamuna Nagar for diagnosis. His parents went to Civil Hospital and there he was diagnosed with mild Mental Retardation. On the basis of diagnosis report Resource Teacher counseled the parents and advised them to admit Shiv Kumar in GMSSS Mustafabad. Finally Shiv Kumar was admitted in GMSSS Mustafabad. It is an inclusionary set up with Resource room facility.



When Shiv Kumar joined the school, his understanding level was very poor. He could not follow multi steps directions. His reactions towards different situations was very slow. His attention and memory was also very poor. He had a great difficulties in adjusting to the school environment. His peers were not very supportive, so his parents and teachers realized that he needs special way of teaching. Then support was taken from the Resource teacher working with same school.

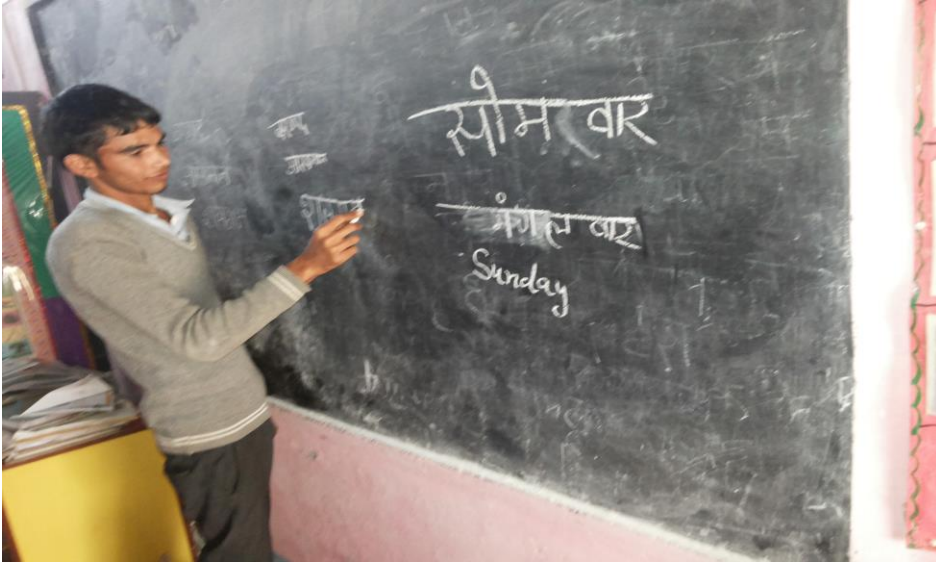
Resource teacher made close coordination with regular teacher and performed base line assesment in all possible areas and found that Shiv Kumar's pre concepts were not developed. He was unable to discriminate different shape, size, colour, numbers and alphabets. He could not identify and name common fruits, vegetables, animals numbers and alphabets of English and Hindi and others things of daily use. He could count numbers only up to 10. He was almost independent in self care skills but had difficulty in shoes lacing and grooming. His pencil grasp was very good and he could trace the number and alphabet very easily.

So after knowing the current functioning level and strength of Shiv Kumar, Resource teacher modified the curriculum as per the need and level of Shiv Kumar and encouraged his peers to help him in learning.

Resouce teacher gave the following tips to the regular teacher and peers:

- allow Shiv Kumar to sit with high functioning child at front desk.
- use concrete objects to introduce new concepts.
- introduce only one-two concept at a time.
- Inform Shiv Kumar in advance before changing activity.
- provide a lot of drill and practise exercise to learn the concept.
- break the assignment into smaller steps.
- give a lots of reinforcement like social reward for even small achievement.
- provide more opportunity to practise class activity.
- apply cooperative learning model to teach concept.
- modify the test as per the level of the child.

The above mentioned tips were being applied by the teachers and peers as a result Shiv Kumar has shown progress in all areas.



Gradually, Shiv Kumar was kept on promoted to next class. Now he is studying in 8th std. Now he is able to write self bio data. His pre-maths & language skills are clear. He can identify, name & write numbers 1 to 100. He can add single digit number by finger counting. He can read clock in hours and half hours. He can copy sentences of Hindi Language but can read only 3-4 letter words with 'आ' मात्रा. He can identify and write upper case and lower case letter of English language and can read some functional words of Hindi and English Language. He equally participates in all co-curricular activities along with peers and very fond of dancing. He won many prizes in block level sports and cultural activities.

Resource Teacher
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