



CASE STUDY

LEARNING CAMP INTERVENTIONS IN MUNICIPAL CORPORATION SCHOOLS IN VADODARA

Ahari Varun Kissan Bhai is 9 years old and studies in the 5th standard at Swami Vivekanand Primary School No. 18 in Vadodara. His father is a scrap dealer and his mother works as a household help.

Varun's teacher, Gayatri Ben from NGO Pratham, was having a tough time getting him to respond to our assessments when he declared that he couldn't read. When chastised into attending school regularly to learn to read, Varun's classmates informed that he helps his father in his scrap dealing work due to which he misses school.

Gayatri ben took it up as a challenge to make Varun a regular student and instill in him a sense of accomplishment in being able to read and solve sums. She visited his home and met his mother who was not concerned with what he was studying, which class he was in and accepted the fact that he helped his father daily. However, she wanted her son to get a job and provide financial security for the family.

Gayatri ben counseled the mother into acknowledging that in order to achieve all this, Varun would have to attend school and took her word to send him regularly. As promised, from the next day onwards, Varun was a regular at the learning camp. He was eager to read and help his father earn well in future. His teacher kept encouraging him to participate in activities and ensured that he didn't miss a single day of the camp. Varun's progress got clearly reflected in the endline tests. Gayatri ben also met Varun's parents a few times to ensure that they were aware of his progress.

