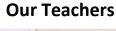
Bhindeshi: Online Bengali class



(Emerson Elementary)





Bishnupriya M, BCBA

Indrani K, Substitute (Everett School District)



Sudeshna D, Immigration Specialist



Ananya S, Entrepreneur

• In 2020 during the pandemic lockdown, we introduced the *Bengali class* to foster this native Indian language to our younger generation.

- We started less than 10 children and *three* volunteer teachers from our community.
- At present, we conduct bi-weekly classes in *two proficiency* levels, with *five* volunteer teachers and more than 35 students.
- The classes are open to everyone. We have students from different parts of the country.
- We primarily cover verbal and written skills, and often reference the rich culture and heritage of Bengal.

For further details please visit <u>https://bhindeshi.org/index.php/bengali-class/</u>

High Level - Curriculum

Proficiency Level – 1

- Improve vocabulary (games and story telling)
- Bengali number system and colors
- Learning swaro-borno (vowels)
- Learning banjon-borno (consonants)
- Family tree in Bengali
- Body parts in Bengali
- Learning native festivals, landmarks and legends
- Bengali poem recitations
- Basic comprehension
- Kids Presentation

Graduation Criteria:

- Recognize and write Bengali alphabets and numbers
- Ability to read & write simple Bengali words

Proficiency Level – 2

- Comprehension
- Advance conversation (social questions, story telling)
- Days of a week, seasons, weather in Bengali
- Telling time in Bengali
- Reading and writing 2/3 letter words
- Advance vocabulary (Jumbled words, sentences, synonyms and antonyms)
- Parts of speech (nouns, adjectives, verbs (tense), and pronouns)
- Advance reading and writing (joined letters and blended sounds)
- Translation

Graduation Criteria:

- Ability to read and write simple Bengali sentences.
- Understand (listen) and communicate (verbally) in Bengali

Future Vision

Expand the learning experience:

- Continue to teach and instill interest of Bengali and its cultural awareness
- Design and launch advance courses

Collaborate and partner with NSD:

- We are excited to have *Bengali* included as language in NSD curriculum
- We would like to evaluate opportunities to share our experience and infrastructure to enrich the learning experience

Literary Exposure:

- Encourage our students to write stories and poems in Bengali
- Leverage our literary platform *Bhinkotha* to encourage
- To learn more about 'Bhinkotha' please visit: <u>https://bhindeshi.org/index.php/bhindeshi-r-bhinkotha-magazine/</u>