

DIVERSIVE

Edition 4 - March 2023

YOUNG EDITORS' PROGRAM

By Ayushman Harlalka

Children's literature needs to be looked after more. It's often written by storytellers rather than by educators with an understanding of child psychology. Thus, Ideas and emotions are often simplified instead of nurturing the values and virtues required in building a generation of thinkers and empaths. And rarely do they involve their target audience - children - in the creation process.

We at RIEDU experimented with changing the formula. We decided to invite children to create content i.e writing side of the table. Thus began our journey with five children as reviewers for The Marshmallow, our children's e-magazine.

Working with these amazing kids brought fresh perspectives to the table. They often exceeded our expectations in eloquence and maturity. Soon enough, we were motivated to involve children at every stage of content creation - from conceptualisation to background research to the magic of weaving a story using facts or writing an article based on research. We even created narratives with them, as one of the characters. The process went unexpectedly well. We learnt that, given the right platform, if adults could write for fellow adults, so could kids write for fellow kids.

It led us to create our first batch of Young Editors, ten children from across the globe that became part of our Inclusive Editorial Board for Pole Star Volume I.

Thus, what began as an experiment metamorphosed into the Young Editors Program, a global initiative. Currently, Pole Star volume II is being created by 20 talented children as our Young Editors, Batch II, and they transcend as part of our Young Editors Program.

Do you want to be our Young Editor?

*Like & Follow our social media handles for updates and mail us:
themarshmallow.riedu@gmail.com*

PS. Check out the amazing team at;



*Diversity :
the art of
thinking independently
together.
- Malcolm Forbes*



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generation of thinkers &
empaths.*

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DIVERSITY

An article by Dr. Shruti Shankar Gaur

Oxford Dictionary defines diversity as a noun:

- the state of being diverse; variety.
- practice or quality of including or involving people from a range of different social and ethnic backgrounds and of different genders, sexual orientations, etc.

Sadly, diversity isn't translated well in the real world. Often, "people from diverse backgrounds" may be added to existing teams to fulfil the criterion of diversity, but the proportions are skewed enough for it to be meaningless.

For instance, having nine men and one woman in a team doesn't qualify it to be diverse. Rather, it shouldn't. What are your thoughts regarding diversity?

“
It is not our differences that divide us. It is our inability to recognize, accept, and celebrate those differences.
”
– Audre Lorde



THINK ABOUT IT! - TRAIN TRACK

By Ayushman Harlalka

A certain number rules the world. No, it's not pi, some 10-digit mobile number, or a zip code. It is, instead, a rather specific measurement. 4 feet and 8.5 inches, to be precise.

The US standard railroad gauge, or the distance between rails, is 4 feet, 8.5 inches.

The number came from England (Interestingly, English engineers designed the first US railroads). The number persisted because rail lines followed the specifications of wagon tramways, and that's the gauge they used. Trams, likewise, were derived from wagons. 4 feet and 8.5 inches were necessary for traversing old, long-distance roads. Any other specification and the wheels would break. The wagon would not be able to proceed. These roads, after all, dated back to the Roman empire that built them (and other roads in Europe) for conquest. Their war chariots formed the initial ruts of the road, which other vehicles had to follow or risk wreckage.

Case in point, the United States standard railroad gauge of 4 feet, 8.5 inches is derived from the original specifications for an Imperial Roman war chariot, which horses determined. So the next time you are handed a specification / procedure/ process and wonder 'What horse's ass came up with this?', you may be exactly right. Imperial Roman army chariots were made just wide enough to accommodate the rear ends of two war horses. (Two horses' asses.)

Speaking of the USA, a certain factory in Utah creates rocket parts. More specifically, the booster rockets attached to the fuel tank are called solid rocket boosters (or SRBs). Since these SRBs, while shipment, would have to cross a tunnel in the mountains, they were customised to be of those specifications. The tunnel is slightly wider than, you guessed it, a railway.

Essentially, humanity's most advanced travel system was adjusted to a metric set up two thousand years ago. And you thought being a horse's ass wasn't important? Ancient horse's asses control almost everything!

Source: <http://www.CaptainFl.com>

RIEDU INSPIRE



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