

Project

Conduct a Survey

Study the following questionnaire and discuss the points in small groups.

Is home a place where	Yes	No	Don't know
you feel secure and happy?			
you can be alone?			
you can keep all your things?			
you can bring up a family?			
you can invite friends / relatives?			
you can make a noise if you want to?			
you can do whatever you like?			
you are in peace?			
you can look after your parents?			
you give and receive love?			

Contact people in your school / your locality and put these questions to them. Collect information by ticking in the relevant column.

Analyse the results in the group and write a brief report on the result of your survey.

Use phrases such as the following:

Most people think that _____

A few people think that _____

Hardly anyone thinks that _____

No one thinks that _____



C. Reading

Read the following story:

The New Blue Dress

When spring came to the city of Cleveland in 1909, it did not change Gates Avenue. People who lived on the pretty streets near Gates Avenue were making gardens and painting their houses. But Gates Avenue continued to look dirty and ugly.

Gates Avenue was a short street, but it seemed longer because it was so ugly. Most of the families who lived there had very little money. They never expected to have any more.

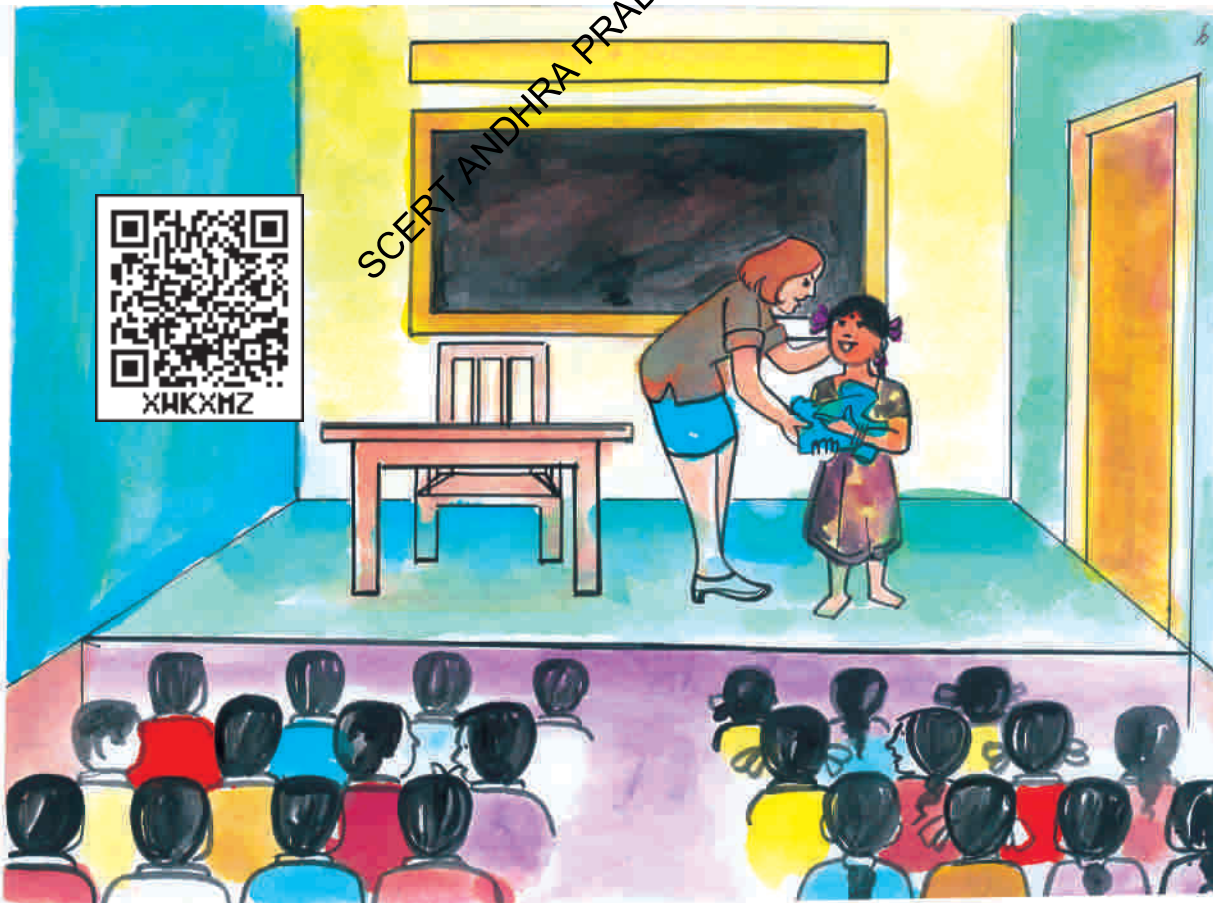
Their houses had not been painted in many years, and they did not even have running water. The street itself was ugly too. There was no pavement, there was no streetlight; and the railroad at the end of Gates Avenue added noise and dirt.

The other girls in the school near Gates Avenue wore new and pretty clothes that spring. But the little girl from Gates Avenue still wore the dirty dress that she had worn all winter. Probably that was the only dress she owned.

Her teacher was very unhappy. The little girl was so nice! She always worked hard in school; she was always friendly and polite. Her face was dirty and her hair was untidy, but anyone could see that she was pretty under the dirt.

One day the teacher said, “Won’t you wash your face before you come to school tomorrow morning? Please do that, just for me.”

The next morning the child’s pretty face was clean, and her hair tidy. Before the little girl went home that afternoon, the teacher said, “Now, dear, please ask your mother to wash your dress.”



But the girl continued to wear the same dirty dress, “Her mother is probably not interested in her” the teacher thought. So she bought a bright blue dress and gave it to the little girl. The child took the gift eagerly and rushed home.



The next morning she came to school in the new blue dress, and she was very clean and tidy. She told her teacher, “My mother couldn’t believe her eyes when she saw me this morning in my new dress. My father wasn’t at home, but he’ll see me at supper tonight.” She was full of excitement.

When her father saw her in her new blue dress, he was amazed to find that he had a very pretty little girl. When the family ate supper, he was even more amazed to see a cloth on the kitchen table. The family had never used a table cloth before. “We’re going to begin to be tidier here,” his wife said. “I’m ashamed to be dirty when our daughter is so clean.”

After supper, the mother began to wash the kitchen floor. Her husband watched silently for several moments. Then he went outside and began to repair the fence. The next evening, with the family’s help, he began to make a garden.

During the following week, the man in the next house watched what his neighbour was doing. And by the end of the week, the man began to paint his house — for the first time in ten years. A few days later, the young minister of a church near Gates Avenue passed these two houses and saw two men working. For the first time he noticed that there was no pavement on Gates Avenue, and no streetlight, and no running water. “People who are trying so hard to make decent homes here deserve help,” the minister thought. He asked some important citizens in the city to help them.

A few months later, because of the young minister, there was a pavement on Gates Avenue. There was a streetlight on the corner, and the houses had running water. Six months after the little girl got her new blue dress, Gates Avenue had become a tidy street where respectable citizens lived.

When people in other places heard the story of Gates Avenue, they began to organise their own ‘clean up’ campaigns. Since 1913, more than seven thousand towns and cities have organised campaigns for painting and repairing homes and making better lives for the people who live in them.

Who knows what will happen when a teacher gives a little girl a new blue dress?

Glossary

running water (phr):	water coming from the main supply when taps are turned on
pavement (n):	footpath
excitement (n):	strong feeling
amazed (adj):	filled with great wonder
decent (adj):	respectable
community (n):	people living in the same locality, who are considered as a unit
organise (v):	to arrange / to make preparation
campaigns (n):	a series of planned activities to do something.



How well did I read?

Fill in the boxes using yes/ somewhat/ no.	
I enjoyed reading the passage.	
I got the idea of the passage on my own.	
I got the idea with the help of my friends in the group.	
The teacher helped me to understand the passage.	
I used the glossary given at the end of the passage.	

I. Answer the following questions:

1. What kind of street was Gates Avenue at the beginning of the story?
2. What happened to it by the end of the story?
3. Why do you think the teacher gave the blue dress to the little girl?
4. What change did the new blue dress bring in the little girl's house?



Breakfast Is Important

Breakfast is an important meal, particularly for children, as it breaks the fast of the sleep hours and prepares them for school and increases their attention span. Recent research provides compelling evidence that malnutrition even in its milder forms can have a detrimental effect on the cognitive development of children. Even short-term nutritional deficiencies influence the child's behaviour, ability to concentrate and to perform complex tasks. Skipping a meal or eating a hurried breakfast can adversely affect the child's problem solving ability.

Among the children who had breakfast, the type of breakfast they had, again made a big difference. Children who had curd rice, dhal rice with a side dish for breakfast scored the maximum in concentration and memory. Children who drank coffee or energy drink or porridge alone for breakfast scored less than the children who had both breakfast and an energy drink. Children who had idli or dosai with sambar performed better than children who had it with sugar or chutney as the former had both protein and carbohydrate and is a well-balanced meal.

The best breakfast is one which has a combination of carbohydrate, protein and fat like idli and sambar; rice and dhal or curd; chapatti with dhal egg curry; egg sandwiches; poori and potato, and a glass of milk. Breakfast, which provides only carbohydrates like idli and sugar, idiappam and sugar, gives immediate energy but it does not last long. Say 'no' to junk food.

