

# Capacity Building of SRG for Quality Education ( NISHTHA)

## PRESCHOOL EDUCATION



**Department of Elementary Education  
NCERT New Delhi**

# LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

**At the end of this theme you will be able to:**

- Define Preschool education
- Describe the need and importance of Preschool education
- Describe the Pedagogy used in Preschool Education
- Understand the importance of planning activities and experiences for holistic development of the child through play -based developmentally appropriate activities
- Demonstrate an understanding of assessment in Preschool Education
- Outline the Role of Parents in Preschool Education
- Describe how linkages can be made with Primary schools for smooth transitions



# ACTIVITY 1

- Share the memories of your childhood days (*one pleasant and the one not so pleasant*).
- Let's listen to each other and see how the memories leave a lifelong impact.
- Do you recall/remember any stories /rhymes learnt in your early years even now as adults.
- So YOU have seen how important are the first five years! ...



# IMPETUS FOR PRESCHOOL EDUCATION

- ❖ Sustainable Development Goal (Target 4.2)
- ❖ Inclusion of two years of Preschool Education under *Samagra Shiksha*, 2017
- ❖ NCF 2005
- ❖ National ECCE Policy 2013
- ❖ National ECCE curriculum Framework (2013 MWCD)
- ❖ The National Policy on Education(NPE), 1986
- ❖ The Preschool Curriculum (NCERT 2018)
- ❖ Guidelines for Preschool Education (NCERT 2018)



# Availability of Preschool Education

Anganwadis  
under ICDS

Government  
Schools

Private  
Preschools

NGOs



# WHAT IS PRESCHOOL EDUCATION ?

- First stage of organised joyful education providing strong foundation for all round development and life-long learning and preparing the child for school
- Any setting imparting preschool education to the children between 3-6 years (*referred by any nomenclatures such as anganwadi, balwadi, nursery, preschool, preparatory, pre-primary, LKG, UKG etc.*)



# Why Invest in Quality Preschool Education?

- ❖ Human Rights
- ❖ Scientific Rationale
- ❖ Economic Benefits
- ❖ Social Equity
- ❖ Achieve National and International Goals



# Human Rights

- **Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) – Most ratified convention 1989**
- **Children have the Right to survive and to thrive**

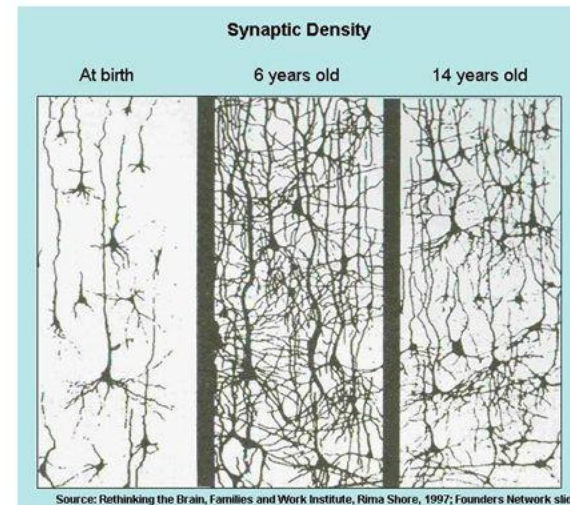




# SCIENTIFIC RATIONALE:-EVIDENCE FROM THE NEUROSCIENCE

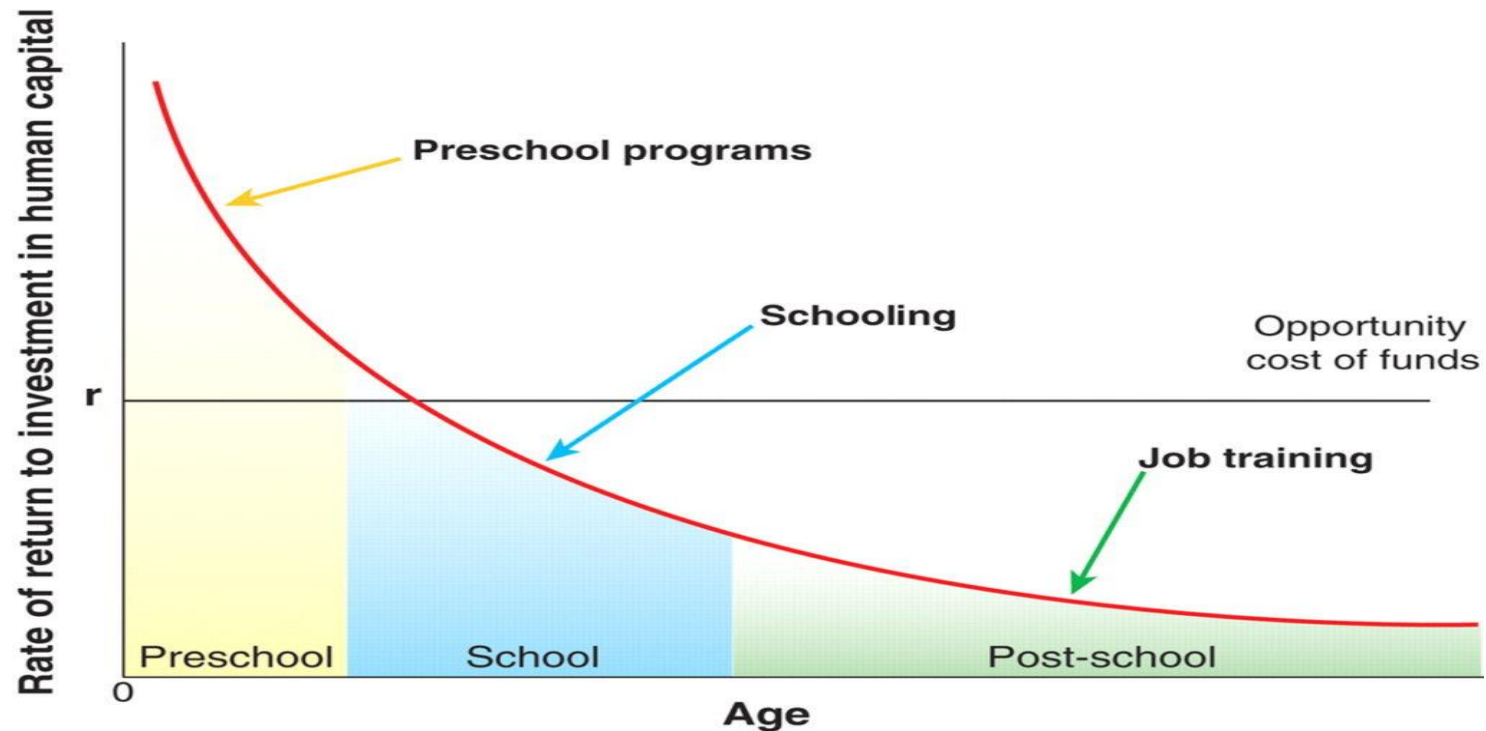
## Brain Development

- Synaptogenesis peaks at age 1, continues through childhood
- Synaptic pruning begins in first years, continues through young adulthood
- Lateralization:
  - The localization of a function to one of the hemispheres of the brain
- Corpus callosum:
  - The connection between the two halves of the hemispheres of the brain



# QUALITY PRESCHOOL EDUCATION IS A SMART INVESTMENT

Rates of return to human capital investment



# Economic Benefits

- Prevention is less expensive than Treatment
- Preventive care reduces costs of health care throughout life
- Investment in quality preschool education :-  
prepares the child for the school and costs less than high dropout and repetition rates leads to increased workplace productivity.



# Social Equity

- **Early Interventions help disadvantaged groups most**

**In India , ICDS offers six important services:**

- **Health Check up**
- **Nutrition and health Education**
- **Immunization**
- **Care for pregnant and lactating mothers**
- **Supplementary Nutrition,**
- **Preschool non formal Education**



# Achieve National and International Goals

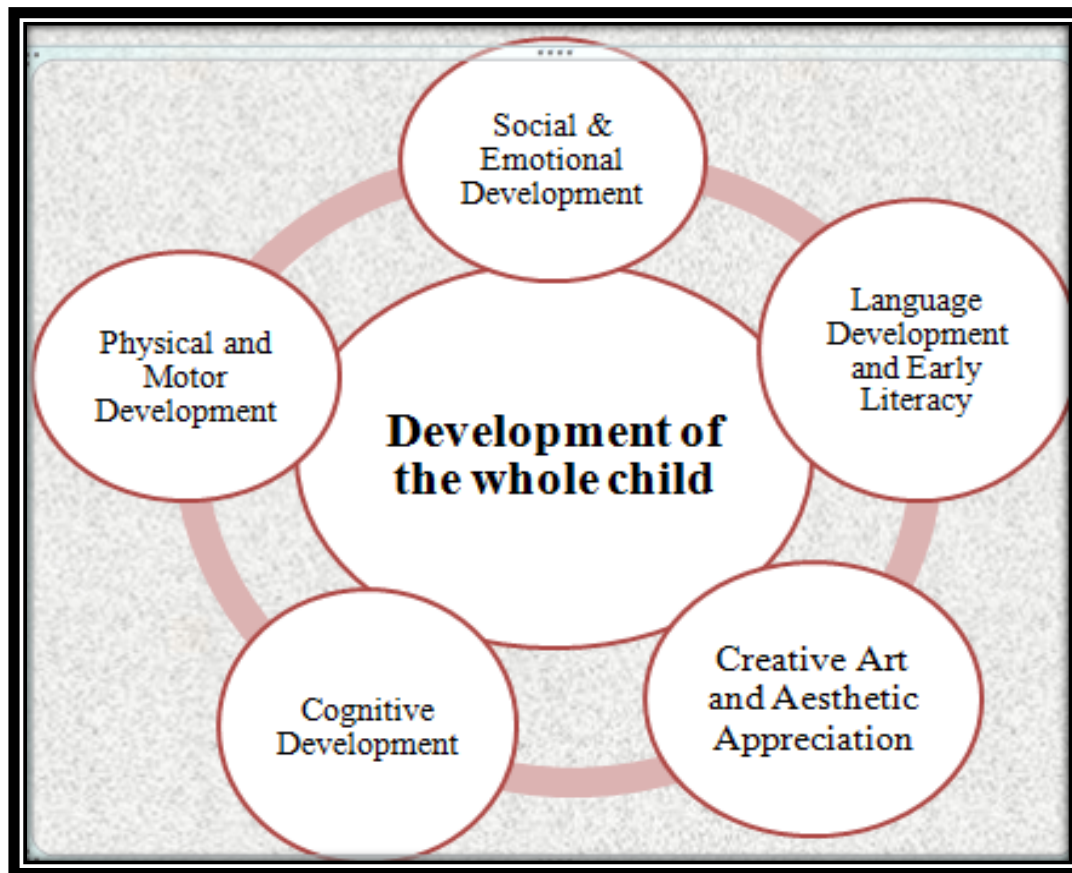
A holistic approach is key in meeting development targets

- **Global Movement for Young Children**
- **Sustainable Development Goal (Target 4.2)**
- Inclusion of two years of Preschool Education under *Samagra Shiksha, 2017*

**ENSURING A SMART START FOR EVERY CHILD**



# DEVELOPMENTAL AREAS



## **3-6 YEARS**

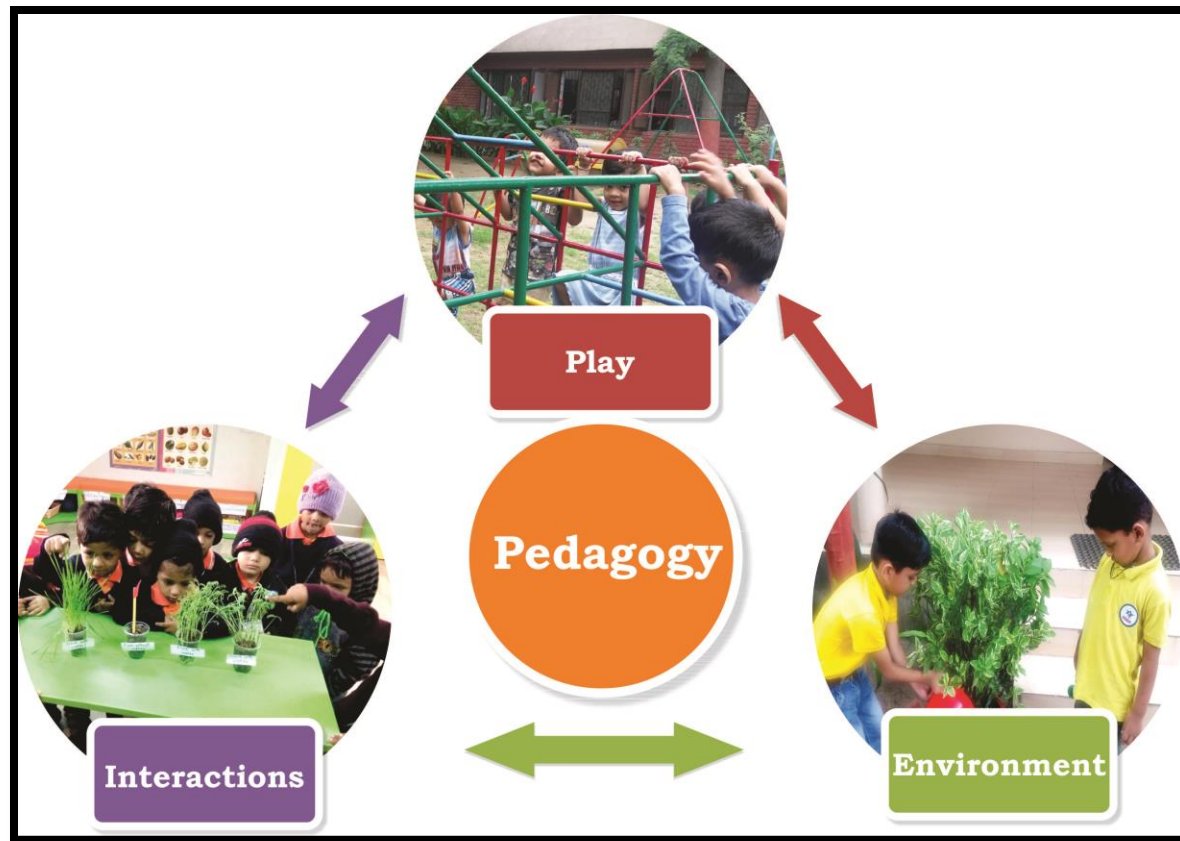
**PLAY AND  
DEVELOPMENT  
ALLY  
APPROPRIATE  
PRACTICES  
FOR  
PRESCHOOL  
EDUCATION  
& STRESS-  
FREE SCHOOL  
READINESS,  
HEALTH,  
HYGIENE &  
NUTRIION**



## **6-8 YEARS**

**SMOOTH  
TRANSITI  
TO EARLY  
PRIMARY  
GRADES AND  
LEARNING  
FORMAL 3 R's  
IN ACTIVITY  
METHOD,  
HEALTH,  
WELL BEING  
N'  
NUTRITION**

# PEDAGOGY OF PRESCHOOL EDUCATION





# How Children Learn ?

**Children learn in an emotionally supportive and stimulating environment**



- ❖ *Asking and Answering questions- e.g., “ But Why”*
- ❖ *Exploring and Observing*
- ❖ *Listening to Sounds, making Sounds and Singing*
- ❖ *Experimenting with textures, objects and materials*
- ❖ *Expressing feelings and ideas, Responding to voices*
- ❖ *Creating and Constructing*
- ❖ *Solving problems*
- ❖ *Pointing to pictures in books, Choosing books to read*
- ❖ *Doing things that stimulate their Senses*

# IT IS POSSIBLE ONLY IF YOU ARE MOTIVATED AND WILLING !



- Classroom can be divided into different Activity/ Interest Areas equipped with play materials where children explore and enjoy Free Play !
- If Space is constraint, provide Activity Areas on rotation or temporary basis

# USE LOW COST /NO COST MATERIAL TO EQUIP THE ACTIVITY AREAS AND CREATE LITERACY RICH ENVIRONMENT

- Print Rich Preschool Environment with Interest/ Activity Areas
- Use Environmental materials, teacher -made materials, Low-cost/No cost materials



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NCERT

# Suggestive Activities for Motor Development

- **Large Muscle Development**

**Running, Jumping, Walking, Throwing, Catching , balancing, Music and Movement, etc.**



- **Fine Motor Development (eye-hand coordination)**

**Threading beads, Block building, Tearing and pasting, etc.**

- **Health, Hygiene and Nutrition**





# Suggestive Activities for Socio-Emotional Development

- Practice sharing and turn-taking during daily routines (*snack, circle time*).
- ❖ Creating small groups of mixed-age children to read a book together.
- ❖ Adding materials/books for Pretend play
- ❖ Creating personalized social stories
- ❖ Playing games where children have to listen carefully to each other (e.g., Simon Says).



# Activities for S-E Deve (continue..)

- Including play materials that involve children working together (construction, water and sand play toys, etc.)
- Model talking about one's own emotions and supporting children when they share their feelings.
- Arranging Activity/Interest areas so that three-four children can play together
- Providing developmentally appropriate materials that promote social interactions (*e.g., dolls & dress-up clothes, blocks, balls, puppets, toy cars, and board games*).



# SUGGESTIVE ACTIVITIES FOR CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT

- Music and Movement
- Art and Craft
- Dramatic play
- Drawing, Coloring, Scribbling
- Clay Modeling
- Sand play
- Water play



# Activities for Creative Development ( cont..)

- Going for a nature walk to collect materials to create art
- Using role play, rhymes, and movement to act out things from daily life. It could be animals, mothers, fathers, community helpers or whatever your children likes or whatever is the theme the class is following.
- Acting out roles from a favorite story with movements or sounds.
- Encouraging children to march, roll, stamp, hop, slide and run, dance. Play some music to get children move or come up with new actions.





# Suggestive Activities for Language and Early Literacy

- ❑ Free Talking Time and teacher initiated conversation
- ❑ Listening to Stories , Singing Rhymes and Songs, Creating Story, Read aloud, Shared reading, Looking at Pictures, Picture Reading
- ❑ Acting Out ,Role play,
- ❑ Games for Phonological awareness : Rhyming games- eg., ‘*What other words sound like car?*’
- ❑ Opportunities for drawing, scribbling, mark making, writing



**Story Telling:-** using an age appropriate Picture Story Book and moving the index finger beneath the text from left to right



# Activities for early literacy ( continue..)

- Use different times in daily routine and opportunities to encourage children to learn. *Example :Writing a shopping list in front of children, playing a rhyming game or reading a story and asking questions etc*
- Word games to learn sounds. *E.g., ‘I spy with my little eye something beginning with f-f-f.What do you think I’m looking at that starts with that sound?’.*
- Encouraging children to turn the pages .Use your finger to guide children’s eyes from left to right across the page as you read, and point out certain words or phrases.



# **Suggestive Activities for Environmental Awareness, Scientific thinking, Math readiness/ Early Math**

- Provide opportunities for play and explore materials
- Asking open-ended questions: *“Why do you think so?”, “What do you think is happening here?” “Tell me why you think that?”*
- Helping children develop hypotheses:- *“what do you think will happen?” or “Let's predict what we think will happen next.”*
- Critical thinking :Asking questions like, *“What other ideas could we we think?” or “Let’s think of all the possible alternatives solutions.”*

# continue...

- SORTING *LEAVES, SEEDS, OBJECTS* ETC
- SERIATING /ORDERING *FROM BIGGEST TO SMALLEST; DARK TO LIGHT...*
- RETELLING THE FAMILIAR STORY IN SEQUENCE; REPEATING THE GIVEN PATTERN AND EXTENDING IT FURTHER ( *FLOWER-LEAF-FLOWER-LEAF..?*)
- CLAPPING AND COUNTING; TOUCH AND COUNT
- COMPLETING PUZZLES AND MAZE
- MEMORY GAMES
- ACTIVITIES FOR DEVELOPMENT OF BASIC CONCEPTS SUCH AS **COLOUR, SHAPE, VEGETABLES, FRUITS, TRANSPORT ETC.**



# Assessment in Preschool Education

- Observing the progress of children's learning and development-*what they already know and how can they be supported in advancing their learning*
- Identification of developmental delays, special educational needs and potential or abilities
- Teacher self-assessment for programme modification



# HOW ASSESSMENT SHOULD BE DONE ?

## Continuous and Comprehensive

- ❖ Observing children as they are engaged in play in small groups and noting how they are working with / handling the materials; how they are interacting with peers and so on.
- ❖ Writing anecdotal/ observation notes
- ❖ Keeping sample of children's work in portfolio
- ❖ Checklists, Rating scales
- ❖ Photographs, Video clips
- ❖ Developing Rubrics
- ❖ Maintaining Health cards and Child profile

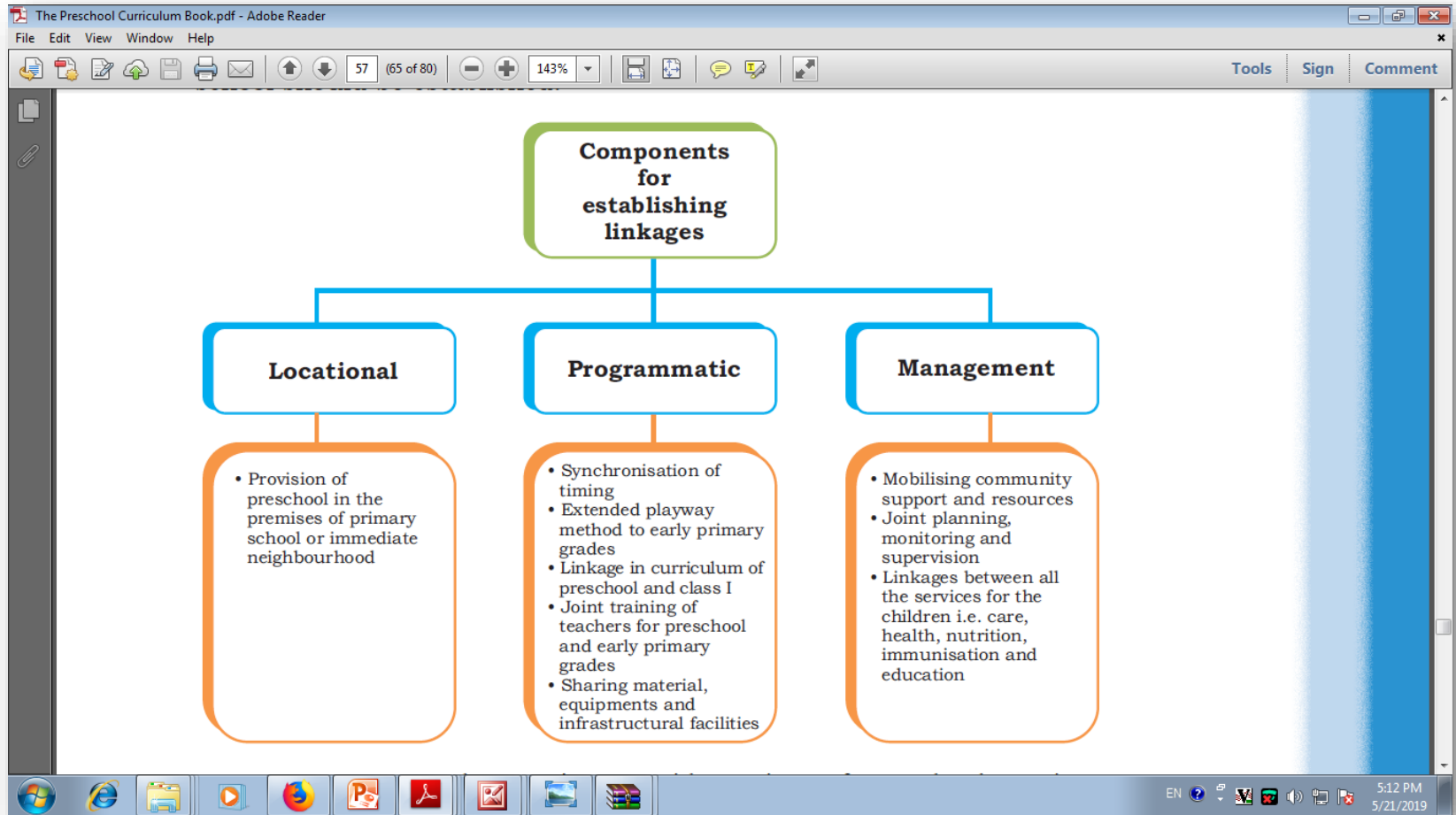
# INVOLVING PARENT AND COMMUNITY

- Creating a school environment that support parent involvement
- Involving Parents as a Resource in Preschools
- Organizing PTMs/ Workshops
- Meeting Parents informally when they come to drop or pick, or occasionally
- Creating Parent Resource center





# LINKAGES BETWEEN PRESCHOOL AND PRIMARY EDUCATION FOR SMOOTH TRANSITION





# A Day's Schedule:- A Sample

30 minutes	Welcome, warming up activities, cleanliness checkup	Teacher directed large Group activity
30 minutes	Free play in Activity/Areas	Child-Initiated small group activity
15 minutes	Circle Time : Free conversation	Teacher guided large group activity
15minutes	Guided conversation	Teacher guided in large group
30 minutes	Numeracy Activity	Teacher guided and child initiated
30 minutes	Writing Readiness/Early literacy/Art Activities	Child Initiated
30 minutes	Snack Time	(Hand washing <b>10 minutes before</b> and <b>10 minutes after</b> snacks)
30 minutes	Outdoor play	Child initiated and teacher guided
30 minutes	Story Making	Child initiated, teacher guided
10 minutes	Good bye Circle	Large group activity, Teacher guided

# Some Priorities

- Parent and Community Awareness and partnerships.
- Strengthening Training in Preschool Education and also involving Grade -1 & 2 teachers and provision of Story books , Play/learning materials etc.
- Development of resource/learning materials for teachers and children
- Incorporating school readiness activities in the preschool curriculum



# GROUP WORK : Sit in 6-7 groups.

- **Activity 1** : Plan one activity for each domain **for** preschool children and share what children will learn through the activity.
- **Activity 2** : Write at least 3 of each literacy and numeracy activities (*games, stories, rhymes*) and creative activities for Preschool Children.
- **Activity 3** : Discuss in a group about how preschool education can be linked with early primary classes. Suggest at least 3 strategies for strong linkages between the two.



Please look through our list of resource books on ECE for additional ideas available at NCERT sales counter with Publication Division and on NCERT website



# Publications by NCERT in ECE

- *Har Bachha Aham*
- Little Steps
- Trainer's handbook in ECCE
- Early childhood education programme
- Readiness activities for the Beginners ( volume I & II)
- Young Children in Motion
- Every Child Matters—A handbook on quality ECE
- Theme Based Early Childhood Education programme
- *Khel —Khel mein*
- Guidelines in ECCE
- Smooth and Successful transitions
- *DARPAN*
- *Poorv Prathmik Shiksha —Ek parichai*

