

CLR 'Bridge' Materials for Transition from Home Language (Tribal) to School Language

Developed by Centre For Learning Resources in recognition of children's home cultures, and to ease their transition from home language to the regional medium of instruction

Conventional Chart for Phonemic Awareness and Letter-Sound Association – Warli dialect



A conventional alphabet chart requested by Warli teachers in Thane District, Maharashtra. CLR involved them in choice of words in Warli dialect for each consonant, to teach letter-sound association initially through Warli vocabulary familiar to young children.

Innovative Locale-specific Charts for Letter-sound Association in Warli dialect



A more ambitious and innovative attempt was to develop 2 picture charts illustrated in Warli style, depicting scenes within and outside a typical 'padha' (hamlet), incorporating words familiar to Warli children. Interestingly, trialing revealed that Warli children correctly identified each of the images, while other rural children only a few. For each Devanagiri letter, children could search for 3-4 pictures of words beginning with the particular sound in their dialect. Though Warli art is popular on clothing, lampshades, murals, etc. . the idea to use it in the education of their own children has been exploited only by CLR.

Poems and Songs – Warli dialect.

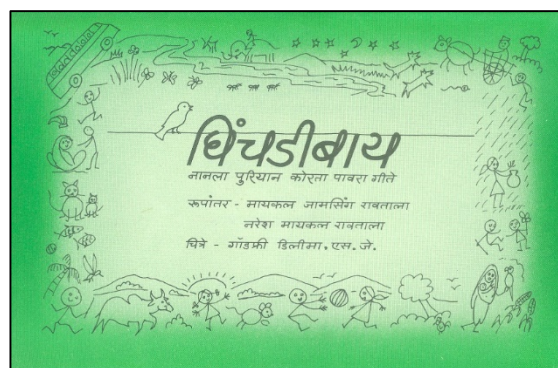
Illustrated by Warli artists

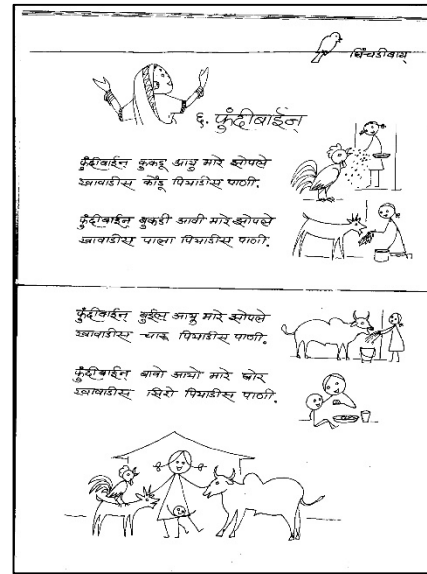
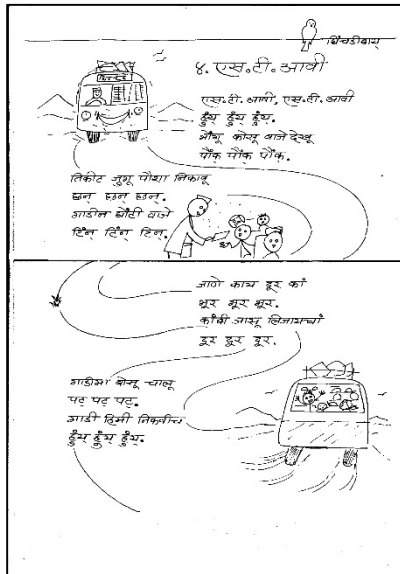


CLR undertook field work in Thane District to collect traditional Warli poems and songs, and some composed by teachers from the Warli community. A booklet entitled 'Akhad Te Akhad' (' Monsoon to Monsoon ') was then designed, illustrated by artists from the community. Since these songs were sung seasonally in the community, CLR sequenced the content according to the agricultural seasons that are central to the economic and cultural life of the Warlis. It served as a resource for teachers, and was also used by adult neo-literates.

Poems – Pawra dialect

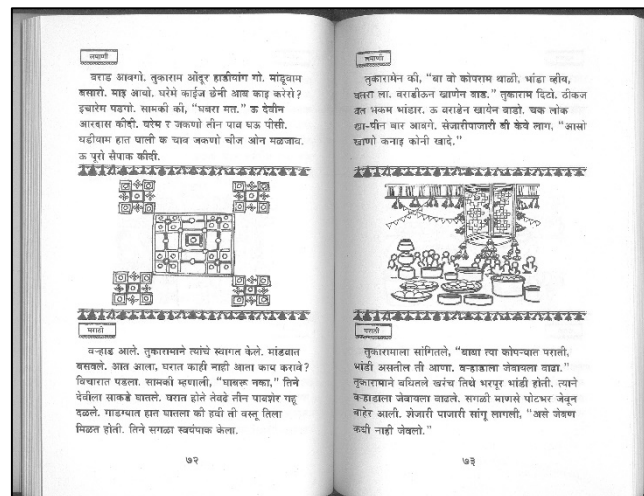
Illustrated locally





A collection of poems in Pawra dialect entitled ' Ghinchdibai '. Published by CLR in collaboration with an NGO working in the northern border area of Maharashtra. Since traditional songs suitable for young children were rare, these poems are Pawra translations of selected Marathi verse. They were adapted by teachers from the community to reflect the tribal cultural context.

Bilingual book of traditional Lamani folk tales in Lamani-Marathi



A Bilingual storybook developed by CLR in the Lamani dialect and Marathi. Stories relevant for school-going children had to be selected from a larger collection of traditional tales gathered from Lamani ' tandas ' (hamlets) by the St. Xavier's Social Science Centre, Mumbai. CLR involved a Lamani writer in editing; some texts rendered in drama form ; site photography in Lamani homes served as reference for the illustrations.