

Curriculum Vitae



Ritu Lamba

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EDUCATION

- Harvard Graduate School of Education (2017-2018) Ed.M Technology, Innovation, and Education

Projects:

ReadConnect Prototype: Designed and presented a prototype of a tech-enhanced reading experience that leverages intrinsic motivation to read via embedded features and social interaction.

Research Conference Paper: Presented a research paper to the Literacy and Reading Development Panel on the effects on different forms of media on students' leisure reading habits, spanning 6 decades and many countries, while also presenting a novel theory as to the reasons for such effects and the solution to the problem.

Reading Comprehension Model: Formulated my own reading comprehension model in the form of a research paper, explaining the different elements that comprise the reading process, from beginning to experienced readers.

- ILS Law College, Pune (2006-2011) BSL LLB, First Class
- Symbiosis College of Arts & Commerce (2004-2006) H.S.C., Grade 1 with Distinction
- St. Mary's School, Pune (1991-2004) I.C.S.E. – 91.5% aggregate score

WORK EXPERIENCE

Things Education (Present)

Things Education enables parents and teachers to create environments conducive to learning.

ROLE

Co-founder

Educational Initiatives (2017; June 2019 – December 2020)

Educational Initiatives creates K-12 diagnostic student assessments and adaptive and personalized learning solutions for students, schools, and school boards.

ROLE

Pedagogical Expert, Gifted Education and Counselling

- Created courses for gifted students, including Forensic Science, Sustainability, Design Thinking, 21st Century Skills, Social and Emotional Development, Being a Conscious Citizen, and Historical Literacy for the 21st Century.
- Created processes and templates for creation and review of lesson plans authored by the academic team.
- Created assignments on developing critical thinking skills for the ASSET Mentorship Programme.
- Managed and trained academic team members on best practices in pedagogy and curriculum development.
- Contributed to the conceptualization of new academic products, including the ASSET Digital Learning Programme and the ASSET Hybrid Learning Programme.
- Delivered courses at the ASSET Summer Programme (Manipal, 2019); Delhi-NCR's Most Gifted Programme (Delhi-NCR, 2019); UAE's Young Scholars Programme (Dubai, 2019); the ASSET Day Scholars Programme (Dehradun, 2020); and the ASSET Digital Learning Programme (online, 2020).
- Prepared and delivered webinars geared towards parents and teachers across India, including *Supporting Gifted Children at Home and at School*, *The Pursuit of Excellence: Habits, Skills and Values*, *Giftedness and the Brain*, and *The Transition to Online Learning*.

Senior Educational Specialist, Mindspark English (2017)

- Managed the content of Mindspark English, from conceptualizing the product to training the team on genres, skills, language concepts, and question creation to reviewing and finalizing.
- Planned and coordinated school visits and meetings with students, teachers, principals, and other stakeholders.

XSEED Education (2013 – 2018)

XSEED is a proven and research based academic program for schools that builds thinking skills and problem-solving confidence in children. XSEED targets middle and low-income schools across South-East Asia.

ROLE**Senior Author—English and Social Science**

- Researched learning standards and textbooks of national and state boards across the country to create yearly academic plans for English and Geography, spanning Grades 1-8, for 6 projects.
- Authored content in textbooks, teacher curriculum manuals, workbooks, assessment manuals, and assessment reports across 9 projects.
- Authored 44 English stories, 16 poems and 13 phonics songs, published in the English textbooks and used in digital products as main texts.

Reviewer

- Reviewed content authored by peers across 9 projects, for conceptual accuracy, alignment with skills, and clarity.

Editor

- Edited language of content authored by peers across 9 projects, for reading level, clarity, and grammar.

Subject Matter Expert

- Worked in close coordination with product vendors to finalize textbooks, curriculum manuals, and workbooks across 6 projects.
- Trained English, Hindi, and Early Program authors on the skills framework, and progression of concepts and skills across grades.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Received positive feedback from teachers and school leaders on yearly academic plans piloted in Philippines schools.
- Authored a set of prototype English blocks for the Philippines project, well-appreciated by teachers in the Philippines schools and used as templates for the project.
- Received positive feedback from subject matter experts, teachers, and school leaders on the balance of pedagogical soundness and creativity in lesson plans authored.
- Established long-term liaisons with short story and novel publishers across the country.

Teach For India (2011 – 2013)

A part of the Teach For All network, Teach For India is a nationwide movement that aims to eliminate educational inequity in India.

ROLE**Teacher**

- *Late Madhavrao Sonba Tupe English Medium School (2012-2013); English, Math, Geography – Grade 5*
Achieved mastery level at TFI goal for 39 students in every subject, including 2.1 years of growth in Reading Comprehension by the end of the year.
- *Valley View High School (2011-2012); English, Math, Science, History, Civics, Geography – Grade 6*
Achieved strong growth figures for 58 students across subject areas, including 1.7 years of growth in Reading Comprehension and 1.5 years of growth in Grammar.

Member, Literacy Curriculum Committee

- Developed Grade 8 literacy curriculum and End-Of-Year Assessment to be used in TFI schools in 2 cities.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Designed and implemented a demonstrably successful teaching methodology for Reading Comprehension, adopted by several teachers from Grades 3 to 7 with positive feedback.
- Set up the first library at Late Madhavrao Sonba Tupe English Medium School, and implemented programs to make the library sustainable.

Pugmarks Eco Tours (2006 – 2011)

Pugmarks conducts wildlife and adventure camps for various ages, from the rainforests in south India to the Himalayas.

ROLE**Senior Camp Instructor**

- Coordinated and led over 30 five-six day wildlife and adventure camps for large groups from ages 8 to 50.
- Managed all aspects of camps, including planning, logistics, safety, and coordinating teams of instructors and on-site local staff.
- Conducted educational and personality building activities.

MISCELLANEOUS EXPERIENCE AND ACHIEVEMENTS

- Assisted a local NGO, Re:Imagine Learning Community, in raising funds for and setting up a school in the village of Bhor, Maharashtra. Enrolled over 25 students from the village (2013).
 - Participated in Project Corbett Country (June 2009) – Field Training Program for Pugmarks and Wildrift Instructors. Studies of tiger habitat, leopard behavior, avian ecology, and human-animal conflict were undertaken.
 - Participated in Project Anshi (January 2009) – Field Training Program for Pugmarks Instructors. Conducted surveys of Anshi ecosystem using methods such as McKinnon’s Species Richness Method.
 - Participated in Project Navegaon (June 2008) – Training for Pugmarks Instructors and Capacity Building for Local Guides.
 - Distinction in International Assessments for Indian Schools (English) conducted by the Educational Testing Centre, University of New South Wales in 2004.
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