

ISA Project: Indigenous Sports

Activity 1: Boat Racing

Delhi is a land locked city and the children living here do not get much opportunity to visit a live boat racing event. This is also the reason behind the limited knowledge of this sport among children. The activity on Boat Racing conducted in the month of November by students of class VII and VIII helped the students gain an insight into the different styles of boat racing and their relevance to the native people of India, China and Indonesia.

The activity started with a brief introduction of Boat Racing in India. This was followed by video screening of the boat racing event in India, China and Thailand. Students were already aware about Boat Racing being celebrated in South India during the Onam festival. The activity developed a curiosity among the learners and stimulated them to gather meaningful information on boat racing. Students divided themselves into groups and collected relevant data in the form of pictures and videos on boat racing. Half of the class made project files on boat racing and other half wrote articles and compared the sport in the three countries.

The activity enabled the learners to appreciate the fact that though this sport is not very common, however it has a lot of historical relevance attached in places where it is played. The students could not miss to observe and appreciate the synchronized manner in which a boat was rowed by hundreds of people together. They understood the importance of working as a team and also understood that it is the effort made by each team member that makes the team a winner.

