2020 Mid Year Greetings

from your Students, Teachers, Volunteers and SC Family

All over the world, *students are home with their families staying safe during the Coronavirus crisis. In rural Pursat our SC schools are indeed closed for our students …yet our teachers are still working together … at safe distances … to keep growing our teaching methods and activities.*

This is Our Story for You!

Our Teachers are collecting, sharing and discovering new activity ideas from resources: Bookmaking, interactive movement games, creating and playing new multi-level games together.

We are also exploring websites to expand online learning for English, Math and Khmer Research classes.

Once upon a time …in a school far away…teachers explore ways to engage their magical students with Read Alouds ~ Bookmaking ~Interactive Learning

Read Alouds take us on a journey…..

Our Teachers and Students ALL love Read Alouds! Books are beneficial for everyone's language and literacy growth. This storybook has engaging rhyming and repetitive rhythm. Sichiv ask kids to repeat sentence patterns and do fun actions together. ***Everyone is smiling and paying attention to this story!*** *Sichiv asks students strong thinking and prediction questions and to do "text-to-self" connections to build understanding.*

Everyone Enjoys Visiting Rotarians Reading to Eager Preschoolers and SC Students!

Mr. Ponlue chooses an exciting Big Book <u>The Greedy Goat</u> for his Read Aloud. He makes the sounds and shows actions of characters in the story to keep kids' attention!

After bringing this story to life, he asks students to think deeply about …. ***which character they want to be… and why*** *to increase conversation and self-reflection skills.*

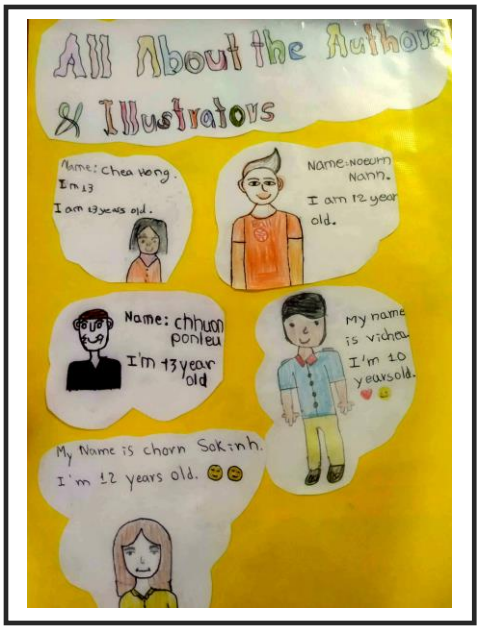
This is SO MUCH FUN!

Bookmaking

Bookmaking helps us to remember and practice:

What We Can Say, We Can Write!

What We Can Write, We Can Read and Share with Others!



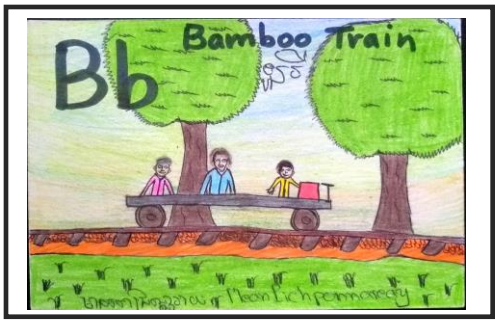
What would be most unique about Khmer culture to share with students from another culture?
Definitely Khmer Holidays!

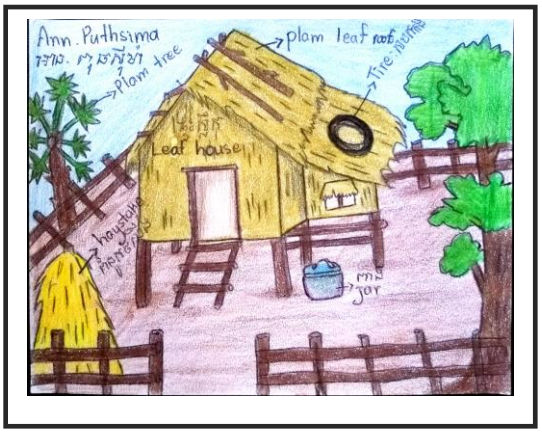
Students created ***"All About the Authors and Illustrators"*** pages to share individual stories.

These students are creating several books about Khmer culture for a Cultural Exchange Project, applying literacy skills for an authentic purpose.

Partners brainstormed possible differences between Khmer and other cultures for their Class Books, including…

<u>The ABC's of Cambodia</u>, <u>Our Homes in Cambodia</u> and <u>On My Way to School</u> showing local village life.





Interactive Learning Activities

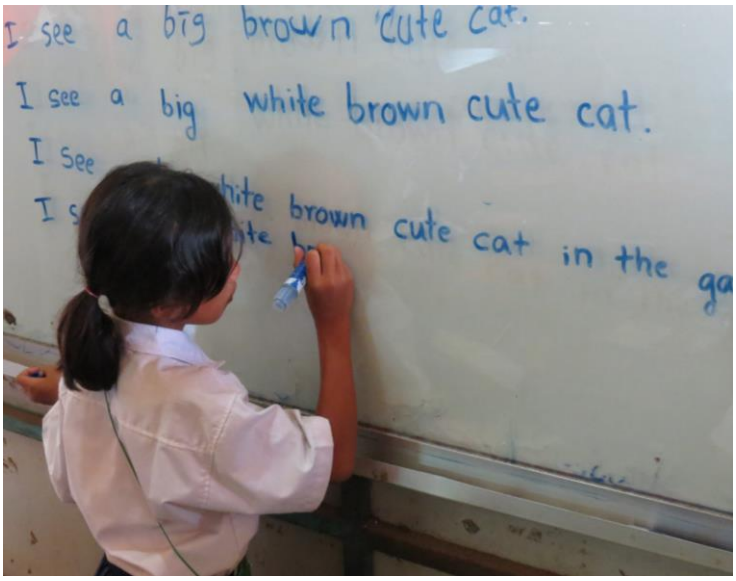
Sambath, our Math and Khmer Teacher, introduces an interactive, exciting "place value" math game.

Students run to move to the right place that matches their number card

89,506

Everyone has fun improving their number fluency skills!

Students Exploring Word Cubes!
Some are reading and sorting words; some are making sentences to write in their Writing Journals!



"Stretch It!"

Students look at a picture and think of a simple short sentence to write on the white board.

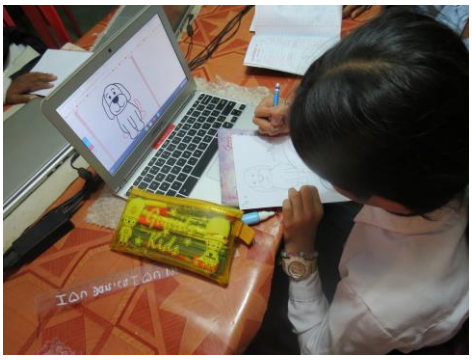
They keep thinking…..and look again at the original picture to "see" more picture details to help them make a better sentence.

They are "stretching and growing" deeper thinking, speaking, writing and reading skills!

Do you see a big white brown cute cat in the yellow vegetable garden?

Growing Imaginations ….

***S**tudents love learning about ocean life! First, they make art projects and talk about them. Next, they research ocean life to add matching labels to their "Sandy Beaches."*



Research class helps kids to grow their background knowledge for learning projects. It can also teach them vocabulary and other skills to love new things, like drawing.

Exploring Bilingual Books and Speaking in Khmer & English

SC students enjoy reading good books! They especially love these SIPAR books that are written BOTH in their Khmer language and English. This makes connecting a second language to their first language easier!

Students Talking and Reading with Visiting Rotarians and Sponsors!

Applying New Learning from CamTESOL Conference and Correspondence

Our teachers Borin, Laiheang and San along with volunteer SC Board member and teacher trainer Julie learned from attending CamTESOL to share with our SC Team! (CamTESOL stands for Cambodia Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages.)

During the 3-day conference, educators and leaders shared research about ***prioritizing students' first language*** *to build stronger connections to second language learning. SC's Khmer and English teachers are already growing in their collaborative teaching methods.*

Encouraging ***autonomous learning*** *was another highlighted concept. State Schools are evolving to include more creative thinking and less rote learning.*

We enjoy learning, collaborating and sharing together!

THANK YOU, Everyone. May you all be well.

Corresponding with Your Students

Your Students value hearing from you*!*
You may always email your messages (and photos) to ***Sopheap (Pheap) who oversees Sponsor Correspondence and the Scholarship Program:***
sopheap@sustainablecambodia.org.

Younger Students write their letters first in Khmer! ***With help from their Khmer and English teachers****, they then translate their messages for you into English. This is an exciting and educational experience for everyone.*

Mr. Ponlue & Principal San *join Nita in enjoying her sponsor's letter with photos.*

Sopheap *and Povpiseth enjoy sponsor letter!*