

A trip to Safdarjung Tomb

An Introduction

The Safdarjung Tomb also referred to as 'Safdarjung Ka Maqbara' is a garden tomb in New Delhi, India, made of marble and sandstone and built in late 18th century as mausoleum of Safdarjung, a statesman who remained the Wazir ul-Hindustan (Prime Minister of India) during the reign of Ahmad Shah Bahadur. This mausoleum built by Safdarjung's son Nawab ShujaudDaula remains the last monumental garden tomb depicting Mughal architectural style. This historical monument has remained a popular tourist spot attracting both Indian and foreign tourists visiting the capital city of India.

Objective of the trip

And so, this spot was chosen with the objective of introducing our youngest Santa Marian to the history and culture of our great nation.

8th of March 2018 was chosen for the outing. Children discussed the good practices to be observed during the trip in a circle time before leaving. All set to go, they boarded the school bus with great excitement.



It was a long way and the teachers did not miss the opportunity to help children observe things on the way like the traffic signals, speed breakers, vendors on the streets and so on. Children singing happily “wheels of the bus”, chit chatting reached the destination. Before they explored the monument, it was time for tiffin. Children didn't need reminders to put the waste in the dustbin, to

be close to their teachers and to be with their partners.



As we stepped inside Indali said “yeh to hawa mahal ke tarah hai”, so Chandrshekhar said “yeh to Taj Mahal hai”. They were briefed about the history in simple words that a son built this building for his father because he loved him. Ritvika said “yehna Sultan ne banaya hai. Children shared their narratives as they walked and looked at new things. A child looked at the map of the monument and said “lagta hai yaha dinosaur rehte hai”, Aarshav said “yeh shaitan ka ghar hai kyunki yaha pe kahi se bhi light nahi a raha hai.”



Children learnt that they as citizens of this country have to take care of our heritage as we take care of our own homes. They were shown that some irresponsible people have scribbled on the walls. Instantly there was a response from Vaidehi “diwaar pen ahi likhte drawing sheet mein likhte hai”. They were using their tactile sense to feel the patterns on the walls. As we were exiting Ishan noticed pattern on the floor which was cover of a drain. He said “mam dekho square shape”.



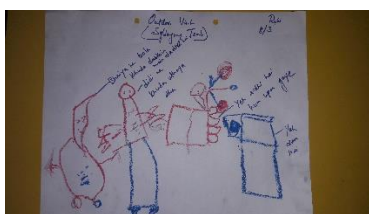


As we were leaving some people from the **Ministry of culture** requested us to be audience to their street play, promoting mission “swachh Bharat”. Children thoroughly enjoyed the show and told them the usage of green and blue dustbins also. People from the ministry were impressed by the excellent awareness of these little kids, gifted them with cookies as their awards.





On the way back all the kids asked, will they be allowed to have free play on the swings in the school? And who could say no to these energy bombs. Their illustrations show how well they recalled their first step to history the of India.



Elizabeth

S.M.I.L.E

