

Learning multiplication

BY A STAFF REPORTER | Monday, April 17, 2006 11:27:12 IST

Encapsulating 13 years of experience, Bela Raja releases her first book on the strategies of tapping the potential of children with learning difficulties



Bela Raja, a counsellor and Special Educator in the field of Specific Learning Disabilities, launched her first book, 'Children with learning difficulties - A Guide to Parents and

Teachers', last week. And it is her thirteen years of experience in working with children and parents, that has enabled her to unwrap the mystery and myths surrounding the phenomenon of Learning Difficulties in children.

What can you do to inculcate the habit of reading in your child? How do you make the learning of Sight Words a fun activity for your student? What do you do when your pupil refuses to pay attention in class? How do you get your bored young learner to memorise his multiplication tables?

In a clear and simple style, Bela Raja explains why the special needs of children with learning difficulties must be met. Children with difficulties in learning are very often gifted children and to tap this potential, it is necessary to teach them in a manner that they can learn.

The book highlights several multi-sensory strategies that can be used by a parent or teacher or any conscientious adult, in order to facilitate learning in a child. Bela has shared her own experiences while working with children who have learning difficulties.

Besides catering to the needs of children with difficulties in learning, the strategies and techniques explained can be used to make learning fun for all children.

The book was launched at Crossword by eminent film personality Suneil Shetty and renowned architect Hafeez Contractor. The author Bela Raja discussed the subject of the book fervently along with the parents in the audience and Hafeez, who has experienced difficulties in learning as a child. "I wish a book like this was available when we were kids. We wouldn't have got beaten by our teachers for not spelling right and they could have helped us instead. Many mothers will be happy to have this book at their disposal," said Contractor.