

Initiative uses virtual classrooms to make maths, science fun

Deepika Burli | Dec 11, 2017, 06:51 IST

BENGALURU: A [Bengaluru-based initiative](#) has been working towards changing the way [maths and science](#) are taught in [government and private schools](#) across the country. Connecting the Dots (CTD) utilizes [virtual classrooms](#) and 3-D presentations to help high and secondary school students apply concepts in maths and science in everyday life.



Established in 2013, the initiative focuses on improving teachers' expertise in subjects as well. Some 5,000 students in Bengaluru, Mumbai, Pune and Chennai have already benefited from innovative educational technology like virtual classrooms and teaching tools to make learning hands-on as well as fun.

"In Class 9, I remember studying about electricity and magnetism and would wonder why these beautiful concepts which have a big impact on everyday life were still taught in classrooms in such a dull way. The National Curriculum Framework (NCF) has reiterated the need for teaching mathematics and science in an integrated manner because of overlapping concepts. But this is not being done in our present-day education system," said Rajesh Rao, CEO of Connecting the Dots.

The initiative makes use of in-house studios where lessons are created and disseminated to classrooms through live broadcasts. These virtual classrooms teach students how to apply concepts of the two subjects in everyday life, while enabling them to perform experiments rather than learning from textbook illustrations.

Teacher training

Supported by the Infosys Science Foundation, CTD conducts training not only for in-service teachers but also for B.Ed candidates. Over 2,400 teachers have been trained over the past four years under the initiative to improve their expertise in science and mathematics. The 15-day course for pre-service training looks at strengthening concepts through interactive sessions.

Teachers are also connected to a helpdesk that provides constant support with new and emerging ways of keeping classrooms engaged spaces. Virtual refresher courses and an outcome measurement technique allow CTD to keep track of how up-to-date teachers are with their knowledge acquisitions