

# Mihir Pathak

## Educator, Writer & Earth Educator Fellow 23'

Email : [mihir@learningwala.in](mailto:mihir@learningwala.in) | Mobile : 9537068736

[Linkedin Profile](#) | Personal website : <https://learningwala.in>

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## Top Skills

Experiential Learning - Nature Education  
- Project-based Learning - Coaching & Mentoring  
- Child Development & Learning

## Summary

I craft transformative learning journeys for children and young adults through Project based experiential methodology.

I believe that sharing one's passion, providing reflective tools to children, and fostering an environment for dialogue and self-directed learning can be truly transformative.

### I am interested in :

- Nature / Climate Education,
- Interdisciplinary Project based - Experiential Learning
- Dialogue based - self directed learning
- Mentoring teenagers for portfolio making & designing learning journeys
- Citizen science - open data - civic engagement projects,
- Creative writing - art - theatre - design and technology
- With decade of experience I consult for a number of alternative educational institutions across India.

When I'm not with children or educators, I immerse myself in writing poetry or documenting my 'learning experiments' with children.

Music, Long walks, Bird watching, singing and sketching are my favorite time accelerators.

## Experience

### BeMe - Democratic and Alternate Learning Space - Learning Facilitator

Dec 2022 - March 2024 (1 year 4 months)

BeMe is an open school based in Bangalore, where children direct their own learning. It is an effort to create a stimulating, free and democratic environment for children aged 3-16 years.

\* [BeMe Website](#)

Skills: Coaching & Mentoring · Learning Facilitation · Experiential Learning

### Ecobuddy Learning Network - Learning Facilitator

Jan 2021 - Present (3 years 4 months)

- Curating, designing and facilitating unconventional learning experiences for children & young adults through Nature - Theatre - Project based - Experiential learning programs (Camps, Workshops, Course, Exhibition, learning Festival, yatras)
- Inspire & empower educators and organizations to bring connection, joy, attention & choice to the learning environment
- Creating experiential curricula, stories, games, and more

Skills: Project-based Learning · Workshop Design · Instructional Design  
· Nature Education · Project Management · Curriculum Development  
· Theatre Pedagogy · Experiential Learning · Event Management

- [Workshop, Podcast & other experiment](#)
- [Creative learning in nature's lap!](#)
- [LearningWala Winter Camp 2021 'আপড়! ভোজন'](#)

### Unstructured Studio - Learning Partner

Remote - Jul 2020 - Present (3 years 10 months)

Unstructured Studio, a not-for-profit organization, broadly aiming to develop educational tools and experiences to foster creative learning among youth in under-resourced settings.

Currently, under the broader vision of "planting seeds of tinkering in young minds," we are developing/  
designing:

- A collaboration platform for young makers and tinkerers
- A repository of low-cost making and tinkering activities
- A program to empower teachers to facilitate tinkering activities

Skills: learning Facilitation · Program Development · Strategic Planning  
· Product Development · User Research · Partnership and Development

- [A conversation on tinkering with our learning facilitator Mihir Pathak](#)
- [unstructured.studio](#)

## Eklavya Foundation - Learning Facilitator

Jan 2019 - Present (5 years 4 months)

Part of the faculty team for the course called 'Child Development, Special Need and Learning' by Eklavya Foundation, Bhopal and Institute of Home Economics, Delhi.

During Workshop I co facilitated following sessions : Piaget's Developmental Stages and Constructivism, Concept of childhood, learning and emotion

Skills: Coaching & Mentoring · Child Development · learning Facilitation  
· Project Management · Curriculum Development · Science of learning

## Eklavya Foundation - Learning Facilitator

Bhopal - Dec 2022 - Jun 2023 (7 months)

Part of facilitation team of course called - Experiential learning for 21st century in collaboration with Tata Trust.

The online course on Experiential Learning for teachers project is a Tata Trusts' initiative that was launched first in 2020, in collaboration with CBSE. Its key objective is to sensitise teachers to be more open in giving learners the experiences and to prioritise the process of learning over the content. Through this course, teachers will know how to implement Experiential Learning pedagogy in their classrooms, where students will get to understand the connection between textbook concepts and real life, and start to enjoy learning a lot more.

This interactive course consisting of MCQs, videos, activities, and live webinars is an engaging way to learn. Attendance during the webinar is mandatory.

By subscribing to this course, you will also become a part of a community, led by our Subject Matter Experts (SMEs). There is a certification awarded on completion of this course.

**Skills:** Cohort based course facilitation · Project Management  
· Curriculum Development · Experiential Learning

## Youth Conservation Action Network - Earth Education Fellow

Jun 2022 - Jun 2023 (1 year 1 month)

The Earth Educators Fellowship brings together 20 young volunteers for the environment, emerging grassroots conservationists, and schoolteachers who are passionately educating students about nature.

Selected from across India, they are invited to embark on an 11-month journey to explore the natural world, curate immersive learning experiences for students, build skills, and a community to lead positive environmental change in their locality.

During the 1 year of fellowship period I have explored :

- Nature Education workshop with teachers (online & offline)
- Facilitating Geo inquiry project with children

- Facilitating semester long session with children on Nature Exploration
- Guiding and mentoring young educators to facilitate eco clubs in schools / learning spaces

I have created Learning Network of 5 eco clubs from different parts of india called 'Ecobuddy Learning

Network' as my passion project during the fellowship. Through this network I inspire, guide and collaborate with young educators for nature education in their own communities.

**Skills:** Nature Education

- [Meet Erath Educators](#)

## Eklavya Foundation - Project Associate

Pipariya MP - Jan 2022 - Nov 2022 (11 months)

Part of the team engaged in designing learning opportunities, workshops, short courses for teachers and grassroots-level education activists and bring about change in classroom practices.

Some work during May 22' to May 23'

Facilitation :

- Theater and Dance workshop for 50+ educators
- sessions like 'Definition of childhood', 'Constructivism', 'Learning and emotion' in Child Development and learning course for teachers
- Reflective Writing workshop with teachers
- session on 'Experiential learning' with teachers at Kashmir - Uri
- nature-based learning workshop for Eklavya Team members
- 'Experiential learning for 21st Century' online + offline cohort-based course for teachers

Other :

- Hosting 3 days long experiential 'river learning festival' in Hoshangabad
- Meeting Arvind Gupta in person and taking his interview about Eklavya's 50 years

**Skills:** learning Facilitation · Language Pedagogy · Instructional Design  
 · Reflective Writing · Pedagogy of Foundation literacy & Numeracy ·  
 Experiential Learning · Event Management · Nature Education

- [Experiential learning for 21st century - blended course by Tata Trust, Eklavya Foundation](#)
- [River Festival - Hoshangabad](#)
- [Eco club](#)

## Homi Bhabha Centre for Science Education (HBCSE), TIFR - Short Term Visitor

Mumbai - Dec 2021 - Dec 2021 (1 month)

Worked with Design & Technology Education lab to develop and test the D&T -related activities for middle school children.

Skills: learning Facilitation · Instructional Design · Design Education

- [Reflection - Short Term Visitorship at HBCSE](#)

## Vijapura Vidya Sankul - Project Based learning Facilitator

Sidsar Gujarat - Aug 2021 - Nov 2021 (4 months)

- Facilitated Project Based Learning Club and Eco Club.
- Mentoring of grade 1 to 5th teachers for activity-based learning

Skills: Project Based learning · Nature Education · Experiential Learning

- [Project Redsign our country](#)
- [Nature Camp](#)

## Moinee Foundation - Sr. Project Coordinator

Ahmedabad - Aug 2020 - Aug 2021 (1 year 1 month)

Moinee foundation is working with 30 Government schools and 3 community learning centers in Ahmedabad as part of Vodafone India Foundation's CSR Project.

Here I am doing

- Content development and translation for quiz-based learning management system.

- Capacity building of coordinators from Community learning Centers

**Skills:** learning Facilitation · Team capacity building  
· Learning Management Systems · Content Creation

- [Evidya - Webinar Series](#)

## Shishukunj International School - Teaching Fellow

Bhuj - Nov 2018 - Aug 2020 (1 year 10 months)

I was working with children age 6 to 15yr.

Conducted a course called 'Creative Computing' to Grade 5th to 9th. It was a participatory and collaborative learning environment, Where we explored computer programming and physical computing with the tools like MIT Scratch, Python, Makey Makey, Arduino, Raspberry Pi, etc.

Co handling Eco Buddy Club. Where we attempted some activities around developing sensitivity towards nature. It includes Nature Walks, Film Screening, Cycling Group, Plastic Recycling and Upcycling and Interdisciplinary Projects.

Teaching Gujarati as a third language. I was trying to explore 'Whole language Approach' for teaching third language. Where we do not focus on alphabet or grammar but try to see language as a whole, which makes the language learning experience relevant, fun and creative.

Support fellow teachers to make developmentally appropriate, activity based lesson plans and pedagogical tools for the subjects like language, Maths and Social Science, Environmental Study.

**Skills:** learning Facilitation · Nature Education  
· Experiential Learning · Project Based learning

- [Reflective Note - Nov 2019](#)
- [Experimets at Shishukunj International School - Bhuj.](#)
- [Video about school](#)

## The Polymath School - Home Room Teacher

Mumbai - May 2018 - Aug 2018 (4 months)

Polymath school is a Cambridge Board affiliated school in Mumbai which uses Project Based Learning

as pedagogy. I worked as a homeroom teacher in 3rd Grade for a very short time. During that time I attended a teacher training workshop by EL Education, US.

**Skills:** Project Based learning · Expedition based learning · Outdoor Education

- [Reflective Note](#)

## Sarvoday Vidyalaya - Teaching Fellow

Dharampur Gujarat - May 2016 - May 2018 (2 years 1 month)

I was co-teaching first-grade children. We were trying to teach Gujarati language with 'whole language

approach'. It was a very interesting pedagogical experiment to teach tribal children with a different dialect.

- [My experiments with learning in a remote tribal village of Gujarat](#)

## Baxipanch Uttarbuniyadi Vidhyalaya - Teaching Fellow

Jan 2014 - Dec 2015 (2 years)

I have started a maker space called 'Prayog Ghar' where children can come any time and do their own projects according to their interests and need. We also tried some of our projects according to the

needs of the community. During that process, we also explored Design Thinking and other innovation frameworks.

**Skills:** learning Facilitation · Project Based learning  
· Whole language Approach · Nai Taleem Philosophy  
· Pedagogy of Foundation literacy & Numeracy

- [19 year old village lad drops out of college, starts an alternative education centre](#)



## InformationWorks Systems and Solutions Private Limited - Educational Content Developer

Jan 2014 - Jan 2015 (1 year 1 month)

I was working as part of content development team for online learning system based on multiple intelligence theory by Howard Gardner

- [LearnAPT Introduction](#)
- [LearnAPT](#)

**Skills:** Learning Management Systems · Instructional Design

· Salse · Content Creation · Curriculum Development ·

**TranslationSkills:** Learning Management Systems

· Instructional Design · Salse · Content Creation · Curriculum Development · Transl

## Gap Year

2011 - 2013 · 2 yrs2011 - 2013 · 2 yrs

Explored different fields like marketing, copywriting, website & software development through assistantship.

Volunteered for developing, designing and curating educational content for Gujarati e - learning website called evidyalay.net

- [Portfolio](#)

## Publication :

- [Gamle Mein Jungle by Vinod Kumar Shukla - Book Review by Mihir Pathak](#)

The Book Review is a peer-reviewed academic journal covering reviews for books of various subjects.

Regarded as India's first English-language review journal, it was founded in January 1976 by Chitra Narayanan, Uma Iyengar, and Chandra Chari.

- [दास्तान-ए-भोजन - मिहिर पाठक](#) [दास्तान-ए-भोजन - मिहिर पाठक](#) शिक्षा सिर्फ बौद्धिक दक्षताओं के विकास के लिए ही नहीं, बल्कि मानव के समग्र विकास का उद्देश्य भी रखती है। शिक्षा को रोज़मर्रा की ज़िन्दगी से जोड़ते हुए लेखक ने एक कार्यक्रम का आयोजन किया जहाँ विषय था 'हमारा भोजन'। आइए, पढ़ते हैं इस प्रयोग के बारे में विस्तारपूर्वक।

Sanadarbh Magazine · May 3, 2022

- [Tinkering: how we can think with our hands](#) [Tinkering: how we can think with our hands](#)

Teacher Plus Magazine · Jun 1, 2022Teacher Plus Magazine · Jun 1, 2022

Other authors - [Srishti Sethi](#)

## Education

### Saurashtra University, Rajkot

- Bachelor of Arts - BA, Sociology

## Licenses & Certifications

- Certificate in Child Development and learning - Eklavya Foundation
- Learning Creative Learning - MIT Media Lab
- Child Development and Psychology - SDG Academy - edX
- Design and Development of Educational Technology - MITx Courses
- Scratch Programing - MITx Courses
- Course on Experiential Learning - Diksha Portal
- Waldorf Kindergarten Teacher Training (15 days workshop by Aban Bana) - Inodai Waldorf School - India
- Tinkering Fundamentals: a constructionist approach to STEM learning - Coursera
- Demystifying Board Game Design - IITBombayX
- Human Behavioral Biology by Professor Robert Sapolsky - Stanford University
- Nimboli - Month Long Poetry Workshop - By Mudit Srivastav
- Drama For Learning Certificate - Theatre Professionals Education
- Teacher Author - Month Long Children literature Writing Workshop - Teacher Author
- Applied Theatre - Social Arts Course - Rangbhumi - An Applied Theatre Centre

- Stepping in to Storytelling - Tata Institute of Social Sciences - Center of Excellence in Teacher Education
  - Screen Writing With Varun Grover - FrontRow
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## Volunteering

### **Muni Seva Ashram, Vadodara Muni Seva Ashram, Vadodara**

Muni Seva Ashram is a well known NGO working in areas like Healthcare, Education, Sustainable development, Renewable energy, etc.

Starting as a volunteer, I had this great opportunity to work on various projects in areas like education and training.

- Helped students of vocational training center to learn computer skills.
- Co-ordinated the training workshop about Solar Thermal Technologies with 300+ participants from various backgrounds under the guidance of Mr. Deepak Gadhia.
- Contributed in the development of computer lab and educational content management system for primary school - part of Muni Seva Ashram.
- Directed student volunteering camp in 2015 for undergrad students from the USA.
- Organized community gathering like Gujarati Wikipedia Meetup. Muni Seva Ashram is a well known NGO working in areas like Healthcare, Education, Sustainable development, Renewable energy, etc.

## Curriculum Developer

### **Silver Oak College Of EngineeringSilver Oak College Of Engineering EducationEducation**

I was a part of the learning team and helped in the development of innovative teaching-learning methods for students of primary school. I was a part of the learning team and helped in the development of innovative teaching-learning methods for students of primary school.

### **MIT Media Lab - Design Innovative Workshop, Gandhinagar**

I was part of hospitality team during 7 days long design innovation Workshop by MIT India Initiative.I was part of hospitality team during 7 days long design innovation Workshop by MIT India Initiative.

### **Maker Fest 15', Ahmedabad**

Part of the hospitality management team during a 3 days long event.

## World Possible

I was part of the executive team of India chapter of the World Possible.

I helped to deploy the different learning technologies by the World Possible in rural areas near Vadodara - Gujarat IND.

## **Vadodara Homeschooling Group**

Conducted various workshops with homeschool children.

## **Content Development**

### **Evidyalay - e learning website**

Volunteered for developing, designing and curating educational content for Gujarati e - learning website called evidyalay.net

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## **Languages**

- English
- Hindi
- Gujarati