Dealing with Large Multi-Grade Classes

Anjali, a secondary mathematics teacher, discusses how she discovered rewarding new ways of involving all her students in lessons.

“I normally teach mathematics to Class IX and X students, but, in my colleague’s absence, I have recently been teaching multigrade classes. I struggle to ensure that my lessons cater for such a range of ages and abilities.”

Anjali, Teacher (secondary)

I found the TESS-India Key Resource OER Involving All. It offered me very practical advice for creating learning opportunities for all students in mixed level contexts.

The following week, I read the Secondary Maths OER on ‘Hands-on-learning and embodiment: constructions in geometry’. I was particularly drawn to the outdoor embodiment activity. I had never taken my students outside to do mathematics but I decided to try doing this with my multigrade class.

In the playground, my students embodied constructing the centre of a circle (OER: Hands-on learning and embodiment: constructions in geometry). It was very rewarding to see so many of them actively involved in the activity. Not only were they sharing ideas and learning from one another, but they also seemed to be having fun.

I also discovered the TESS-India videos, which showed other teachers doing similar activities. These gave me more ideas that I could use in my multigrade lessons.