



**KPM**  
APPROACH TO CHILDREN



## Atma Vidya Educational Foundation

### *Scenes from Expo 2008*

With an abundance of creativity, students from the Upper Primary and High School presented their projects during the annual Exposition held on 17th October. In keeping with the general concerns of the planet, many students focused particularly on improving the environment; but there were many other interesting subjects to share with family, friends and guests.

#### **Up, Up, Up!**

It was a revelation for six eleventh-standard boys who had spent days contemplating, literally, how they could get an idea off the ground.

The hovercraft, powered by air, was first invented in 1959. It had always been viewed as one of the alternatives to conventional modes of travel. But building a craft using only the available resources posed a challenge for the boys. Yet they never doubted the possibility.

The boys approached a teacher who helped them research the idea online. They found a video illustrating a working model of a hovercraft and a method by which they could replicate the model. With these instructions in hand, the students set to work. Their teacher suggested they might try a substitute project in the event the reproduction did not work.



But the determined boys put all their attention on building a hovercraft. After trial and error came success! Air pumped into the craft and it lifted off the ground. The hovercraft then transported visitors and teachers, including a weight of over 150 pounds.



## Fine Art

A high school student talked about the paintings she made:

*“The Warles of Maharashtra used paintings to pass on their knowledge and folklore. Images of scenes from daily life are created in a loose rhythmic pattern on the wall of the huts. The walls are made of earth and cow dung, making a red ochre background. The white pigment is a mixture of rice paste, water and gum. Wall paintings were done for special occasions like weddings or harvests. They used simple shapes like circles, triangles and squares.”*

## A Bird's Nest

Students of the ninth-standard studied and replicated the magnificent stadium used at the Olympic Games in China. The stadium is the world's largest steel structure, requiring the diligent work of seventeen thousand construction workers over the course of five years.

During the presentation, the students supported the eco-friendliness of the design. They described how underground running water pipes assure the stadium remains at a comfortable temperature, thus eliminating the need for electric air-conditioning. There is also a rainwater collector in which rainwater is collected and then purified and used throughout the stadium.



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*Atma Vidya Educational Foundation (AVEF) is a charitable foundation in Kerala, India, that was established in 1985 to support Sri Atmananda Memorial School, the model school for the KPM Approach to Children.*

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