

“Hi there, I hope you have gone through the aProCh pack and enjoyed seeing the videos.

I invite you to use this document as a reference for various **initiatives** under the aProCh program and **tips and strategies** which we have gleaned over the years from our experience of making aProCh an effective program for creating ‘Child-friendly cities’.

The initiatives described below are simple to execute. **Feel free to innovate, translate and implement them in a way best suited to your city.** And I would love to know how you have done it. **Do share your experiences”.**

😊 **Kirti Zala**

INITIATIVES UNDER THE APROCH PROGRAM:

1. **Parents of the Park**

Parents of the Park is an initiative by aProCh with a key purpose of bringing parks alive for children. Children from in and around the community are invited to the parks where adults take ownership of providing various avenues for children to explore with curiosity, engage in creativity and experience the joys of childhood. Schools could organize various skill based and fun based activities under this initiative. *Examples of some skill based activities are workshops for dance, jewellery, fitness, mehendi, music, magic tricks, photography, self defence etc. Similarly fun- based activities could include story-telling, art & craft, games, performances and yoga.*

2. **Street Smart**

Street Smart is an audacious initiative where once in the month the **main streets** of the city are closed down for traffic and welcome children and the community to make the street their playground. Children freely set up games, activities, stalls etc. feeling **safe and reassured** that their city does care for its youngest protagonists! It is a place where children come together from all demographics to become a community. Events could be stage events or street events. *Some examples of stage events are dance/music workshops, performances, live band, or magic/puppet shows. Similarly, street events could be face painting, heena/hair art, pottery, canvas/hubcap painting, hop scotch, mazes, swings or trampolines.*

3. **Mov’ing Experience**

Mov’ing Experience is an **edutainment experience** designed to provide fun and fantasy for children who might not otherwise have the opportunity by helping them visit recreational and educational places like Corporate & Business houses, Multiplexes, Restaurants and Parks. *Some recreational spaces that we have tried out are Kid’s city, multiplexes, restaurants and amazing funmor. Popular educational spaces are children’s traffic parks, radio stations and media houses.*

4. **City on Cycles**

In most cities we have more malls than cycling paths. As adults, even for short distances we are forced to use motorbikes or cars. These observations prompted the idea of making cycling a part of everyday urban life. Often, it is felt that our cities don’t have adequate spaces for children to cycle and explore their city independently. As an attempt to debunk these assumptions, ‘City on Cycles’ aims to promote a **cycling culture** in the city and **reclaim spaces** for children.

5. **City as my Landscape**

aProCh provides a platform for children to be visible and heard by letting them **design and create legacies**; and thus leave their mark in the city!! 'City as my Landscape' is an attempt to sensitize the children toward the city and their role as emerging citizens of the future. Under this initiative children from many cities have designed **child friendly Zebra Crossings**.

SOME IMPORTANT TIPS

- *To keep the **momentum** going, it's a good idea to plan atleast one aProCh event every month.*
- *To create a **deeper impact and wider participation** of the city and its citizens, choose different localities and venues for the events.*
- *You could invite students from **special schools, orphanages and government schools** to create a diverse group of participating children.*
- *It's a good idea to get **sponsorship for token prizes and gifts** – this keeps the children excited and they look forward to the next events :-).*