



RAMAKRISHNA MATH

(A Branch of Ramkrishna Math, Belur Math, West Bengal)

12th Road, Khar (West), Mumbai - 400 052.

Ph : 6181 8000, 6181 8002 • E-mail : mumbairkm@gmail.com

VIVEKOTSAV

18th Inter-School Multi-Talent Competition : 2019

Friday, December 14, 2018

DRAWING THEMES

(You may choose any one theme)

FOR SENIORS (STD. VII TO IX)

1. Swamiji Practised What He Preached

In one of his discourses at a Western American town, Swamiji said that one who has attained Absolute Truth or Knowledge remains the same under all circumstances; he is always calm and unruffled by things external. A few churlish cowboys heard this lecture and decided to test him. When Swamiji went to their village to deliver a lecture, they asked him to stand on a reversed tub and address the gathering.

Swamiji did as requested and then became absorbed in his subject. The cowboys meanwhile started firing from close range, the bullets whizzing past Swamiji's ears. This did not perturb Swamiji in the least. He continued his speech with as much composure as he had started with. When he had finished, the cowboys surrounded him, shook hands with him and declared : 'Yes Swamiji, you are absolutely genuine. You are what you preach!'

2. A Hero's Welcome

The streets of Madras were beautifully decorated and arches were erected to welcome Swami Vivekananda when he returned after his spiritual conquest of the West. His zealous admirers including the Rajah, pulled his coach after unyoking the horses. Vast throngs lined both sides of the street eager for his darshan. Decorated elephants lead the grand procession. Bands played devotional songs and shouts in his honour filled the air. Swamiji was deluged with fragrant flower petals raining from house tops all along the way.



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FOR JUNIORS (STD. IV TO VI)

1. Fearlessness

Naren and his friends used to play in a garden, swinging head down, from the branches of a tree. This irked the owner, an old man who wanted to stop them. He told them that a ghost was living on the tree and would break their necks. This scared the other children. But Naren was undeterred. He convinced his friends that the old man was lying. If there had been a ghost, it would have broken their necks long back. He made them understand that nothing should be believed until and unless it is experienced. (Naren was the childhood name of Swami Vivekananda)

2. Swamiji's Historic Speech

Inwardly bowing down to Devi Saraswati, the Goddess of Knowledge, Swami Vivekananda began to speak at the historic World Parliament of Religions. No sooner had Swamiji addressed the assembly as 'Sisters and Brothers of America', than a great wave of enthusiasm went through the audience. They rose to their feet with shouts of applause, as if they had gone mad. Swamiji had touched the deepest chord of their hearts by discarding formality and stressing the kinship of all people.

The next day, all the papers lionized him as the greatest figure and the best speaker of the Parliament. The unknown young monk became known throughout the United States of America. His life-size portraits were posted on the roadside in Chicago with his name written beneath it, and many showed reverence to it with bowed heads.