



Teaching children to value and appreciate the people in their life is a key spoke in the wheel of our holistic learning initiatives.

And when we asked children from our after-school programme to write the things they love about their mother, the results were awww-dorable!



"My mother buys me clothes even if she does not have money. If I am sick, she won't even go for work and takes care of me. I really like that."

Logeshwari, 12



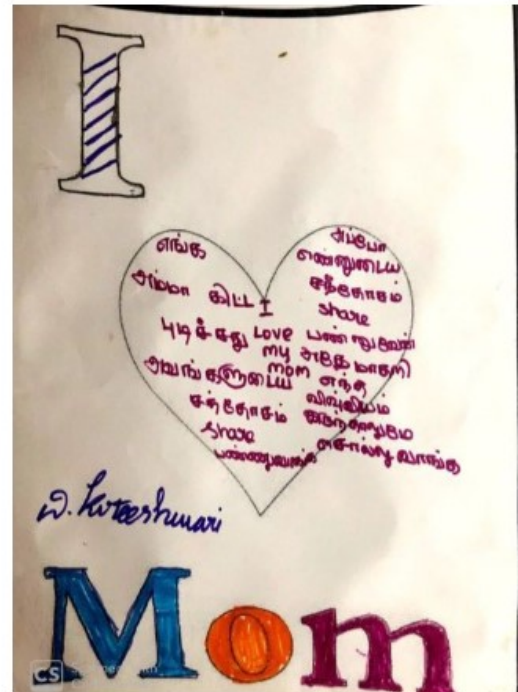
"My mother takes care of me by holding me close."

Sivaranjani, 10



"My mother helps me with my studies! I love my mom!"

Naveen Kumar, 11



"I love how my mother shares her happiness with me and I also share my happiness with her. Similarly, she will talk about everything with me."

Koteeshwari, 12

In our communities, as is everywhere, mothers are fearless protectors of their children even in the midst of constant struggle.



Mira* had loving parents who sent her to school and invested in her growth. When she was studying in 6th grade, her mother passed away. Her father remarried, and since then her life changed drastically as she suffered abuse in the hands of her step-mother. She confided in her elder sister and her husband but when Mira was just 13, her brother-in-law brought her to Mumbai and sold her in a red-light area. She did not have a choice but to stay there.

Mira had two children in the red-light area who are now 18 and 17 years old. When they were young, she brought them to Oasis. Since then Oasis has been their home. After a few years, Mira was finally able to leave the red-light area and get her first job in an NGO. Mira is determined to work harder so that she can see her children more often and do well. She says, "I want my children to follow their dreams, so that they can lead a better life than mine."

*name changed



Amina has two beautiful daughters and a son. Her youngest daughter, Heena is part of Blue Edge, a 6-month employment readiness programme at Oasis. She introduced her mother to the vocational tailoring programme at Oasis to help her become self-dependent.

When Amina was young, she aspired to be a nurse but as she married at 16, she was not able to study further or seek employment. Today, after graduating from the tailoring course, Amina is able to stitch dresses, gowns, kurtas, blouses, etc. not only for herself but for orders from her neighbours as well.

Heena says, "Recently, I see that my mother has started having conversations with me

about various subjects. She stitched a gown for me and I am so happy to see her do these things.” Amina’s sole wish is to educate her daughters and she does not want them to get married at an early age. She wants her children to pursue their dreams and she does not want their aspirations to be underestimated like hers.

Priyadharshini and Gayathri from our Chennai community spoke of how much they love their mother's work. Take a look!



"I love the work that my mother does in the community vigilance group. She talks to people during awareness programmes about human trafficking and even teaches children in our neighbourhood. I want to do public speaking like my mother."

Gayathri, 15



"Amma (Mother) was first part of the tailoring classes at Oasis but now she also makes and sells jewellery. I take many of the jewels that Amma makes and give them to my friends. They are always in awe of how my mother does this. I am so proud of her!"

Priyadharshini, 11



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Bangalore: No 201, Amazing Grace, 2nd Floor, 3rd 'D' Main, Ramaiah Layout, Opp. BBMP Kuvempu Park, Kacharakanahalli,
Bangalore- 560084

Chennai: 18, Secretariat Colony, 1st Street, Kilpauk, Chennai - 600010

Mumbai: 101, 1st Floor, Mahavir Darshan, Opp. Old TMC Office, Stadium Road, Jambli Naka, Thane (West) - 400601

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