



“Trust Your Crazy Idea”

# EXPLORING ENTREPRENEURSHIP WITH EDULIFT

## HIGHLIGHTS

FIELD WORK || CAMPAIGN || PROPOSAL WRITING || GROUP PROJECTS  
GAMES IN CLASS || PROFESSIONAL SPEAKERS || FILMS  
PUBLIC SPEAKING || HIKING || ORGANISING EVENTS || QUIZ  
DEBATE || INDIVIDUAL CAREER COUNSELLING || PHOTOGRAPHY

16<sup>TH</sup> APRIL TO 15<sup>TH</sup> JUNE

# Explore Program 2019 Activity Report

Submitted to the “American Himalayan Foundation”

**Explore Program 2019**  
**PROGRAM ACTIVITY UPDATE**

**Organisation name: EduLift**

**Founder: Tenzin Sonam Gonsar**

**Facilitators: Jamyang Tenzin, Indira Sapkota, Bharat Gole**

**Website: [www.eduliftacademy.org](http://www.eduliftacademy.org)**

**Program Dates: April 16 to June 13 2019**

**Program location: EduLift office -Tinchuli**

**Date of report:**

<b>Name of beneficiary Schools</b>	<b>No. of Participants</b>
1.Namgyal Higher Secondary School –Gokarana	6
2.Srongtsen Bhrikuti Boarding School - Tinchuli	12
3. Shree Mangal Dvip School for Himalayan Children - Tinchuli	2
4. Swarnim Shiksha Sadan Secondary School - Bhurungkhel, Kathmandu	1

- **Purpose of this report**

*The main purpose of this report is to provide the updated details of “Explore program 2018” & the final results of this program. The report shall provide a detailed explanation of the final result of each content under “Explore program”.*

(The information contained within the Project update will likely change as the project progresses. While change is both certain and required, it is important to note that any changes to the Project Plan will impact at least one of three critical success factors: Available Time, Available Resources (Financial, Personnel), or Project Quality. )

## **INTRODUCTION**

### ***Explore Program 2019***

EduLift’s Explore program is a nine week long program which is deeply influenced by the concept of 21<sup>st</sup> century skills and is aimed at stimulating and developing student’s skills and competencies that are necessary to succeed in the current age of information technology. The 21<sup>st</sup>

century skills include critical thinking, problem-solving, social-emotional skills, collaboration and teamwork, and creativity.

The program strategy for Explore Program has been summed up in three distinct categories of **Explore, Experiment and Exposure.**

This program is aimed at stimulating and developing student's skills and competencies that are necessary to succeed in the current age of information-technology. This year the main learning theme of this program was '**Exploring Entrepreneurship**'. As the current world scenario is filled with entrepreneur, creating crazy and innovative ideas, EduLift also took an initiation to introduce the concept of Entrepreneurs/ Entrepreneurship to our participants.



Even though, the main theme was Entrepreneurship; the whole program was designed and created with an addition of some diverse elements like Self Awareness, linguistic components and more; to expand the learning for the participants as well as for the program facilitators.

### **Overall Program Objectives**

- 1) Developing intellectual skills such as critical thinking, problem solving, source analysis, as well as socio emotional skills and social responsibility.
- 2) Nurturing important performance characteristics such as curiosity, creativity and collaboration.
- 3) Enhancing participants' linguistic skills, particularly the oral-communication and reading skills.
- 4) Exposing participants to current global themes as Entrepreneurship, technology and ensuring exploration of these themes through hands-on practical projects.

Following table is the detailed lesson plan created by the program facilitators and was treated as a guideline. Hence, the facilitators have the right as well as responsibilities in redesigning the contents according to the varying teaching situations and contexts.

## Explore Program 2019 “Exploring Entrepreneurship with EduLift”

*April 16-April 20*

<i>Day/Theme</i>	<i>Introductory Sessions</i>	<i>Program Overview</i>
	<i>Ice breaking games / warm up activities</i>	
<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Program Introduction, participation introduction, Self-awareness ( Test) + Pre assessment, personalities test</i>	<i>Detailing on how the program will take place. After that team introduction followed by Participant introduction, pre assessment, 16 personalities test.</i>
<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Self-discipline and Discipline class + CoC (code of conduct)</i>	<i>And after that group presentation on SD and D (self-discipline and discipline)</i>
<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Story Telling</i>	<i>this platform is to bring all together by sharing each story in a group ( can be long, can be short or can be funny )</i>

*EduLift always emphasizes the participants to freely express their ideas and thoughts rather than stressing the participants over finding the correct answer.*



The program started with a fine introductory session which started with a five minute meditation and followed by a warm up activity. In EduLift, the classes always starts with warm up activities; to promote and set a friendly environment, to increase student participation and also to set a tone for what is to take place in the class. Also, for the participants to be less inhibited and to chat with their fellow classmates and the facilitators.

The facilitators greeted the participants with six different styles of greetings; handshake, Fist bump, Elbow hello and a friendly hug. This type of greeting was adapted in order to give the participants 'a sense of freedom on how they wanted to be greeted'.

Also, a short introduction on EduLift, its overall program and facilitator's introduction was done.

And for the student's introduction, we had a set of six questions for them to answer instead of introducing themselves by just saying their individual names:

1. What is your name and what does it mean?
2. What scares you the most?
3. What are your three likes?
4. What are your three dislikes?
5. What is your definition of Education?
6. What love means to you?



The introductory session was followed by a pre - assessment; for the facilitators to know the participants and their expectations towards the program.

The actual session started with the very first topic ‘Discipline and Self Discipline’. For this session, a quick Marshmallow test was done to introduce them about ‘delayed gratification’ and ‘impulse control’, which are directly related to discipline and self-discipline. To have a better understanding about the topic, a group activity was done where the participants had to write and share their understanding of ‘Discipline and Self Discipline’.

After the activity, a session on creating the program’s Code of Conduct (COC) was done giving the participants the lead role (guided by the facilitators) in setting their own rules; which makes them aware about the rules they made and also ensures themselves to follow those rules. Allowing the participants create their own COC is a subtle and easy way to teach them about Discipline, Self-Discipline and also allows them to have a sense of responsibility, eventually creating a safe and supportive classroom culture.



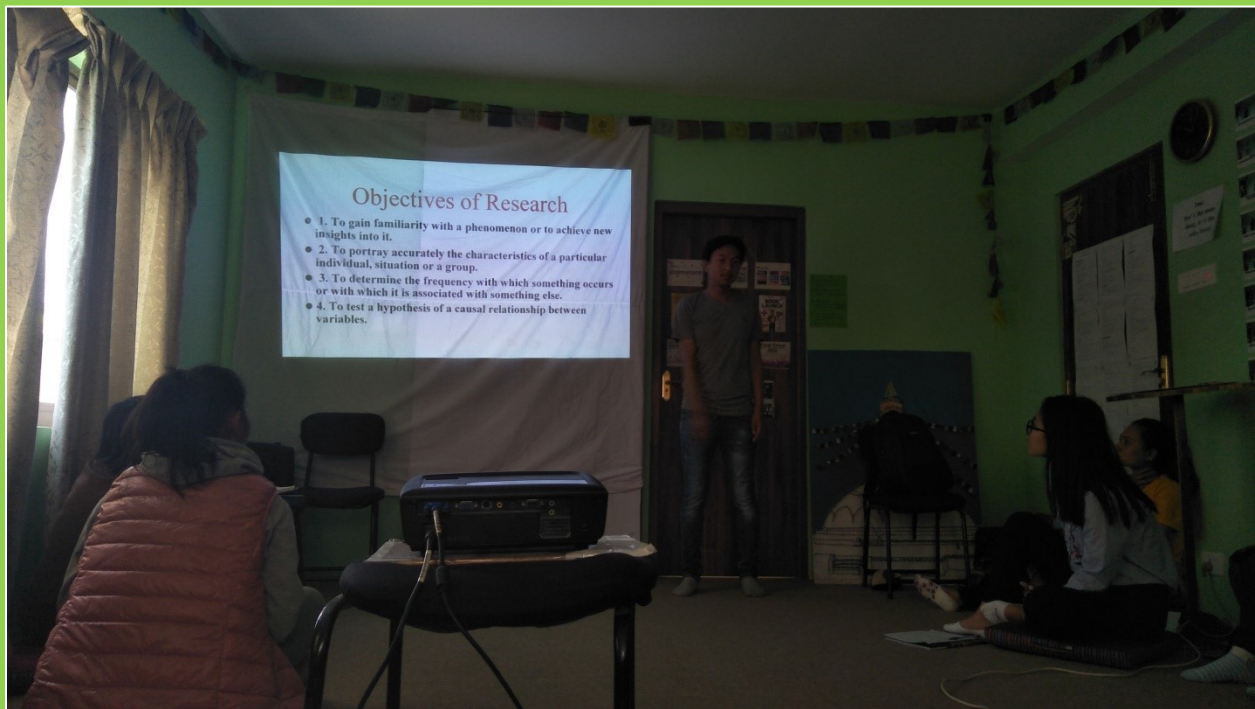
The participants were also introduced “story telling”. In this session, the facilitator took the first lead in sharing his story to the whole class and later the participants shared their individual stories. The whole story telling session was liberal and every participant took part voluntarily

with ‘a right to share what they wish to and are comfortable sharing’. The session was beautiful and moving as their individual stories were emotional, deep and inspiring too. Everyone present in this session were made to promise not to share the sharing of the day’ to respect the story and bravery of the participants.



*April 21- April 27*

<b>Day/Theme</b>	<b>Exploring weeks</b>	<b>Program Overview</b>
<i>Sunday</i>	<i>General Introduction on Entrepreneurship</i>	<i>Led by Facilitators</i>
<i>Monday</i>	<i>general Introduction on ‘how to research followed by group project preparation</i>	<i>Facilitators will prepare a class on tips to research and later division of groups for the first group project.</i>
<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Group project preparation</i>	<i>facilitator will divide four teams and each team will get to research and will have to do a presentation</i>
<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Presentation ( history and types of Entrepreneurs/Entrepreneurship)</i>	<i>Other two groups will question the presenter.</i>
<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Presentation ( Policies of becoming an Entrepreneur and examples of Entrepreneurs/Entrepreneurship)</i>	



The Exploring week started with the first activity 'Problem solving'. Here, the participants had to list down their individual problems and had to move around in the class sharing their problems and asking possible solutions to it. This was a great activity to encourage the participants to analyze themselves and the surroundings.

Then, an actual session on 'Entrepreneur/Entrepreneurship' was done by the facilitators followed by a proper class on "how to research about a certain subject". Detailed methodologies about Research was introduced which helped them in their next activity.

After this was the participants work was to prepare a chart presentations. They were divided into four groups and were given topics to prepare: History of Entrepreneurship, types of Entrepreneurship, Policies of and for Entrepreneurship and Examples of Entrepreneurship. This session was to encourage them to establish the habit of self-learning, researching and utilizing the available news and sources.



April 28th-May 4

<b>Day/Theme</b>	<b>Experiencing week</b>	<b>Program Overview</b>
Sunday	Facilitator will take class on some international entrepreneurs	Providing examples on international entrepreneurs
Monday	Debate “Is a degree in Entrepreneurship worth it?”	Half the class we will be debating on the given topic and two students will summarize the debate. ( one from each team)
Tuesday	Exploring Jamshikhel	House of Palettes, Nepal Picture Library and Project Sarangi
Wednesday	review on Jhamsikhel visit along with group project discussion	Facilitator will divide new group into four and each group have to choose one project to do the survey.
Thursday	Movie Screening ( can in group and has to review after the movie)	Pursuit of Happyness



After the earlier group presentations, the facilitators did a presentation on some inspiring innovators, innovations and entrepreneurs. An inspiring story of Mr. William Kamkawamba (an African innovator also known as The Boy who Harnessed the wind), the story of Starbucks, Netflix, Uber, AirBnB; which are some of the current leading entrepreneurial.

After was a debate session on the topic ‘Is a degree in Entrepreneurship worth it’ was conducted, which was a sight to see where all the participants in both ‘for’ and ‘against’ were highly energized and passionate in presenting their views and reasoning.

After learning about the international entrepreneurial organizations, it was time for some local research and visits. We took the participants to a place ‘Jhamsikhel’- which is a hub for entrepreneurs in Kathmandu. We all visited three local organizations;

1) Project Sarangi ; is a Nepali foundation that is dedicated to the preservation and promotion of indigenous Nepal folk music and craftsmanship.

2) Nepal Picture Library ; is a digital photo archive run by Photo.Circle that strives to document an inclusive history of the Nepal people by encouraging individuals and families to contribute their photographs and stories to the archive.

3) House of Palettes: is an organization where local artists and a professional artist guide you in creating your own piece of art.

The whole motive of taking the participants to these organizations was to let them witness the types of work that is being done in the community and to learn visually as well as by directly having a conversation with the founder him/herself.

Next day, we had a written review session about the three organizations visits. The participants shared that they have never been exposed to such space and did not know that a place like Jamshikhel even existed.

After experiencing and reviewing the learnings, we had a movie session 'Pursuit of Happiness ; An American biographical drama about an entrepreneur's nearly one year struggle of being homeless'. Movies can be a simple yet effective way to connect and learn from.



May 5th to May 11th

<b>Day /Theme</b>	<b>Experiencing week 2</b>	<b>Program Overview</b>
<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Introduction on PowerPoint followed by methods of presentation. Group division ( three groups)</i>	<i>Facilitator have to remind about their survey and then take a class on how to present their survey projects to the audience</i>
<i>Monday</i>	<i>group wise topic project preparation ( outdoor activity)</i>	<i>surveying the survey</i>
<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Preparing presentation</i>	<i>Each facilitator will take one group</i>
<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Presentation practice followed by suggestion from teammates</i>	<i>Each group gets 10mins to do the presentation</i>
<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Group projects presentation</i>	<b><i>American Himalayan Foundation visit</i></b>

Most of the participants shared that they have never prepared or learned about PowerPoint presentation, so the facilitators did a one day session on PowerPoint and assigned them all group research activities.

The four groups had to visit physically and research on :

- 1) Samata School
- 2) Chito Ramro Laundry Service
- 3) Laphing Center
- 4) Vajra Printing shop

All of these four are local entrepreneurial works which are absolutely different from each other and making an impact in the society. The groups had to visit and meet the entrepreneurs themselves and interact with them, research about their works, challenges and prepare a final PowerPoint presentation. Sure, this was a new and real life learning experience for them all. After the real life experiences, was the time to showcase what they learned. The four groups presented their presentations to EduLift's main funding supporter 'American Himalayan Foundation'. The AHF team appreciated the participants work and encouraged them to continue learning



May 12<sup>th</sup> -May 18<sup>th</sup>

<i>Day/Theme</i>	<i>Experimenting Week</i>	<i>Note</i>
<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Introduction of what is PechaKucha?</i>	
<i>Monday</i>	<i>Individual idea presentation through PechaKucha style preparation day 1</i>	<i>Guided by facilitators</i>
<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Individual idea presentation through PechaKucha style preparation day 2</i>	
<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Individual idea presentation through PechaKucha style submission day</i>	
<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Selection of the presentation.</i>	

May 19<sup>th</sup> -May25<sup>th</sup>

<i>Day/Theme</i>	<i>Expanding Week</i>	<i>Note</i>
<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Individual Presentation ( group A)</i>	<i>Presentation will be in “ Pechakucha style”</i>
<i>Monday</i>	<i>Individual Presentation ( Group B)</i>	<i>Refining the participants Pechakucha presentations</i>
<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Inter discussion and feedback on their presentation and collecting suggestions from facilitators and the participants.</i>	<i>Final event discussion and role division.</i>
<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Speaker (Tenzin Sonam Gonsar): Why entrepreneur is needed in our society?</i>	<i>Founder of EduLift</i>
<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Edufair</i>	<i>6th Kantipur Edufair</i>

After those experiencing weeks, was the time to **expand and experiment** with new learning methods! Here, we introduced the participants ‘PechaKucha’ ; is a storytelling format, where a presenter shows 20 slides for 20 seconds of commentary each. These were a complete new thing for all of them and were extremely fascinated by the concept of Pechakucha. For this, the facilitators gave them options to create and prepare a Pechakucha of their chosen topics like: My life story, my crazy Idea, My aim and Social contribution. The participants were given three days to prepare individual PechaKucha and afterwards presented their Pechakucha. The facilitators then edited and refined their powerpoint presentation and presentation skills (where needed). Next, were a whole group discussion, role and responsibilities division about the Pechakucha presentation, which each of them will be presenting in Namgyal High School and Srongtsen Bhrikuti School.



Also, the founder of EduLift **Mr. Tenzin Sonam Gonsar** had a full session with the participants about his educational and professional career. From his early university days to his employment period in New York, then founding EduLift and now being a successful entrepreneur in Nepal. Sure did he helped and motivated our participants for their future decision making process and also shared the current situation of entrepreneurship and its future possibilities in Nepal.



**EDULIFT IN EDUFAIR** : Edfair is a three day fair organized leading publication house Kantipur Publications and Higher Secondary School Association of Nepal (HISSAN) to promote Nepalese Educational institutions in Nepal. This fair helps to create awareness for the academic youth about the available colleges and courses available in one platform. EduLift took the participants to this fair for them to explore the hundreds of school and college options and for them to have direct conversation with the college administration without visiting the colleges. This fair helped the participants to be aware about numerous academic options in one place and in one day.



*May 26 - June 1st*

<b><i>Day/ theme</i></b>	<b><i>Final Event</i></b>	<b><i>Note</i></b>
<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Arrangement of speakers to the respected schools</i>	<i>Equal number of speaker distribution</i>
<i>Monday</i>	<i>Final event Rehearsal two</i>	<i>Srongtsen presenter will help Namgyal presenter for the logistics. Likewise Namgyal will do that same to Srongsen</i>
<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Group A Performance in Srongsen School</i>	
<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Group B Performance in Namgyal School</i>	
<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Trash Tag challenge</i>	<i>Open for participation</i>

This whole week was dedicated towards preparing for the individual Pechakucha performances in two schools. The participants were allocated a school and had to prepare and present their presentation in front of an audience of more than 100. The administration of both Namgyal Higher Secondary School and Srongtsen Bhrikuti Boarding School, were excited to have EduLift in their school and fully supported EduLifts initiation. With the guidance from the facilitators, all the participants rehearsed for several sessions and finally gave their awesome performances. It was the very first time these participants had got the opportunity to present their capabilities. This has surely helped the participants to improve their confidence, presentation skills and eventually helped them to realize their individual capabilities.

Following are the topics that they have presented in schools.

- Who are you? Explain?
- What you want to become? Explain how
- What is your dream? Why
- What can you contribute to the society? Explain
- What is your passion and how can you make it profession? Explain
- What are the challenges you face while achieving your passion and profession?
- What is your crazy idea that you want to share?





**#TRASH CHALLENGE;** this is a social media clean up challenge where an individual or a group cleans a certain surrounding and tags another group to continue this challenge. EduLift and the participants did a clean-up in our own locality which was full of extreme trash and initiated to clean the spot. It was definitely not easy to clean in the scorching sun but all of us encouraged each other and completed the clean up as a part of our Social Contribution.



June 2nd -June 8

<i>Day/Theme</i>	<i>Career Week</i>	<i>Note</i>
<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Counselling and college admission preparation</i>	<i>Guided by the program facilitators</i>
<i>Monday</i>	<i>Individual interaction with facilitator on their future plan ( Career tree)</i>	
<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Ex-Explorer and new Explore participants interaction</i>	
<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Speaker (Tenzin Dickie and Miss Muna Gurung) Why creative writing is importance?</i>	
<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Hiking ( ChampaDevi)</i>	



The career week was wholly for the participants to guide them in choosing for their further studies. The facilitators prepared an academic presentation with detailed information and provided the resources about current courses available in Nepal along with its procedures. As a practical learning, the participants also made a written plan for the career/future plan, so that they can review and reflect upon and plan accordingly.



**Ex explore students** visit; the ex-explore participants from 2017/18 and 2019 were invited as our young consultants. These ex explore participants helped the current explore participants know more about the college life/experiences, financial requirements to enroll in a college and also the procedures. It was a very interactive session as our consultants were young so, for the participants it was easy to connect and understand the sense of the session.



After the young consulting session, we had **Miss Tenzin Dickie** ; translator, author and a graduate from Columbia University, **Miss Muna Gurung** ; translator, columnist for Nepal Times, founder of KathaSatha and also a graduate from Columbia University as out guest speaker. They both are actively involved in writing and also had published their individual books. They presented some of their amazing writings, read beautiful poems, talked about their currents works, and shared their stories as a student and now as an individual. Most importantly, they shared their life experiences and how they become writers, which was motivating for our participants.



And finally, after all those indoor sessions, the Explore program 2019 concluded with a tough and fun hiking to **Champadevi**. Hiking is a subtle way to relax and make beautiful memories as we all made it to this beautiful hiking spot and made the most out of it. Over the past three years, Edulift has been exploring beautiful hiking spots with the participants because:



- Hiking is a great way to lower stress, improve mood and also increases stamina.
- It helps us to unplug from the everyday technology habit.
- It improves the mental focus and improves endurance, social skills and be quick thinker.
- Hiking helps us appreciate our surroundings and is an inexpensive way to relax and be Happy.

# Student Testimonial

## EXPLORE PROGRAM

Pema Dickyi  
(Mangal Dev School)

1

I like friendly environment of EduLift and moreover, I love the learning system in free space, free styles and what I like the most is that involvement all of us for making this program into very effective for pitiful kids like us.



Dechen Choekyi  
(Namgyal High School)

2

It is an informal learning experience, where you get to speak out with much ease and comfort, packet of positivizes. Another thing is, it has one target but figures out many ways to do it, making us more active physically.



3

-Nyi ma Pema  
(Srongsens School)

My initial intention to join EduLift was to learn something new somewhere everyday.....unexpectedly today I can proudly say that "I can be the one".....I was not expecting that much change in my thoughts.....I am ready for very next step, and every new adventure waiting patiently anywhere.....I feel as EduLift light a new ray of hope for me.....I explored a lots of new things -



4

Tsering Chungdak  
(Srongsens School)

I like the way how the classes are managed and the facilitators are very frank. This explore program has been a wonderful experience and fruitful. I think there is nothing about EduLift that I don't like it's an opportunity that everyone should cease.



### Explore 2019 Program Outcomes

- The participants have now developed and also improved a basic level of skills such as critical thinking, problem solving, analytical skills and social skills.
- The participants have improved their linguistic skills especially their speaking skills after the weekly individual and group presentations.
- The participants have now been exposed to the entrepreneurial world and have knowledge about Entrepreneurship.
- The participants are now more collaborative and have improved their communication skills.
- With the maximum academic exposure provided, the participants are now well informed about their college options and further studies.

