Success Story: Improving learning outcomes and motivation through mLearning

Chhaya, a 10 year-old boy, currently studies in Grade 2 at a school where World Education, Inc. is implementing the Total Reading Approach for Children Plus Project (TRAC+), with funding support from World Vision. Chhaya has lived with his grandparents since he was four years old, following his mother’s death and his father’s remarriage. His grandparents are agricultural day laborers, and thus do not have a regular income. As his grandparents are very busy, they do not have much time to look after him. At the start of the school year Chhaya was often absent from school for extended periods of time, and was unable to keep up with his studies and acquire the necessary reading and writing skills.

Worried about his progress, the school’s literacy coach, supported by the TRAC+ project, visited his home to speak to his grandparents and encourage Chhaya to come to school. Thanks to this intervention, Chhaya now attends school regularly. Through the TRAC+ project, he receives the support he needs from his teachers and the literacy coach to develop his reading and writing skills. His classmates also help him practice his reading skills. When playing the Aan Khmer app, which was developed by World Education and is part of the project’s Rapid Response System, Chhaya exclaimed, “I don’t want to go away from school because I want to play this tablet with the study game that helps me improve my reading. I want to be able to play the same as my other friends.”

Seeing the impact that TRAC+ is having on Chhaya’s learning, his grandparents have also become more involved in his education. During a parental engagement and reflection meeting organized by TRAC+, Chhaya’s grandmother said, “I am very happy to see my grandson enjoying school. I’m planning on visiting his school more often to talk to the teacher about Chhaya’s progress, which is something I never did before.” With the additional and targeted support Chhaya is now receiving at school and at home, the project is confident that he will continue to improve his reading skills and be successful in school.

For more information about World Education’s Total Reading Approach for Children Plus (TRAC+) Project, or our other work in early-grade reading, visit our website at cambodia.worlded.org