

“Play to Learn” Home-based Intervention Adaptations (2-4 Age Cohort)

Overview:

The “Play to Learn” home-based intervention for the 2-4 age cohort is a new intervention in the HPL model. It takes place in the home of a Rohingya community member in the camps and requires less space than the center-based intervention. The 2-4 home-based HPL intervention was implemented so that children who were not part of the 2-6 center-based HPL intervention could be reached. BRAC felt that play activities could be easily carried out in home-based settings to ensure the developmental outcomes of children. At first, BRAC wanted to implement the intervention for the 2-6 age cohort in the home-based setting. However, there were some challenges to doing so, and so the intervention was implemented for children aged 2-4 years. Challenges faced during implementation and what modifications were made to the intervention in response are given below.

Challenges:

- Lack of space was a big challenge in the home-based setting. Proper ventilation and height of the rooms was an issue.
- Play activities from the existing 2-6 center-based curriculum needed to be selected and adapted in order to be suitable for the home-based intervention.
- In the home-based intervention it was sometimes challenging to coordinate the management of space with the steps of the play activities.
- Implementing some Moving and Doing activities required more space and height than was available in the home-based intervention.

Strategies to mitigate these challenges:

- The curriculum was adapted to be appropriate for the 2-4 home-based intervention. Play activities were selected and modified so they could be carried out in limited space with smaller number of children.
- Lot of FGDs were done to collect feedback on the modified curriculum and play activities from Project Assistants and Play Leaders. After getting their feedback such as suggestions about space management, modifying the number of groups while conducting the activities etc, the play activities were revised again.
- The curriculum was implemented in stages. At first the curriculum was provided for 4 months and then for 6 months. Meanwhile feedback from the implementation of the play activities in the field was used to refine the activities. After several rounds of piloting and refinement, a 10-month curriculum for the 2-4 home-based intervention was developed.



Conclusion:

The HPL 2-4 home-based intervention is almost the same as the center-based intervention. The play activities are the same as in the 2-4 center-based curriculum, however they have been modified a little so that Play Leaders can carry them out in limited space with smaller number of children. All the activities follow the goals and objectives as set out in the curriculum framework, and are culturally appropriate. The home-based intervention has the potential to reach a large number of children, and is a good way of scaling up the reach of the HPL model.