

# I CAN

## SCHOOL CHALLENGE

DESIGN *for*  
CHANGE

WHAT WILL YOUR CHILDREN  
**CHANGE TODAY?**



Dear EDUHERO,

It is YOU who has the power to create the next generation of thinkers, collaborators, communicators, and innovators!

It is YOU who can channelize their positive energies and make them believe that they are **NOT helpless, that CHANGE is possible, and that THEY can drive it.**

Today Design for Change gives you the simple formula to unleash every child's **I CAN Superpower!** Go ahead tell your children they are not the **FUTURE**, they are the **NOW!** and they don't need permission to make the world a better place!

Join schools in more than 60 countries and get your children to be part of this global movement.... led by children.

*Kiran Bir Sethi*

**Kiran Bir Sethi**

Founder, Design For Change

## ARE YOU READY?

Make super squads of 5 team members.  
Now follow these 4 steps

SUBMIT YOUR STORY ON  
**CHALLENGE.DFCWORLD.ORG**

### STEP 1 FEEL

#### THINK FROM YOUR HEART

The first step towards making change happen is to try to **understand** how **people** feel.

##### 1.OBSERVE

Look at your surroundings closely.  
Observe things that bother you (hot spots)  
Create a map of your observations - map your world through these :

- What you **SEE** (eg. furniture, spaces, garbage etc.)
- What you **FEEL** (eg. bullying, exam pressure, etc.)
- What you **HEAR** (eg. language, discrimination, etc.)

Share your observations with the team & vote for the one situation that you would all like to see changed

##### 2. BE A DETECTIVE

After selecting the issue, dig deeper to understand it better. Here are some questions that will help you do this.

- **WHEN** does it happen?
- **WHERE** does it happen?
- **WHO** is being affected?

##### 3.BE A REPORTER

Now, go and talk to people who are involved and affected by the situation.

Interview them to understand their concerns so that you can design your solution **WITH** them and not **FOR** them.



### STEP 2 IMAGINE

#### VISUALIZE CHANGE

The clearer we can **IMAGINE** it, the better we can **DO** it!

##### 1.BRAINSTORM

- All ideas are good ideas... don't shy away from the wild ones.
- Build on the ideas of others – use the word 'and' instead of 'but'.
- Illustrate your ideas for better clarity.

- Some tips to consider.  
**Is your solution:**
  - bold in nature
  - easy to replicate
  - long lasting
  - impacting maximum number of people

##### 2.VOTE

Vote for the ideas that best address each part of the situation to 'design for change'.

##### THINGS TO REMEMBER

Try to think beyond the first or 'obvious' solution and collect as many ideas from as many people as possible.



### STEP 3 DO

#### MAKE CHANGE HAPPEN

Be the **CHANGE!**

##### 1.PLAN

Consider the following while planning:

- What resources will be required?
- What is the budget?
- How will you get the money?
- How many people will be required?
- How much time will it take?
- How will you document your work?

Choose your roles and responsibilities keeping your strengths in mind.

##### 2.IMPLEMENT

Go out and put your plan in to action. **YES, YOU CAN!**

##### 3.REFLECT

- What **3 things** did you learn about the situation?
- What **2 things** did you learn about your team-mates?
- What **1 thing** did you learn about yourself?

Think about ways to **sustain** the impact of your project?

##### THINGS TO REMEMBER

Try and reach out to organizations or professionals working in your area of concern. Ask your teachers for help in contacting them and partnering with them.



### STEP 4 SHARE

#### "I CAN! NOW YOU CAN TOO!"

Sharing your story with the world will inspire other children to say **I CAN!**

##### 1.SUBMIT

- Share your story with us at **challenge.dfcworld.org**  
Please follow the submission guidelines given on the site.
- You can either submit a photo story or a video story. Fill in the questions of every step and upload photos for each step in photo story or just paste the youtube link of your video incase of the video story.

**PLEASE REMEMBER**  
You can upload max 4 photos for each step and the video should not be longer than 3 mins.

##### 2.INSPIRE

Here are some ideas to spread the magic of your story :-)

- School assembly
- Newspaper article
- TV Show
- Radio
- Social media
- Performance



### DEAR MENTOR

#### GETTING STARTED

Introduce your students to the idea that changing lives can be meaningful and fun.

A winning story in comic book format is included for your reference. Read it with your students to start a discussion on enabling change. You can show them more of our winning stories at [stories.dfcworld.org](http://stories.dfcworld.org)

#### ELIGIBILITY

The DFC I CAN School Challenge is open to all school students. The ideal age group is 8 -13 years.

All it needs is for you to tell your children they CAN, and they WILL :-)

#### JURY PROCESS

The DFC judges look for stories led by children, where they choose to tackle challenges that directly bother them.

The judges also look for evidence of children engaging with their community to understand needs and perspectives while dealing with the challenge at hand.

Higher points are allotted for generating a large variety of ideas, and selecting those that directly fulfill the needs of the people the children are designing a solution for.

Help your students think beyond obvious answers like raising money or conducting a rally.

### ENDORSEMENTS



**DR. HOWARD GARDNER**  
Harvard Graduate School of Education

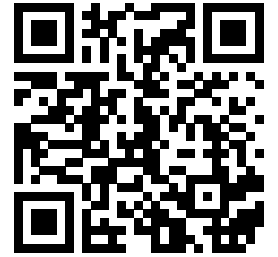
"Design for Change (DFC) is one of the most exciting and important educational programs that I know of, with the potential for impact in numerous countries around the globe....Our first wave of studies documents clear improvements in student empathy as well as challenges in enhancing problem solving abilities....DFC provides a valuable model for a wide range of educational innovations".

## WHY SHOULD YOU PARTICIPATE?

The DFC Program offers you a structured way to teach the **21st century skills** like **leadership, communication, collaboration** and **creative thinking**. The program also enhances confidence and self-belief among children. Students move from a mindset of 'CAN I?' to 'I CAN!' Research proves that this confidence can help improve their academic score by up to 28%.

(Boyatzis, R)

# GET INSPIRED!



Winner : Design for Change School Challenge, India 2011  
R C Fatima Middle School, Madurai, Tamil Nadu.

## A Safe Ride Home

**FEEL :** Children were missing their bus at Fatima School everyday and reaching home late because of chaos at the bus stop.



Because we all are crowding at the bus stop, the bus driver does not know which children need to board his bus.

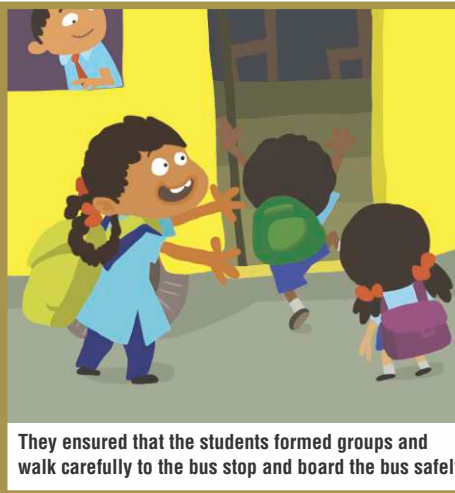


Kavitha and her friends of grade 8 observed that chaos was being created school ended at the same time for both the primary and secondary students. So all the children rushed to the bus stop and created chaos.

**IMAGINE :** Children imagined order and clarity at the bus stop where each student knew which bus to get on to and not have to crowd for the wrong bus. They also imagined a way to let the bus driver know which group of children wanted to board his bus.



**DO :** Kavitha and her team worked with the Principal on this idea, changed the closing time of the school for primary and secondary students. They designed placards for different bus routes for the students to follow and this helped the bus drivers to stop for the right group of waiting students.



They ensured that the students formed groups and walk carefully to the bus stop and board the bus safely.



We are the CHANGE!  
They shared this story with the parents and with the world through a movie that recorded all that they did.