Vadodara Innovation Council

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2026











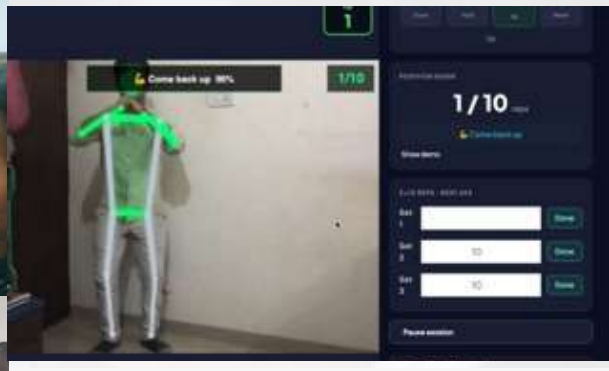



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TOD-FOD-JOD®

The Moments That Spark Curiosity







Tod-Fod-Jod® (TFJ) sessions go beyond explaining how gadgets work. Through interactive discussions, students are encouraged to think, question, explore possibilities, and arrive at answers themselves.

But the learning journey does not end with the session. What surprised the students? What did they discover? Which moment made them see an everyday gadget differently?

To understand their learning experiences, we collect feedback from students and TFJ coordinators after every session. One of the questions we ask students is:

"Your AHA!!! (Surprised) moment of this gadget session".

Here are some of the moments that made an impression on our young learners.

TOD-FOD-JOD®

The Moments That Spark Curiosity

TANVEE PATEL (STD – 6)



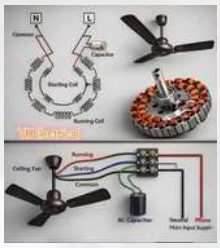
"The most surprise moment from our water purifier session was dicovering how much invisible complexity goes into every single glass of clean water"

PRUTHA MEHUL PATEL (Std – 6)



"I surprised of Thermal Mass: The soleplate stays hot for a long time even after the power clicks off."

VIRAJ B PARMAR (STD – 7)



"Seeing a simple coil of wire suddenly spin like a real motor when connected to a battery."

Students' "Surprised" Moments

SUBODH P. RANDHIR (STD – 7)



"When we arranged it in a order and it gets lighten up"

HETVI PATEL (STD – 6)



"When two RC cars were controlled only by one remote."

RIAAN SHAH (STD – 7)



"When I saw that the emergency light turned on when power is off and off when there is power."

TOD-FOD-JOD®

The Moments That Spark Curiosity

Students' "Surprised" Moments



Discovering Conversion of energy

Student: Bhagyashree Shashikant Chaudhari,
Standard – 7
Gadget : Electric Fan

ઇલેક્ટ્રિક પંખો વીજળી મળતાં જ તેની પાંખડીઓને ઝડપથી ફેરવવા લાગે છે અને વિદ્યુત ઊર્જા યાંત્રિક ઊર્જામાં બદલાઈ જાય છે—આ મારા માટે સૌથી આશ્ચર્યજનક ક્ષણ હતી.

Discovering how a water pump works

Student: Rajput Aman Ramesh bhai,
Standard – 8
Gadget: Water Pump

આ સત્રમાં પાણીનો પંપ દબાણના તફાવતના સિદ્ધાંતથી કેવી રીતે પાણી ખેંચે છે તે સમજાયું, તે મારી આશ્ચર્યજનક ક્ષણ (AHAA Moment) હતી.





Discovering the many parts inside a speaker

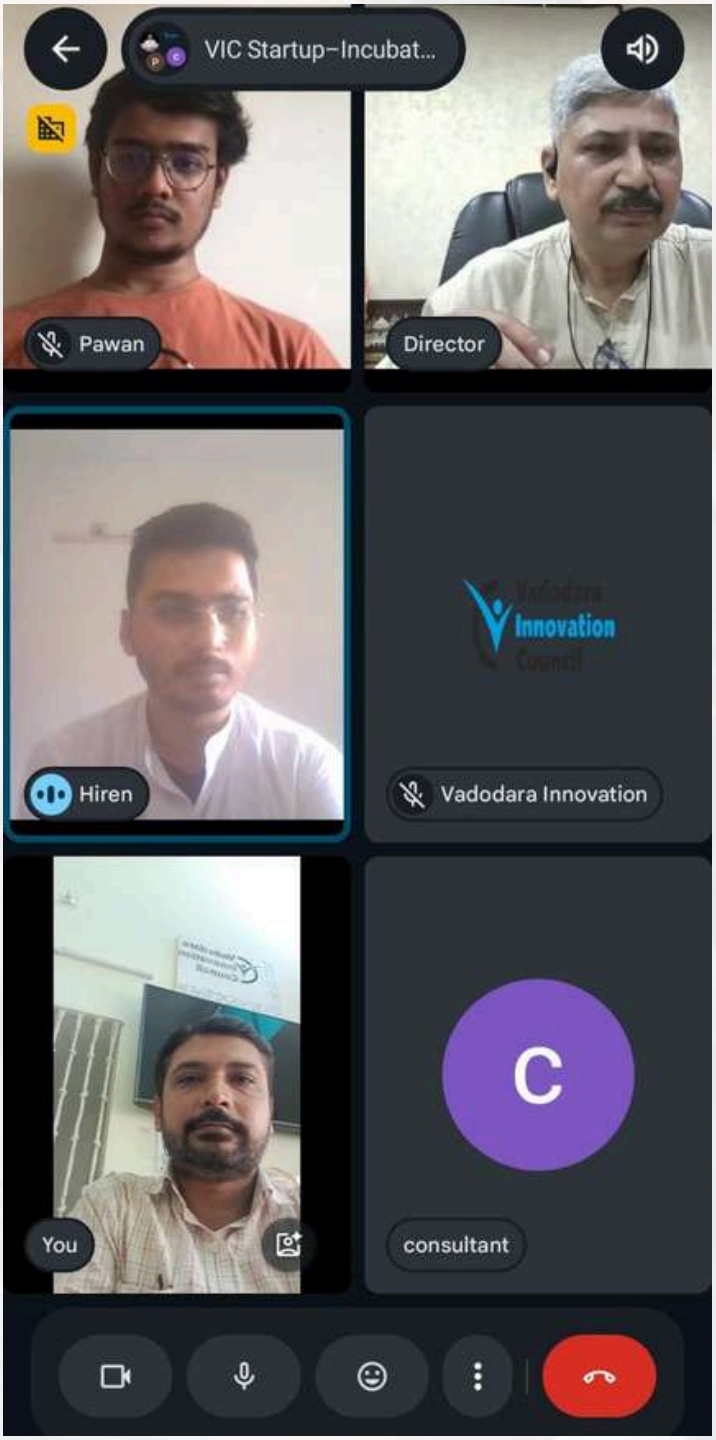
Student: Kir Shilesh bhai Lahute,
Standard – 7
Gadget: Microphone and Speaker

સ્પીકરમાં આટલા બધા ભાગો છે, તે ઉપર નીચે થાય છે અને તેમાંથી કેવી રીતે અવાજ સંભળાય છે તે આશ્ચર્યજનક ક્ષણ હતી.

Each response is a reminder that TFJ® is doing more than explaining how gadgets work— It is sparking curiosity, strengthening scientific understanding, and helping students discover the joy of figuring things out themselves.

From Innovation to Opportunity

An innovator's journey does not end with developing an idea or building a prototype. The real breakthrough comes when an innovation reaches the people who need it. At Vadodara Innovation Council (VIC), we aim to support innovators beyond providing platforms to showcase their work by helping them connect with relevant opportunities and institutional support.



During a visit to **Savli Technology and Business Incubator (STBI),** VIC explored avenues to contribute to the strengthening of the startup ecosystem. One key opportunity identified was to connect promising technology-based startups and innovative projects with STBI, which can support their journey towards patent facilitation, startup establishment, and accelerated growth.

Taking this forward, VIC initiated its first step by organising an online interaction with **Dr. Anand Bhadalkar, Director of STBI,** bringing together two innovators from the Maker Fest Vadodara ecosystem.

Innovators in Focus

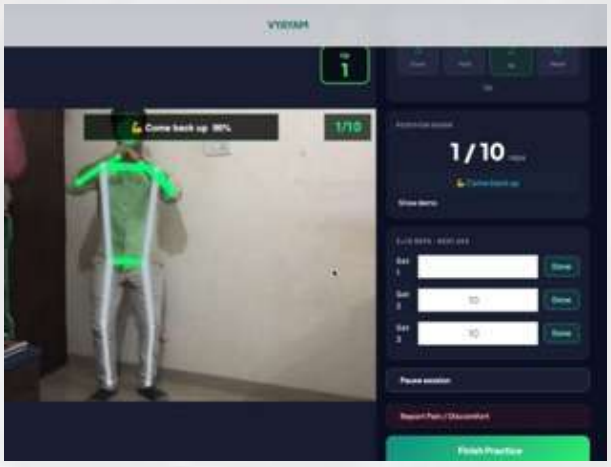
Hiren Sonar — Heva Electric

- **Organisation**: Hison Energies Pvt. Ltd.
- **Maker Fest Vadodara**: 2025 par cipant
- **Innovation**: Bharat Cart, a four-wheel electric platform designed to support street vendors and facilitate material handling for MSMEs.



Pawan Dangarwala — Vyayam

- **Innovation: Vyayam, a therapist-led remote rehabilitation platform.**
- **Maker Fest Vadodara: 2026 participant**



This initiative marks a step towards bridging the gap between promising innovations and the support systems that can help them grow. By connecting innovators with relevant institutions, VIC aims to help transform ideas and prototypes into viable ventures, creating pathways towards commercialisation, scalability, and wider impact.

ATL VISITS

PRACTICES THAT TURN CURIOSITY INTO CAPABILITY

Every Atal Tinkering Lab (ATL) has the potential to nurture future innovators. However, the impact of an ATL depends not only on the components and equipment available but also on how students are encouraged to explore, experiment, and learn. During October 2026, VIC, as ATL Sarthi, visited five ATLs and observed practices that make tinkering sessions more engaging, productive and student-centred. Here are three noteworthy practices that other ATLs can learn from.

Bright Day School, CBSE Unit, Harni

Practice: Smaller Batches, Better Attention

Effective learning begins with ensuring that every student gets an opportunity to participate. Instead of accommodating a large number of students in a single ATL session, the school divides students into smaller batches.







This approach enables the ATL in-charge to explain concepts more effectively, address individual doubts, and provide students with the attention they need. The result is a more focused learning environment where participation and understanding take priority over numbers.

ATL VISITS

PRACTICES THAT TURN CURIOSITY INTO CAPABILITY

Baroda High School, Danteshwar

Practice: From Understanding Components to Solving Problems



An important objective of ATL is to develop students' ability to think innovatively and apply what they learn. At Baroda High School, Danteshwar, students are first introduced to sensors, their working principles, and their connections with Arduino.

They are then given two or three components, such as an ultrasonic sensor, a motor, and a buzzer, and challenged to identify real-world applications that could use them together.



Students begin exploring possibilities and come up with solutions such as an automatically opening gate. They then move beyond discussion and build their ideas on the spot.

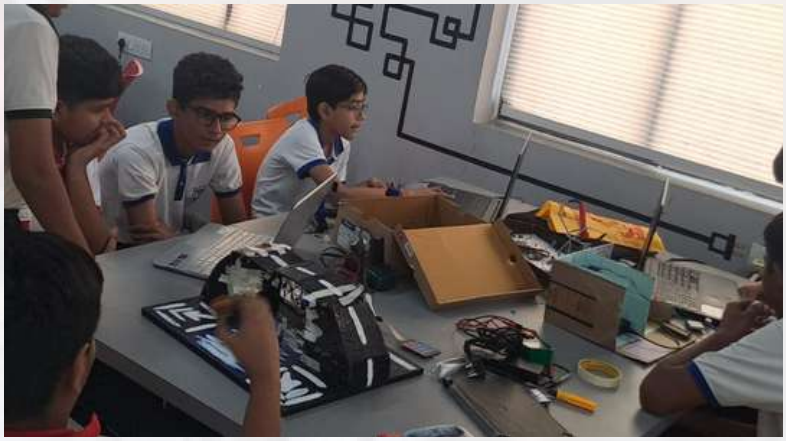
This practice connects theoretical understanding with practical application, encouraging students to move from knowing how components work to discovering what they can create with them.

ATL VISITS

PRACTICES THAT TURN CURIOSITY INTO CAPABILITY

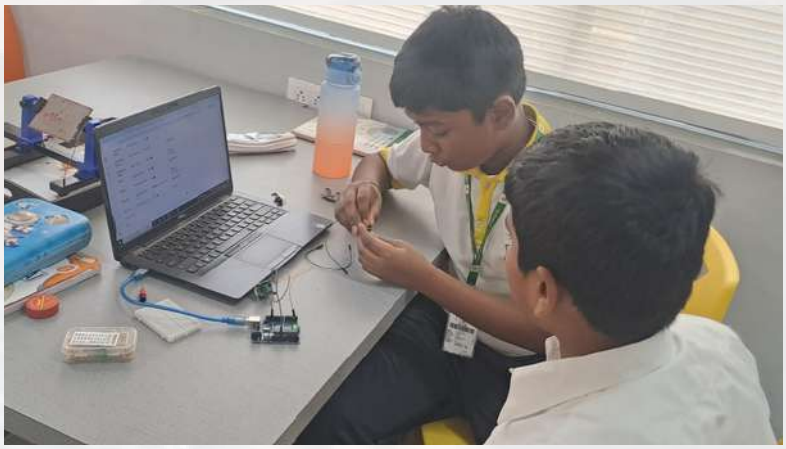
Delhi Public School, Harni

Practice: Building Self-Driven Learners



At Delhi Public School, Harni, the approach begins with student interest. The belief is that students should participate in ATL activities willingly, rather than being forced into them. This has helped create a group of interested students who take ownership of their learning.

The next step is equally important: alongside teaching technical concepts, students are encouraged to **"Learn How to Learn."**



During our visit, we observed students working independently on activities and projects for extended periods. They thought through problems, built solutions, tested their work, and improved it through experimentation.

They approached the ATL in-charge only when they had tried sufficiently but were still unable to resolve an issue, such as a component not working or not behaving as expected.

This reflects a shift from teacher-dependent learning to independent problem-solving. When students learn how to find answers, troubleshoot failures, and improve their own work, the ATL becomes a space where curiosity translates into capability.

ATL VISITS

PRACTICES THAT TURN CURIOSITY INTO CAPABILITY

A Common Observation: Young Innovators in the Making

Across these visits, one encouraging observation stood out: students in all the ATLs were working on projects alongside their regular ATL curriculum.

Whether through better classroom organisation, hands-on problem-solving, or independent learning, these practices demonstrate how the right learning environment can bring out students' potential.

Watching students think independently, experiment fearlessly, and turn ideas into working projects is a glimpse of future innovators in the making.

Vadodara Innovation Council

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