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**‘Dream big, think big’**

Bangalore: It was an instant connect. Patting a head here, shaking a hand there and smiling all the way and walking into a class saying ‘Hi’. Former President APJ Abdul Kalam bowled over the students of Parikrma school in Jayanagar. Kalam said he wanted all the people to smile and that was the way problems vanished and enemies became friends.

Asking children what they wanted to become when they grew up, he asked how many of them wanted to go to Mars. “I’ll take you there. Whatever is your ambition, you must have a goal and work towards it,” Kalam said and exhorted each child to make a difference in the life of at least one person. Then it was time for questions, first from him. And any correct answer got a “fantastic fellow,” or “brilliant children”. Dream big, translate dreams into thought and thought into action, was his message. Children’s questions ranged from global warming to inter-connecting. In his typical style, Kalam had teachers take an oath as well.