

# NITESH



Dear mam  
 Namaste  
 Thank you for providing  
 me chance to study in galaxy  
 school. I am doing hardwork  
 for my best  
 your loving  
 Nitesh - Basnet



Catherine W  
 Bright Future  
 PO Box 248  
 Murphy, OR  
 USA

May 2007... 10-year-old Nitesh wants to be a teacher someday. He lives with his mom and elder brother in a village which is a 24-hour bus ride and six hour walk from Kathmandu. He never really knew his father who abandoned the family and has not been heard from since. His mom is illiterate and works as a domestic servant. Nitesh attended his village school but his education there was seriously lacking as is the case in the vast majority of public schools. The BFF board of directors, through our Educational Aid Reserve Fund, is providing a scholarship for Nitesh to attend Galaxy School where he has just started in Upper Kindergarten.

An innocent child with an inquisitive glance: A village kid wonders at the sight of the stranger.



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Academic Year 2007-08...After the first term, and parts of the second, Nitesh achieved nearly all E's the rest of the year. The Academic Performance scale shows scores entirely in the 90 to 100% level, with most of them close to the 100% mark. Teachers' comments give high praise with remarks like, "Extremely good in all subjects!" "Excellent!" and "Well done! Keep it up!" Nitesh is clearly an exceptional student for one so young, and has passed from Upper Kindergarten to Grade One. (It could be noted, too, that in some of the areas where Nitesh received "Good" marks rather than "Excellent," maturation levels may have been a factor, because in subjects like "music and movement," and "using space appropriately," most of the G's turned to E's as the year progressed.)



Nitesh & his sponsor, Polly  
October 2008