#### Newsletter



### **Student Smiles for the NHR Summer Session!**

# Summer at NHR is always an amazing learning experience for our students!

Our six-week summer session plays a crucial role in preventing "summer slide", a common occurrence where students lose academic progress during the long school break. By providing engaging reading activities and enrichment clubs, we maintain and even improve students' reading skills over the summer.



This year, we worked with 199 students, building on the gains they have made throughout the school year. In addition to our regular tutoring program, we provide a dozen enrichment clubs for our students. This year's clubs included Creative Writing, Puzzles and Strategies, STEM Exploration, and Chess. The clubs are an opportunity to try something new or to develop an existing skill. Sometimes, clubs are a little messy (arts and crafts) or a little loud (Just Dance)



but our students have a great time and are engaging with literacy concepts in a different way.

Opportunities for summer fun were not limited to our students! Families were able to go on field trips to Mystic Aquarium, take a cruise around the Thimble Islands, and kayak on the Mill River! Plus – our volunteers joined us for a game night and a hike!

## Join us at the Spelling Bee!

Aimed at adult teams of three, this is not your traditional Spelling Bee! Find out more on our website.

Questions? Interested in being a sponsor? Contact us at spellingbee@newhavenreads.org

Take advantage of our Early Bird price and save \$50!





#### Rising First Graders are "Happy as a clam" with our Ocean Themed Summer Camp!



Twelve rising first graders completed a four-week daily camp focused on literacy and science this summer!

Generously funded by the Women's Seaman's Friend Society of CT, this camp focused on developing early literacy skills around an ocean theme. Students also had a blast with various guests who visited the camp including CT Science Center, New England Science and Sailing, and CT River Tales. They even enjoyed weekly yoga class! Campers had a great experience and went home with lots of books and projects.

"We are so grateful to community partners who help make this summer experience so special for our students," said Allison Fleming, NHR Kindergarten Director. "Continuing to build skills and confidence over the summer sets students up for a successful school year.".

#### **NHTI Students Supported This Summer.**

New Haven Reads is proud to be the Lead Literacy in the New Haven Tutoring Initiative, (NHTI), a two-year, federally funded initiative with the mission to improve reading and math skills among New Haven students. With 10 summer partners, NHTI has had a great session supporting to reduce summer slide. Every student attends twice a week, working hard to develop reading skills.



The NHTI has seen tremendous growth as 90% of students increased their decoding and word recognition skills by an average of 23%. Our literacy Instructors continue to visit partners regularly to support students. This support for partners helps boost the effectiveness of these dedicated literacy programs in enhancing student achievement and preventing educational setbacks. We are excited to see the gains that these students will make in the upcoming school year.



#### If you can read this, you can be a volunteer tutor!



Join us as a volunteer this fall! We ask for the commitment of one hour per week and provide all the support and training needed for success!

We have 5 NHR locations and 3 NHTI locations in New Haven that need tutors this fall. You will be transforming the life of a child by supporting their journey of becoming a skilled and confident reader!

We have other volunteer opportunities in our Book Bank and with field trips. Check out our website for more information. Thank you for being a partner in literacy!

#### **NHR Summer Numbers**

Provided one-on-one tutoring and enrichment clubs for 199 students at 3 locations for 452 hours of programs every week.

Thank you to over 150 volunteers!

Supported **12** Kindergarten students with daily literacy summer camp for **4** weeks.

We distributed almost 10,000 books this summer!



#### Watch this space!

We will have an exciting development coming this fall for the Bristol Street location!







#### **Super Summer Interns!**

The opportunity to welcome summer interns and public service fellows to New Haven Reads in the summer is a win-win! Our interns and fellows have the opportunity for paid work and to gain valuable work experience. Many of them are interested in future roles in education or nonprofits. They bring their energy and enthusiasm to our programs and build great relationships with our students. NHR wins too! In the

summer, many of our school-year tutors take a break from tutoring. The intern team helps tutor our students, runs our enrichment clubs and supports our Education Team with administrative tasks.

We welcomed 6 college-age interns this summer and public service fellows from Harvard University and the University of New Haven. We are so grateful for their valuable contributions to our mission this summer! Thank you – Crysbel, Eliza, Aerin, Justin, Sophie, Arianna, Tristan, and Da'Veona.

# **Our parents told** us what they love about NHR!

We have had a wonderful experience with NHR! Zyaire's reading abilities have gotten so much better and he has gained so much confidence! We love the tutors! His school told me that he has improved tremendously!

#### DARLENE, ZYAIRE'S MOM

We love NHR! The program has had a great impact on Avery. Her overall reading growth has gone up tremendously! My sister was a tutor at NHR and that's how I found out about the program and how amazing it is!

#### **KEISHONA, AVERY'S MOM**

Kealyn loves to get to NHR early and can't wait for the tutoring hour to start. She used to have extra reading support at school. Thanks to NHR, she has improved so much so the school told me she doesn't need it anymore.

JODIANE, KEALYN'S MOM

Thank you to everyone who supports New Haven Reads – we appreciate you! Keep in touch by following us!



**New Haven Reads** 45 Bristol Street, New Haven, CT 06511 information@newhavenreads.org www.newhavenreads.org