

Fun Summer Times at New Haven Reads!

Summer vacation meets fun summer learning! For 6 weeks this summer, 240 students enjoyed tutoring, clubs, and activities.

New Haven Reads' summer tutoring and literacy-building activities are **critical to preventing summer learning loss**, a common occurrence when students can lose up to 2 months of school year learning during the summer.

Our programs help expand student learning through **engaging, hands-on experiences** that excite students to learn more about the world around them. Students in our clubs read ocean-themed books and connected them to experiential learning through visits with Mystic Seaport/Mystic in the Park, Thimble Island cruising, ocean kayaking, and the Norwalk Maritime Aquarium.



Over 225 students participated in our summer one-on-one tutoring. Summer tutoring is an important way to keep kids engaged and learning throughout the summer while positioning them for success the following school year.

These opportunities are available to students and families for free all summer thanks to the amazing support of our donors and volunteers. Thank you for helping to engage students and learning through fun for 6 weeks this summer!



Banner Year for the Book Bank!

We're excited to share that the Book Bank distributed **over 106,000** free books this year! Way to go!



Intern Spotlight: Mike York



A New Haven transplant and an Army veteran with over 20 years' service, Mike York isn't New Haven Reads' typical Intern. Mike started tutoring at NHR in 2025 after starting his Master's studies in the Yale Department of European and Russian Studies. As a tutor, he experienced firsthand **the essential role NHR plays in bridging local public education gaps and grade-level literacy expectations.**

Now as an Intern through Yale's Presidential Public Service Fellowship, Mike finds being on-site daily to be truly inspirational and rewarding. "Working with kids and seeing them develop their reading skills over time is a real joy," he says. **"You see how it improves their confidence, their self-esteem, and how it immediately elevates their overall happiness."**

This summer, Mike is running a club to introduce students to STEM concepts, as well as how to use critical thinking skills to understand STEM subjects. One session, he and the students used a 40-foot space to build a scale model of the solar system, fascinating the kids with the true enormity of outer space and the impact of scale on the planets' characteristics.

Closing Out Three Successful Years of the New Haven Tutoring Initiative

Since 2023, New Haven Reads has been the lead literacy partner of the New Haven Tutoring Initiative (NHTI) program, an ARPA-funded program administered by the United Way and supported by the City of New Haven. **Through the NHTI program, we've led community partners in delivering effective, science of reading-based literacy curriculum to K-12 New Haven youth.**



On the heels of a successful school year, where 100% of NHTI tutoring students improve in at least one area of literacy, **we delivered summer literacy programming to 468 New Haven youth throughout the summer** with 8 community partners: IRIS, Boys & Girls Club, LEAP, CPEN, Upon this Rock, Inspired Communities, YMCA, and NHR. All partners work with students on-site to integrate targeted literacy support within the communities they serve.

As the program winds down, NHR Executive Director Kirsten Levinsohn reflected on its accomplishments: "Through the framework of NHTI, NHR has united a fabulous community of partners around a shared commitment to youth education and literacy, expanding access to literacy opportunities for even more City students."

New Haven Reads is currently exploring alternative sources for future funding and hopes to continue the program in the future.



Interns Help Make our Summer Program Possible

A huge thank you to Shelbe, Mike, Litzy, Jessica, Yahir, Itamar, Makayla, and Julia, New Haven Reads' Summer Interns! **Our Interns play a valuable role in supporting our programs and tutoring all summer**, leading clubs and tutoring students at a time when many of our usual tutors are out of town.

Year after year, Interns grow personally and professionally while helping our summer programs thrive. Jessica found that **"tutoring the children refined not only my communication and leadership skills, but also my gratitude towards things we take for granted."**

Yahir shared that **"being part of New Haven Reads helped me find my place in the community and show me how I can make a difference."**

All Interns embraced seeing students' confidence grow through various activities as they learned and mastered new knowledge and skills. We appreciate all they have done for us during their time here!



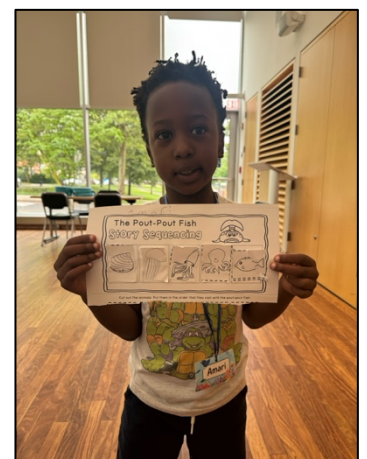
NHR Summer by the Numbers

Provided one-on-one tutoring and enrichment clubs for **229 students** at **3 locations** for over **473 hours** of programs weekly.

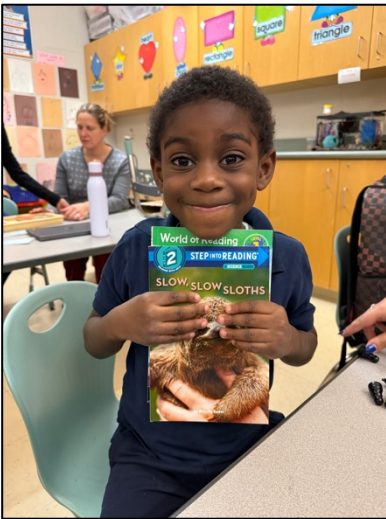
Thank you to over **150 volunteers** who support our students every week!

Supported **11 Pre-K and Kindergarten students** with a daily literacy camp for **4 weeks**.

In July, we distributed over **13,766 books** to build home libraries.



Consider a Planned Gift to New Haven Reads



Did you know that August is Planned Giving Month? Your planned gift to New Haven Reads can have a lasting impact and create brighter futures for New Haven youth and the community as a whole.

Adding New Haven Reads to your will or estate plan is easy! Please consult with your estate planning professional to add this language to your will:

"I hereby give, devise, and bequeath the sum of ____ (or % of my estate) to New Haven Reads Community Book Bank, Inc., a nonprofit organization located at 45 Bristol Street, New Haven, CT 06511, Federal Tax ID #76-0807330, for New Haven Reads' general use and support."

There are multiple ways you can include NHR in your estate planning, including making a Bequest to New Haven Reads in your Will or Revocable Living Trust. It is important you discuss your plans with your attorney, financial advisor, and/or tax advisor. More information can be found on the Donate part of our website, https://www.newhavenreads.org/get_involved/donate.

Do you have One Hour a Week to Be a Volunteer Tutor?

Student registration opens next week! Help us ensure there is a volunteer for every student in our program from the start of the year. Visit our website to find out more:
<https://newhavenreads.org/volunteer>.



Thank you to everyone who supports
New Haven Reads.

Our impact starts with you!
Keep in touch by following us!

