

Reading Ranch Roundup



USD #417

Summer 2016

Reading Ranch Summer Camp

Reading Ranch Summer Camp began on Monday, June 6th with 78 enrolled students who had recently completed kindergarten through 6th grade at Prairie Heights and Council Grove elementary schools. Students attend from 8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. each Monday-Friday. Classes are held at Council Grove Elementary School with bus transportation provided.

Students participate in 30 minutes of phonics or fluency, 30 minutes of Structured Read Aloud with vocabulary, a total of 60 minutes of math reinforcement, 30 minutes of Healthy Kids PE and nutrition, and enrichment, community service and STEM time each afternoon.

Enrichment Activities

Each afternoon during three weeks of summer camp, students participate in a variety of enrichment activities.

One of these activities was a visit from Kansas Highway Patrol Trooper Ben Gardner.

Fridays are fun days at Reading Ranch Summer Camp. Students who have attended all four days of that week are eligible to attend fun events on Fridays.

The Fun Friday schedule for 2016 includes:

6/10 - Trip to Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve

6/17 - Sunset Zoo Animal Ambassadors visit CGES

6/24 - Trip to Flint Hills Discovery Center's Amazing Dinosaurs exhibit

7/1 - Author's workshop by Shelly Simoneau at CGES

7/8 - Trip to theater in Emporia to see "Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs 2"

7/15 - Carnival at CGES - Last Day of Summer Camp

Trooper Ben talked about how he became a highway patrolman, showed us his patrol vehicle, and allowed students to try on various equipment needed in his job.

Trooper Ben also took time to answer student's questions.



Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve



Sunset Zoo Ambassadors

Importance of Summer Reading

Our goal for the summer reading program is to eliminate or reduce the "summer slide." What is summer slide?

This term refers to a decline or loss of reading ability experienced by students who don't pick up a book and read regularly over summer break.

Research shows that programs such as ours not only reduce summer slide, but can help students increase their reading level during the summer months.

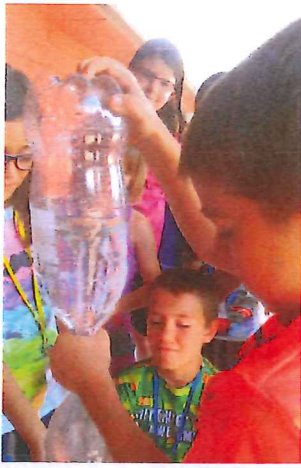


We appreciate Trooper Ben taking the time to visit the Reading Ranch.



Reading Ranch students with Trooper Ben





Reading, Math, Physical Activity and Science

The After School KRR program focuses on reading and physical activity. In the summer, we add math and science to the after school components for even more learning fun.

Our very talented tutors have created some excellent lesson plans and learning opportunities for students of all ages.

An example is the water and bubbles week that 1st and 3rd grade students recently participated in.

From making water tornados to engineering a boat that will hold the most plastic bears, our students are making predictions, conducting experiments, and analyzing the results.

These same activities will be enjoyed by kindergarten, 2nd grade and 4th-6th grade students during the last three weeks of summer camp.

Students are working on math skills reinforcement to make sure that they are ready to begin a new grade level in the fall.

Playing can equal learning. Our goal at Reading Ranch is to keep students engaged and to make learning fun.



There is no cost for students to attend the Reading Ranch program thanks to funding provided by Kansas Reading Roadmap, a project funded by the Kansas Department for Children and Families working in partnership with the Kansas Department of Education to promote third grade reading through locally-driven public/private partnerships.

www.readingroadmap.org

Summer Food Program

Reading Ranch Summer Camp is happy to participate in the Summer Food Program. This program allows children under the age of 18 to eat a healthy lunch for free at the Council Grove Elementary School.

Open to the public each day at noon, our Reading Ranch students are served at 11:00 a.m. each day.

The summer food program also provides sack lunches for our field trips at no cost to Reading Ranch.

Reading Ranch would like to thank everyone in the community who worked so hard to bring this great program to our district and to our students.



Fall Enrollment

The After School Reading Ranch program will begin in mid-September. Invitations will be sent to eligible students based on the results of fall benchmark testing.

If you have any questions about the Reading Ranch Kansas Reading Roadmap program, please contact Christy Buchman, Program Coordinator at 620-767-2554 or by email at cbuchman@cgrove417.org.

