



SULPHUR SPRINGS
NEIGHBORHOOD
of PROMISE

neighborhood News

August 2015

Newsletter of the Sulphur Springs Neighborhood of Promise

Summer Camp is About Learning and Having Fun!

This summer at Springhill Community Center, the Sulphur Springs YMCA in partnership with the City of Tampa Parks and Recreation Department sponsored a very successful Summer Camp for first to seventh graders. More than 225 kids were in attendance daily!

Summer Camp is One Way to Beat Summer Learning Loss

All young people experience learning loss when they do not engage in educational activities during the summer. Research provided by the National Summer Learning Association shows that most students lose about two months of grade level equivalency in math computation skills over the summer months. In low-income areas, students also lose more than two months of reading achievement if they do not have access to educational opportunities, adult supervision and healthy meals. Tampa is one of 30 cities in the USA to implement the YMCA's Summer Learning Loss Prevention (SLLP) program and the students in the program typically gain three months of reading proficiency.

The YMCA's Summer Camp in Sulphur Springs

The ten-week 2015 Summer Camp focused on educational courses in math, reading and active academics. STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) activities and a variety of partnership clubs were offered daily to enhance the experience and provide additional disguised learning opportunities. The academic curriculum was developed with direction from the Elementary School's Resource Teachers. Meals were provided daily. Enrichment clubs were offered in Food and Fun; Chef's Table, No-Bake Cooking Club; Cheerleading and Gymnastics; Sports Fanatics; and Artists Club.

YMCA curriculum specialist Tycehia Hobbs was involved in developing the enrichment clubs with input from the kids and YMCA counselors. Tycehia said "For me, the best part of Summer Camp was working directly with the kids and the field trips." Some exciting field trips were taken including the Florida Aquarium, Glazer Children's Museum, Ice Skating and Legoland.



Maintaining a positive attitude at Summer Camp was important as indicated by this motto.

BEFORE YOU SPEAK... THINK

T= is it true?

H= is it helpful?

I= is it inspiring?

N= is it necessary?

K= is it kind?



Cheerleading and Gymnastics Class

LOTS OF HAPPY CAMPERs



Ryan, age 9 and Stevona, age 6

The kids were asked to complete a survey about what they like about Summer Camp. Responses from four kids are summarized below:

Why do you enjoy the YMCA?

Art classes; because it is fun; we go to Splash Pad; and we make new friends.

Favorite Activities? The playground; sports; coloring and writing; and cheerleading.

Who is your favorite counselor and why?

Ms. Azaria because she lets us play on the playground; Ms. Kyra because she lets us go to the park and play board games; Ms. Christene because she helps people and she is very nice; and Ms. Marjorie because she is good and she always gives us an answer.

In the Art Classes, The Kids Were Spontaneous and Creative



"I love the YMCA" by La'Nai M.

Shelby Williams, Arts and Crafts Specialist, YMCA, explained that each week of camp had a different theme and the art classes focused on those themes. Examples of the weekly themes were Under the Sea; Go Green; It's a Jungle Out There; Superheroes; Cartoons; Pirates; and more. In the classes the kids learned basic drawing techniques,

the fundamentals of painting, and a large variety of crafting skills to include making collages and creative tie dying and pasting projects. The students were also encouraged to explore their own ideas about art. Shelby noted with great pride in her students, "The kids are so spontaneous and creative and we have some real artistic talent."



"Image of a Mermaid" by Goodwin, 4th grade



Art Class



"Image of a Parrot" by Marianna, 4th grade

cont. from front

What was your favorite field trip? Ice skating because it was really fun; the aquarium because we could see and touch animals; Legoland because we did lots of fun things; roller skating because that is the best way to use up all my energy

Who is your real life superhero and why? Superwoman because she is strong; my Mom, because she tells people some of the things we do; Bella because I like her dress and how she styles her hair; Catwoman because she wears a cat suit.

"My favorite superhero is my mom."

Great response by a fourth grader

Join the Sulphur Springs Youth Intramural Sports League

The City of Tampa Parks and Recreation Department, the YMCA, and SSNOP are offering an Intramural Sports League that will consist of a basketball league and a track league.

OPEN REGISTRATION

Basketball League
Aug. 22-Sept. 4: 4-6 p.m.
Track League
Oct. 12-30: 4-6 p.m.
At Springhill Community Center
1000 E. Eskimo Ave.
Tampa, FL 33604
Ages: 3rd-4th grade and 5th-6th grade

Cost: Recreation cards are required; cost to city residents is \$15 per year

What to bring to registration: a copy of your child's birth certificate and a recent photo of your child

Volunteer coaches are needed!

For more information, contact Harold Hart, at 813-274-3315 or Harold.hart@tampagov.net

SULPHUR SPRINGS NEIGHBORHOOD of PROMISE

Building a Brighter Future Together... Education. Career. Community.

Visit our website at www.ssnop.org to learn more.