



VOLUME 1, ISSUE 34

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Energizing Education

Bennett Elementary School

The Impact of Energizing Education

Although school is out for the summer, Energizing Education is still hard at work, gearing up for another exciting school year. During the summer months, we are usually busy recruiting new mentors, thinking up new and exciting themes for family nights, and making key improvements to maximize the volunteer and mentor experience during the school year. With that said, we have big goals for the upcoming year.

EE operates with the intention of making sure students receive the one-on-one support they need to be reading at grade level, but another part is making sure they don't struggle and have fun while accomplishing these goals. No child is like his or her peers and this is what makes Energizing Education a unique program. Although our in-school mentoring design focuses on reading, writing, and word work, because no child is the same, weekly lesson plans are developed with each child's needs in mind. So although they have the same components,

different activities are provided for students and their mentor to work with.

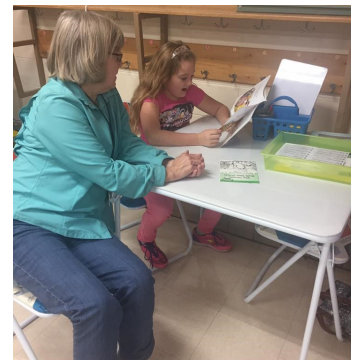
This year Energizing Education mentors worked with 177 students and their achievements were amazing to see from week to week. At the end of every year we ask parents and mentors to complete surveys. Mentors loved seeing their students each week and were always surprised by the stories they shared with them. Overall, they said the experience was enjoyable and they are looking forward to returning in the fall. What parents shared about their children were all of the things and more that we hoped would happen. Several parents shared that they noticed major confidence boosts, an eagerness to learn and a love for reading, and that their child's reading improved significantly.

We hope the upcoming school year is just as rewarding for parents and their children and we are eager to see everyone back in the school for mentoring and family nights.

Lois' Corner!



In the fall we will continue the program in our seven schools: Jackson Public School's Bennett Elementary, Cascades Elementary, Frost Elementary, and McCulloch Academy, Grass Lake's George Long, Michigan Center's Arnold Elementary, and Northwest's Early Elementary School. EE has been busy recruiting over the last couple of months and has gained the support and commitment from a few local businesses. Since there is never a shortage of students who can benefit from extra reading support, we are hoping our mentor numbers will be on the rise this upcoming school year. If you or your business would be interested in mentoring students during the school day, please let us know. We are always looking for opportunities to give presentations. Keep an eye out for mentor trainings going up on the calendar within the next month.



August mentor training dates will be scheduled soon. Check our website for more information or contact us at energizingeducation@uwjackson.org.

Did you miss our blog posts last month? No worries, they can be found on our website through the links below!

[June 1](#)
[June 8](#)
[June 15](#)

Have a story you'd like to share about how EE made an impact for you? Send an email to eworthey@uwjackson.org

Soak up the sun with fun, active summer learning

Have an outdoor alphabet scavenger hunt! Find some legos or building blocks you can write on. Write each letter of the alphabet on a block. Hide them outdoors and have your kids try to find them. Mix it up by adding in learning as they find them. For example, have them sound out each letter and then tell you a word that starts with that letter (E for elephant), or after they've found them have them make words.

Literacy Tip of the Month



Make a smooth transition from summer back to school

Students will return to school in just a few weeks. Start early getting them back into the school routine. Make sure your children are set up for a successful school year starting from day one. Start transitioning them from their summer bedtime and wakeup time to what their school schedule will look like. Also, if you haven't been reading this summer, you still have time! Set aside time each day between now and when school begins to make sure they're prepared for the upcoming year and haven't forgotten key things. You can do this by looking up grade specific activities and printables online.



Jackson District Library
Discover • Learn • Succeed

Are you a fan of Lego? The Jackson District Library is looking for creative kids and teens (Ages 0-17) to participate in JDL's 5th Annual "Karen Veramay District-Wide LEGO Contest". This year's theme is "Lego Book Report", which will have you build an original piece inspired by a favorite book. After you create your piece, drop it off at any of our 13 branches to enter the contest. Prizes include Lego kits, candy, and more! For more information, please visit our website at www.myjdl.com or call 788-4087 (ext. 1331). We hope to see your cool creations!

Find out more!
<http://energizingeducationjackson.org>
or
Energizing Education on Facebook

For volunteer information:
Contact Charlie Miller
energizingeducation@uwjackson.org

To Donate:
Contact Lois Dunning at
ldunning@uwjackson.org