

CELEBRATING FIVE YEARS OF OUR OG SUMMER INTENSIVE PROGRAM

(submitted by Kate Quijano, Senior Program Director)

We started off with an idea of how to provide extra summer support to students exiting our donation based tutoring program. We loved our plan so much that we decided to open it up to new students as well. We built a small program with two OG certified teachers and two assistants and a plan to offer small group OG instruction, arts and crafts time where every day's craft had a clear link to the OG skills students were learning, and a sports/game time that provided a fun way for students to apply their newly learned OG skills.

Our first year was so small that I pulled double duty as both the director of the program and one of the teachers and we brought Ms. Mary on board as our second teacher. (She and I trained for our associate level OG certification together.)

The program grew over the next few years and we made modifications each year based on feedback from the students, families, and staff. Now many students start their OG journey with us over the summer and then based on the success they see, enroll in our one on one tutoring services during the school year. We now enroll approximately 24 students per summer and have four OG certified teachers, while I continue to direct and support the program without actually serving as one of the teachers any more.

As we hit this 5th year benchmark, I would like to thank all of the students, families, and staff that have participated in our summer program for your dedication to making it a success. I would like to specifically thank Ms. Mary, who has taught all five summers with us. She is currently the lead teacher of our younger group of students. Her organization, dedication, and calm demeanor have been a trademark of our program. Each year, she has helped to improve the program and train new teachers as they joined us.

Another huge thank you to Ms. Izzy, who has also been with us for the past five years. She started with us as an assistant and utilized the knowledge she gained from that experience to go on to train for associate level certification the next school year. She is now the lead teacher of our advanced group of students. She is a pro at making connections with older students and finding a balance between meeting their need for more advanced/interesting material while still individualizing and filling gaps in their knowledge to make them better readers.

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SUMMER INTENSIVE CRAFT CORNER



We practiced non-phonetic sight words.



Students created sharks to add to their ocean display. They chose words from each of the syllable types they studied.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!



August 1 - 15:

Our office will be closed.
We will be back on Monday, August 18.

August 18 - 22:

Associate Level
Orton-Gillingham
Tutor Training



Multisensory spelling in sand helps to form memories of the word in their brain.

FIVE YEARS OF OG SUMMER (CONTINUED)

Anne-Marie, our Executive Assistant, has also been with us since the first year of the summer program and ensures that everyone stays up to date on all of their paperwork/safety policies; handles all of our spreadsheets, flyers, and ordering; and has also frequently been our "nurse" for anyone needing a bandaid or a few minutes to cool off inside on a hot day. She is an invaluable support to all of the teachers and the success of the summer program.

I would also like to highlight a very special student who has attended the summer program all five years that we have been running. Julianna is especially dear to me as she was in my group the first year she attended. I have had the pleasure of seeing her growth year to year. When she began, we were working on long vs short vowel sounds and closed vs magic e syllable types. She is currently working with Ms. Izzy on syllable division, morphology, and spelling rules for suffix addition. Her growth has been amazing to witness as well as her joyful, kind personality. She is a role model to other students and always offers support to new students. She is "graduating" from our summer program this year due to her age and advanced ability level. Congratulations, Julianna, on your success in reading and best wishes in the upcoming school year. We will miss you!



We presented Julianna her five (5) year Orton-Gillingham Summer Intensive program attendance award! She has been a wonderful OG student and we will miss her and wish her the best of luck!



Thank you for spending your time learning new OG reading skills with us. Enjoy the rest of the summer! ☀️

REFLECTIONS

What a wonderful OG summer we have had together! We asked the students to reflect on their favorite moments:

I wish I could come back. - Julianna

I learned about ay. - Gabby

My favorite part was the crafts. - Kennedy

I learned about the doubling rule. - Daniel

My favorite part was the art. - Arianna

I liked the tie dye. - Laila

I liked spelling. - Matthew

I learned all the vowel-consonant-e's. -Luke

I liked the water balloons and learning vowel teams. -Nicholas

There are more ways to spell long a and long e. -Robert

I learned vowel consonant e. You don't need to put a breve over the vowel because it isn't short. The vowel team flowers were

my favorite craft. -Natalie

I liked the water balloon fight. -Avery

I basically liked everything. -Julian

My favorite was doing crafts, especially when we made the shark. -Ivan

