## SPECIAL EDUCATION

**July 2024** 

We are highlighting the success of ESY this week! The following summaries were provided by our teachers and provide information on student progress and the engaging environments they created this summer! A huge thank you to the following staff who worked with our students:

Lucinda Nandin, Crystal Wehe, Olivia York, Katie Malik, Stephanie Harris, Alyssa Patterson, Carolina Daniels, Mary Jane Magallanes, Amy Anderson and Leslie Wishert

## Ms. York's Classroom:

This week, I had three students in the High School Resource ESY class. All three students are here to work on their reading and writing skills. We started out each day listening to an audiobook and answering comprehension questions. After this, we would do a journal entry (answering questions in 3-5 complete sentences) and then we would take a break. After the break, the students would work on their computers, completing two reading assignments on Reading Plus, an online reading website. We use this during the school year to help determine reading levels. After reading plus, we would complete a lesson out of Reading Horizons, which is another reading source that helps with basic reading skills. During this time, the students practice writing words on whiteboards, reading words, and completing worksheet pages that go along with the lesson. After this, we would take another break, but during this time, we would make a snack (they would read the recipes and make it themselves). After making and eating the snack, the students would write 2 paragraphs on how they made the snack and how much they liked it. After writing, they would read a fluency passage, as 2 of them have goals on this, and would write 1 paragraph on what they read. If we still had time, the students would read comprehension stories out of the books from Reading Horizons and answer comprehension questions.

Over the course of ESY, we saw so much progress out of the students that came consistently. None of the students regressed from the end of the school year; they were able to stay at the same reading level. Out of the resources we used, I think Reading Horizons was the best reading resource for our students who are struggling with basic reading skills. Throughout ESY, we were able to make it through one chapter and the students were grasping the concepts more and more after each lesson. Reading Plus was another great resource that we used and saw progress on. It gave the students individual reading level, and though none of them went up a level, they were able to get at least a 70% average on each comprehension set.

## Ms. Malik's Classroom:

Katie Malik, Amy Anderson, Leslie Wishert had a positive and forward thinking experience in working, guiding, and teaching our students with special needs.

The class successfully followed a visual schedule which included academic learning, Life Skill activities (cooking breakfast, baking a snack, washing/folding clothes and washing dishes), physical activities (daily walks around the track - 2 laps without departing the area and without behaviors) and consistent practice of following verbal/visual prompts and cues.

ESY provides a unique opportunity for these students to be successful at school with the individualized Support and environment.

Student achievement highlights included the following: increased ability to sit and attend to tasks, using an iPad to communicate, following verbal prompts, following a changed visual schedule without frustration, completing life skills with decreased prompts, using calming strategies without escalation, increased independence, riding the bus successfully, and perfect attendance and punctuality.



## Ms. Wehe and Ms. Nandin's Classroom:

For our elementary and intermediate students, we implemented an ESY literacy theme of sharks and have been learning all about them during our time together. Each week we focused on shark facts, shark crafts, shark vocabulary, and ocean sensory activities, all while implementing IEP goals. We've had a blast learning together and we are extremely thankful to have spent this time with your students.

It has been a successful summer for our students who took part in ESY, and we can't thank our wonderful staff enough for all they do to enhance whole child development!