East Nashville Hope Exchange presents:

My Family
My Community
My World

SUMMER READING PROGRAM 2021
The COVID-19 pandemic is not just a health and economic crisis—it is also a children’s education crisis. As an organization, one of our primary goals is to ensure that our students do not fall victim to the summer slide, a time when many children lose academic skills and dispositions that they gained during the school year due to the absence and scarcity of high quality learning activities during summer break. The pandemic has turned into a much longer and more detrimental summer slide.

On the bright side, the 2021 East Nashville Hope Exchange Summer Program was incredible! Despite the many challenges we faced due to the COVID-19 pandemic, our summer literacy program was full of lots of fun, learning, enrichment, and most importantly—READING!

This was our first in-person literacy program since the beginning of the pandemic. Sixty students completed the program with a pre- and post-assessment! All but two students made gains or maintained in at least 3 areas of literacy throughout our 6-week program. Many thanks to our amazing staff, community partners, and volunteers who made this possible. ENHE scholars created life-long memories while experiencing some of the most impactful learning opportunities.

In past – pre-pandemic—years, our students have created a newspaper to be reminded of their meaningful experiences with ENHE. This year we decided to let photographs and student reflections tell the story. Here is some of the fun and learning that took place this summer. Enjoy!

Ameshica R. Linsey, Ed.D Executive Director, East Nashville Hope Exchange

97% of our students gained or maintained at least 3 out of the 4 areas of literacy assessed.

Our summer program continues - in challenging times!

ENHE teachers make reading FUN!

They conduct picture walks and multiple reads of each week’s books while modeling comprehension strategies to ensure that all students understand the text. Students work on fun extension activities like art projects and games plus they use journal time to share written response skills. Teachers engage students on how to read stories with voice and tone.

The Dreamcatchers and Pineapple classes attended a zoom enrichment story time activity from Bringing Books to Life and the Nashville Public Library.

The teachers continually work on skills in reading groups. Classes play sight word games and read letter books to help boost letter sound recognition. ENHE works hard to help close the gaps when it comes to reading. PLUS, each student receives a new book each day!

“ENHE is a good part of the community because it is safe, fun, and an exciting place to come in the summer. Also we play on different days. Friday is field trip day. On Wednesday, we have water play day. It is a place that is good for the whole community.

It also is a community. It is a good place to be in the summer and you can have fun.”

Joseph, on how ENHE is good for the community
Exploring our community

An important part of our theme (“My Family, My Community, My World”) involves exploring our community. Friday Field Trips play an important role in this while offering a fun focal point for each week’s lessons.

Week 2 ended with an awesome field trip for all students to the Tennessee State Museum. Teachers led students on a scavenger hunt to discover some great events that took place right in our state. On Week 3 we explored the Nashville Zoo, and at the end of week 4 we took a field trip to the brand new National Museum of African American Music, taking a self-guided tour of the interactive museum. There we recorded rap songs, sang with a gospel choir and read about famous African American singers, songwriters, and choirs.

Read below about a mini-field trip to the post office!

Journey, on going to the Tennessee State Museum:

So we went to the Nashville TN state History Museum. And we got to see the guns that they used in the army. We also saw old clothes that they wore when they was in the army. On the field trip we saw a lot of people. My favorite part was seeing the fake leg. It was my favorite because it was cool to look at. I would never want to wear one I just wanted to look at it.

On Friday, we went to the Tennessee State History Museum. We saw a lot of ancient artifacts. They were from a long time ago. At the museum, we did a scavenger hunt. And at the museum my favorite part was when we learned about ancient stuff and the museum was fun.

Students engage in an interactive exhibit at the Tennessee State Museum

There was so much to hear at the National Museum of African American Music!

Mikaila, on going to the National Museum of African American music:

My favorite field trip was the National Museum of African American music. My favorite part of the field trip was when we got to touch stuff and when we got to make our own music. And we wrote music and listened to it.

The students enjoyed a little outdoor time walking to the neighborhood post office to mail their letters.

Using our voices in our community

The Terrific Turbos spent their final week answering the essential question: “How can I use my voice to share my thoughts in my family, community, and world?” This included reading the book “Let the Children March.”

As part of their studies, each class member wrote a letter to the governor regarding the Critical Race Theory Bill. Next, the students went through the process of properly addressing their envelope to Governor Lee, and writing their return address on the envelope.

Finally, the children took a fun walking mini field trip to the local post office to mail their letters.

These students enjoyed a great opportunity learning how they can play a part in making changes in their community and world!

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Letters to the Governor were written and addressed.

Miah, on going to the Tennessee State Museum:

We went to the museum and had fun. My favorite part was the fake house. We solved questions. We got to see sculptures, swords, fake guns, and paintings. We got to look at these little movie things. We got to learn about different types of people and did a scavenger hunt.

Chloe, on going to the National Museum of African American Music:

Today we went to the African American music museum. I heard southern country music at the museum. My favorite music gallery was the gospel section because I listened to gospel music in my car. My favorite artist that I saw was Tori Kelly. I learned that B.B. King could play the guitar. I also learned that there were more styles of music than I thought. I wish to see more styles of music.

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A typical day in ENHE’s Summer Reading Program will ALWAYS include some fun! Our students have lots of energy to burn after so much study!

Whether waterplay (a great way to cool off!), indoor games or basketball with classmates, ENHE students know how to have fun!

But summer studies are important, but these young scholars also need physical activity and social interactions. These youngsters are definitely on their way up in the world!

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Students read a total of 1,200 books this summer!