

Appendix B – Best Practice



To: North State Together

Name of Best Practice: Summer Starts Now

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Demographics Served: All Children County-wide

Overview

What was the problem you aimed to solve? What change did you implement? What impact did the change have on the problem?

In 2011, Expect More Tehama was just learning about the power of third grade reading proficiency after Sacramento Mayor Kevin Johnson launched Sacramento READS! A third grade literacy program. His actions were in response to grim findings published in a report by the Annie E. Casey Foundation.

According to the 2009 NAEP assessments, in the US only 33% of fourth graders are reading proficiently and in California only 24% of fourth graders are reading proficiently. Research shows that 74% students who are behind will never catch up.

Expect More learned our own students were struggling.

In Tehama County, lack of funding made it difficult for most schools to host summer school. Larger areas would publish what felt like elaborate summer programs that our children did not have access to either because of transportation, funding or awareness. Who was offering swimming lessons? Where could kids learn skills in sports? Arts? Overnight camps? Access to books?

Prevention suggestions included summer reading, school readiness and better attendance. The team decided to launch a summer awareness program that included a guide of low and no cost activities, social media outreach and promotion of those activities, activity mapping, and several Expect More sponsored activities with a strong message about reading and enrichment.

Testing changed for students from when we first started. Based on numbers from 2015 – 2018, reading levels have barely improved, which is frustrating overall. We believe without efforts, they would be worse. We continue to believe that major interventions and community awareness are needed.

Key Details: What are the necessary details to successfully implement this practice?

Length: February – August: The guide and activity mapping begin in February and the goal is to complete and print the guide before school ends (end of May). Outreach is based on a calendar of activities.

Setting: The goal is to identify low and no cost activities county wide, and to be able to add new activities as we learn about them. The guide has something for all ages, including families.

Activity: The core team working on this activity has remained the same, although new faces have taken on facilitation and mapping the past two years. Some facilitate the mapping process; some work on the writing content and guide development; some on distribution/printing. Some have a huge responsibility in their own work world and are driving vans of STEAM materials to Farmer's Market and school sites where they also hand out the guide. Some are putting books in My Little Libraries around the county.

Reasoning: We believe that the summer slide is real and since our county does not offer a lot of summer school or enrichment opportunities, we needed to step into and own that space.

How Do You Know Your Practice Worked? We gauge success from feedback from schools and parents / requests for the guide from agencies and parents/ feedback from organizers of events / feedback from students/participants

Necessary Tools

Mapping Session: Blue sticky wall and action planning facilitation process utilized.

Zoom Planning Presentation: Zoom Powerpoint utilized to keep everyone on track and share work plan. Nice use of Zoom chat features to manage a large group and still allow for feedback.

Weekly Communication: The same designer/marketer and coordinator/writer have been involved on this project for years, so they know the process. They are both well connected to the community and work well with each other. Besides their own role as graphic designer and coordinator, this year one is working on the virtual run while the other gathered painting kits. Both are in constant contact with several others who are sharing new events and updates.

Instagram Started this Year: To better gauge how younger folks are responding to the activities, Expect More started an Instagram account this summer. * Everyone was asked what they will do with the training: For the trauma informed webinars with First 5, everyone was asked to share how they planned to use the information.

Tips for Implementation

Our greatest challenge with coordinating and sharing summer activities is getting the information about all that is planned on time. Although we start in February, many of the events and programs just aren't prepared to submit their program details until May (or later). That is just too late. We have tried to change this by starting the discussion in February as opposed to March or April. This year we added a Google form that organizers can submit, which helps keep the information organized. We also offered marketing training to the programs to help them fill their seats/openings to keep them viable.

Another challenge, especially this year, is how to get the guide into the hands of those without access to a computer or Internet? This year, we were not able to give printed copies to the schools. In the past, nearly all K-5 could take them home. We decided to make a very simple guide that we can change/add to weekly and print quickly. It also sits on our website. We give printed copies to those who are seeing families: at school sites that provide meals, via two SERRF mobiles, First 5 Tehama and at Farmer's Market.

One of the nicest partnerships we have is with the county-wide after school and summer program SERRF. In the beginning, SERRF did not have a summer program. Once they added that, SERRF has adopted the same theme for summer as Expect More Tehama. This gives consistency and twice as much messaging to families all over.

Each summer, Expect More Tehama works with dozens of local programs to gather low and no cost summer ideas to share with our families in a guide. We know that summer is a key time to keep kids engaged to avoid losing valuable skills gained at school.

This summer is even more challenging as so many camps, sports and programs have been cancelled. Still, there are a lot of great things to do, and we're happy to share them with you.

Check back with us often, as new activities are added all summer long. Follow us on Facebook, and visit us online at WWW.EXPECTMORETEHAMA.COM

WHAT'S BUZZING THIS SUMMER?

Check back with us often, as new activities are added all summer long!

2020 EDITION, VERSION 1
(UPDATED JUNE 10, 2020)

expect more tehama

We know many of the steadfast, yearly programs, but work hard to find the new ones.

LACY WILSON ART CLASSES FOR KIDS

Online and in Studio in June!
Best for ages 12+

Online Classes via Lacy Wilson Instagram:
June 15th and June 22nd @ Tam

In Studio Class: June 29th (Time TRA)
340 Hickory St #0
Red Bluff, CA 96080

No cost to participate
Sponsored by Expect More Tehama

Learn to paint in the easy, step by step paint class. Begin at home with our virtual paint classes, then join us in the studio to paint with others.

What you will need:

- Canvas (any size)
- Cup of water
- Towel to dry brushes
- Three (3) brushes: One large square, one medium square and one small pointy liner
- Paint Colors: TBD

Need supplies?
Email lgarcia@jobtrainingcenter.org

Looking for MORE painting opportunities for teens? <https://bit.ly/3cCEPNO>

SUMMER SERRF ON WHEELS

June 15th–July 24th

SERRF is hitting the road to make visits throughout the county providing packets with materials and supplies following three themes: Healthy Me, Water, and Outdoor Adventure! The educational content will include activities with a focus on Reading, Science, Social Emotional Learning, Making, Recreation, and Hobbies. They will also be giving away books for their summer reading program.

JUMP ON SERRF'S PADLET

Padlet is a free online tool that is best described as an online notice board. Basically, a Padlet can be used to post notes on a common page. The notes can contain links, videos, images and document files.

This summer, SERRF will feature a special Padlet advertising their Mobile SERRF on Wheels and their weekly themes. Check out where the Mobile SERRF on Wheels will be, pick up a fun filled packet (with SERRF Tehama County Passport inside). Students receive rewards as they complete each week's themed activities, and they are invited to post pictures of their healthy hobbies and pictures of themselves with a paper cut out of everyone's favorite Flat Stanley!

<https://bit.ly/summerserrf>

everything TECH CAMP

JULY 15-19, 2019

TEHAMA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
Incoming 6th-8th Grade Boys & Girls: 8am-Noon or 1-5pm

GRAPHIC DESIGN · VIRTUAL REALTY · ENGINEERING · CODING

Sign your child up for a week of fun and learning in the ever-changing world of technology! Each day will focus on a specific area of technology, offering students the opportunity to learn from industry experts and participate in hands-on activities.

Camp Fee: \$40/student (scholarships are available!)

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Learn more and register at www.expectmoretehama.com