

YEP!

2023-2024 NEWSLETTER



**WORDS & WONDERS:
READING AND
CREATIVE EXPRESSION**

Discover & Create: STEM, Art, and
Exploration

Nourishing Minds: Food, Wellness, and
Community Voices

ISSUE NO.03



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YOUTH PROGRAM

NEWSLETTER



HOMEWORK / GOAL SETTING

After learning about our students' goals for the academic year, we focused on providing them with ample time and resources to help them catch up and succeed.

WELCOME TO KENT MERIDIAN

Unlocking Success:

Our goal is to make learning both enjoyable and educational, fostering creativity and critical thinking through various fun and enriching projects.



"TOGETHER, WE ACHIEVE MORE—
TEAMWORK TURNS ACTIVITIES INTO ACCOMPLISHMENTS





CREATIVITY AND INNOVATION

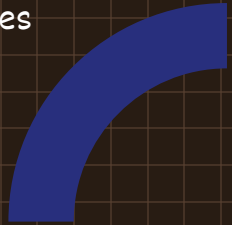
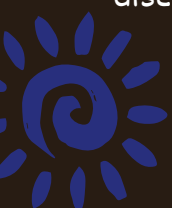
Through our STEAM curriculum, students engage in creative and educational activities like painting, shirt printing, and tie-dying. They explore science through slime-making and chemical reactions and tackle engineering by building clocks with popsicle sticks.



"Exploring new places turns field trips into adventures and learning opportunities."

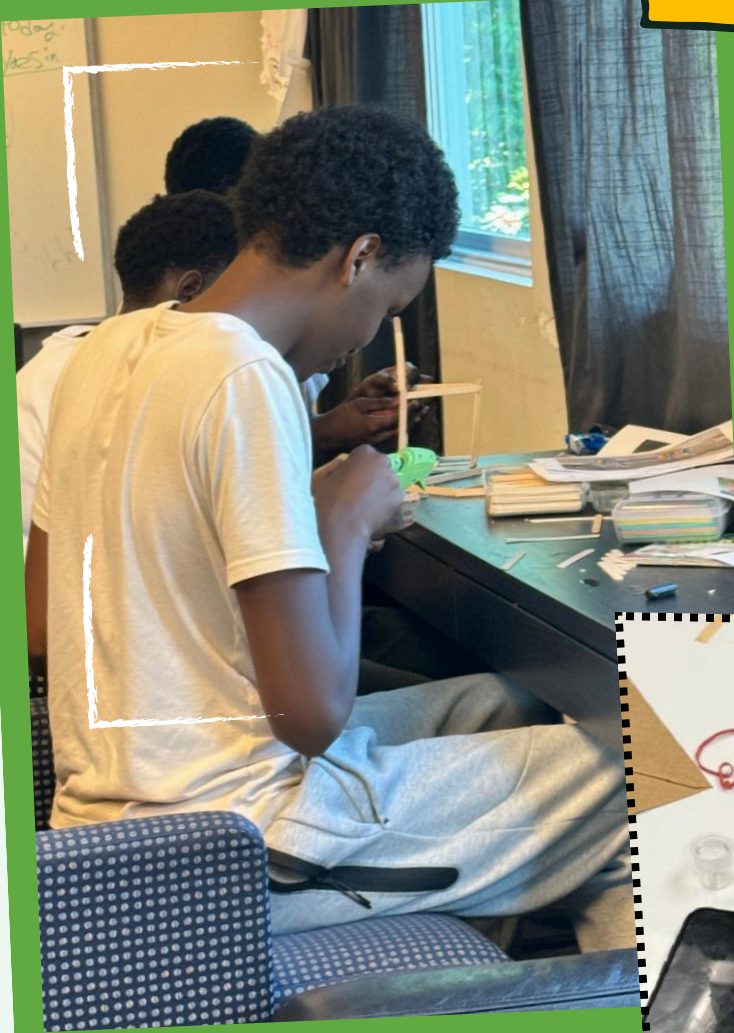
COLLEGE READINESS: UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON VISIT

We strongly believe that showing youth the opportunities of higher education can provide an essential step in helping them prepare for their journey after high school. We thank the University of Washington for providing valuable information and abundant resources discovered on campus.



BIRCH CREEK

Youth Program



At the Birch Creek site, we aimed to create a holistic learning experience that nurtures the mind and the spirit. Through our initiative, we provided a variety of science, art, and engineering activities to stimulate their minds and activities that focused on stress relief. By engaging in diverse projects, students learned, built their skills, and discovered new passions.



Daily Fun and Learning

Each day of the program brought new and exciting activities, keeping students engaged and enthusiastic. They created shirt prints with stickers, made lava lamps, built birdhouses with popsicle sticks, crafted journals, tie-dyed backpacks, and more. Every activity was designed to blend creativity with learning, helping students gain valuable skills while having fun.

- ☒ Community Building
- ☒ Art Expression
- ☒ Life Skills



STUDENTS MADE HAND SANITIZER AND LEARNED ABOUT HYGIENE AND INGREDIENT SCIENCE. THEY EARNED MONTHLY PRIZES FOR THEIR CREATIVITY AND HARD WORK, INSPIRING THEM TO STRIVE FOR EXCELLENCE.



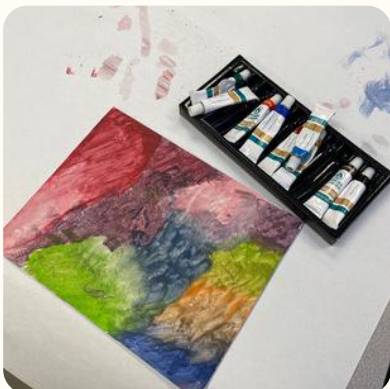


CREATE CALM WITH EVERY SWIRL



from soothing sensory bottles to fun slime making

STUDENTS CRAFTED SENSORY BOTTLES AND MADE SLIME TO EXPLORE TEXTURES AND CALMING EFFECTS. ACTIVITIES INCLUDED USING GLITTER AND ESSENTIAL OILS. THESE HANDS-ON METHODS TAUGHT MINDFULNESS AND STRESS MANAGEMENT, AIDING BALANCE IN BUSY SCHEDULES.



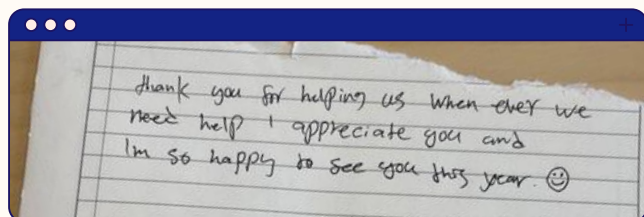
Cedar Heights Middle School

CRB welcomed Cedar Heights Middle School students to our new hybrid program in March! At Cedar Heights, students engaged in virtual homework support and in-person projects and activities.

Creative Learning

To meet the needs of our Cedar Heights youth, we redesigned our program to include virtual homework support. This allows youth to receive support from the comfort of their homes! We dove into various subjects, like history, environmental science, and math!

Not everything is about homework in our program, so we created Analog clocks, custom T-shirts, lava lamps, slime, and much more!



UW Volunteers

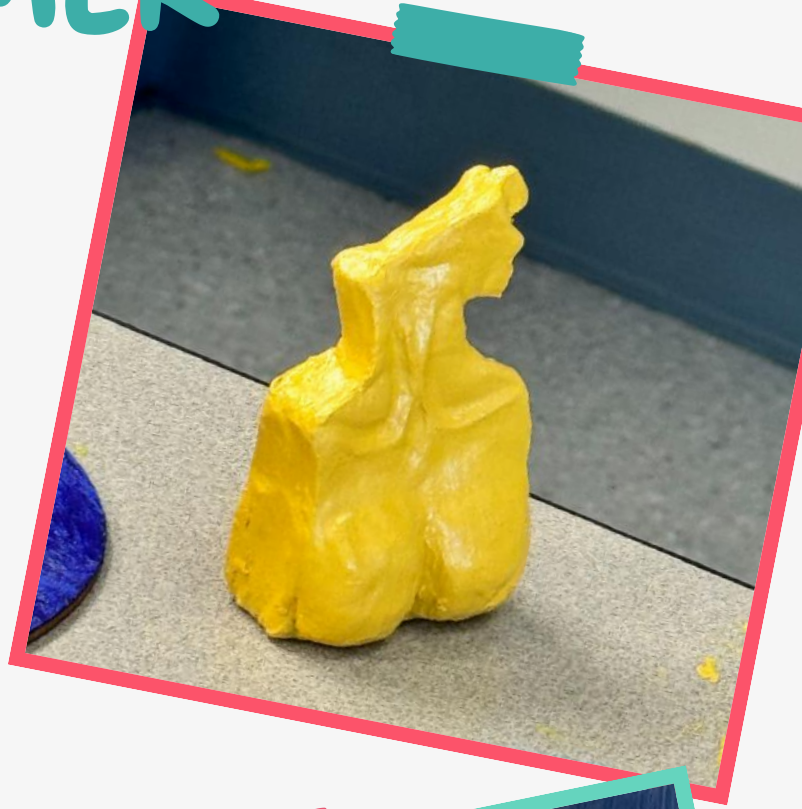
Shreta Rao
Hussein Farah
Daniel Singh
Xiangying (Jenny) Wang

HIGH SCHOOL SUMMER



Back to Kent Meridian!

This summer, students enjoyed a diverse range of activities that went beyond their regular schoolwork. They explored new skills and creative ideas, making the most of their break with engaging and enriching experiences.



Solar-Powered Robotics Project

STUDENTS LEARNED TO
CONSTRUCT BASIC ROBOTS,
GAINING INSIGHT INTO THEIR
MECHANICS AND TESTING THEM
WITH SUNLIGHT TO UNDERSTAND
RENEWABLE ENERGY.



**Field Trip is
everyone's fun day**



**DURING THEIR FIELD TRIPS TO THE
SEATTLE ART MUSEUM AND THE
MUSEUM OF FLIGHT, STUDENTS
EXPLORED VARIOUS EXHIBITS WITH
INFORMATIVE GUIDES. THE
EXPERIENCE DEEPENED THEIR
APPRECIATION FOR ART AND
AVIATION, INSPIRING THEIR
PROJECTS AND INTERESTS.**



MIDDLE SCHOOL SUMMER

CRB's Enriching SUMMER PROGRAM:

CRB organized a summer program for middle school students featuring engineering, science, robotics, art, nutrition, and hygiene activities. The program also focused on building friendships, including making collages, crafting friendship bracelets, and writing thank-you cards to help students express their emotions and understand empathy and gratitude in relationships.





Creativity is intelligence having fun

" — Albert Einstein



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HEALTHY TASTE TESTS:



SMOOTHIES,

SALADS,

AND FUN!"



STUDENTS BECAME
NUTRITION SLEUTHS,
DISCOVERING HOW FRUITS AND
VEGGIES BOOST HEALTH.
THEIR RESEARCH MADE
LEARNING ABOUT NUTRITION
BOTH EXCITING
AND INFORMATIVE



Healthy Living



Lets Move
Our Bodies



CELEBRATING TOGETHER!



RIYAC

2023-2024

Refugee & Immigrant Youth Advisory Council Newsletter

Our purpose is to present valuable information to newcomers, illustrate that newcomer youth are strong and can make the world a better place to live, plan community events to welcome and engage communities to improve the living conditions and quality of life in South King County, and provide educators with a better understanding of communities' cultures and experiences (such as trauma, daily challenges, barriers, etc.), and to create spaces for youth to be listened to.

FOOD RELATIONSHIPS

This year, RIYAC focused on deepening our community's understanding of food relationships and mental health. We conducted a comprehensive survey with 90 participants across South King County. We gathered insights on how proximity to grocery stores and food availability impacts their daily lives, including how often they skip meals due to a lack of food. To enhance our approach, we received training from Nurturing Roots, which taught us about available food resources, methods for growing food, and the importance of good nutrition. Building on this, we organized a workshop for elementary students to help them learn about the contents of their food and how to cultivate a healthy, positive relationship with what they eat.



COMMUNITY LISTENING PROJECT



As the year progressed, we expanded our focus to mental health by partnering with the King County Department of Community and Health Services Behavioral Health & Recovery Division. Together, we launched a community listening project to explore how mental health is perceived within our communities. This project, aimed at gathering and amplifying the voices of community members, is set to conclude towards the end of the year. Through these efforts, RIYAC has worked to create a more informed and supportive environment around both food and mental health in our community.



King County Public Health,
Girasol Counseling, and Shinnyo-
en Foundation

SPECIAL THANKS



- Environment change
- Job Training for young people
- Food sovereignty

PROJECTS FOR 2025

Ready to explore these fantastic projects? Visit our website to view and connect with our ongoing efforts.

[RIYAC-WA.ORG](https://riyac-wa.org)

Council Members: Mohammad Zobir Tarin (Chair), Isabella Le (Secretary), Bahar Vakil Ahmed, Sadaf Wali, Husneha Ghafoori, Luna Abraham, Monira Dima.



READING PROGRAM NEWSLETTER



This year, we provided programs at three locations throughout the school year and four separate programs during July. The topics included social-emotional learning (SEL), art, financial literacy, international games, storytelling, chess, and gardening.

S.E.L.

Students learned to name emotions and how they feel physically. They used colors to describe feelings, such as green with envy or red with anger.



Learning Around the World

Students spent the winter learning about art, games, and money from around the world. Activities included mapping where art forms originated and inventing their own money.



Sculpting and Carving



We instructed students in the art of sculpting using soap, clay, and wax. Each student received tools and clay to practice sculpting at their convenience.





Chess Bootcamp

The students honed strategy, sportsmanship, and composure through chess. They also developed vocabulary, reading skills, and critical thinking.



CHESS SIMUL ANYONE??



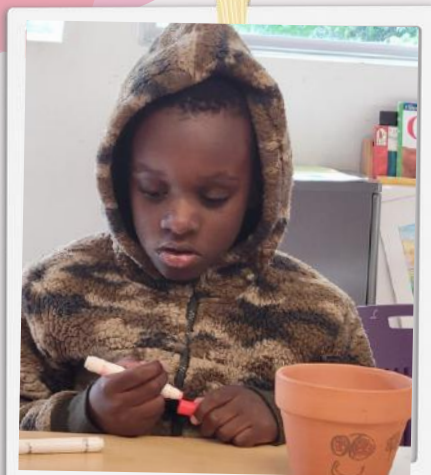
Storytellers

The students wrote short stories, starting with ones that were only one sentence long. They had worksheets to build a more extended story they presented as their final book to the class.



Green Thumbs

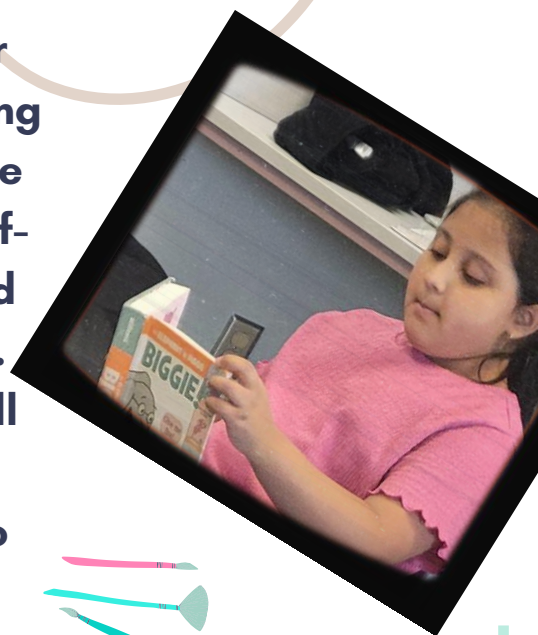
Students grew beans, planted a community garden, and learned vocabulary about botany and gardening. They learned to treat growing a garden as an experiment, taking notes on the progress of plants.





Daniel Elementary Summer

CRB provided a summer program in art and reading at Daniel Elementary. The class made mosaics, self-portraits, mandalas, and watercolor landscapes. Also, they did daily small projects, from drawing their favorite animals to playing Pictionary.



Field Trips!



CRB provided three field trips this year. In the fall, we went to the Point Defiance Zoo with our FEED partners. This summer, we visited the Seattle Art Museum and Morrill Meadows Park in Kent.

SUMMER SPLASH

CRB partnered with Kent Youth and Family Services for a summer program at three sites to prevent Summer Slide by focusing on reading and exploring mini-units.

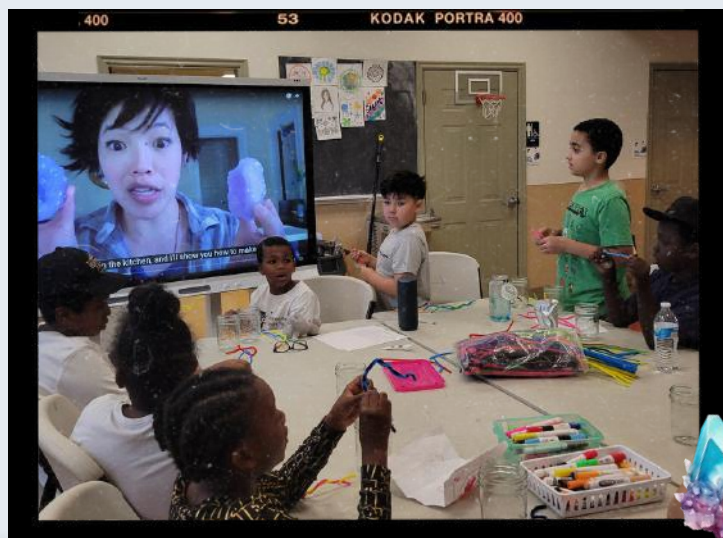
House of Cards



Music Exploration



ART & SCIENCE EXPLORATION



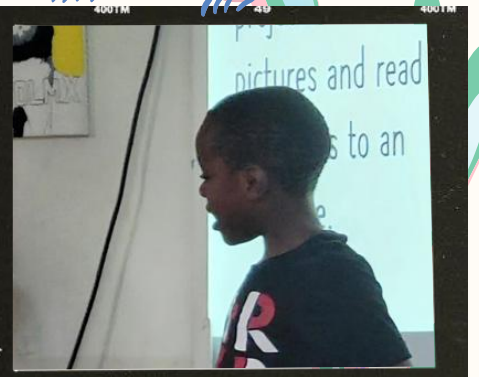
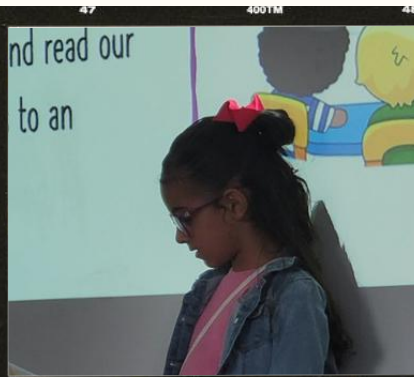
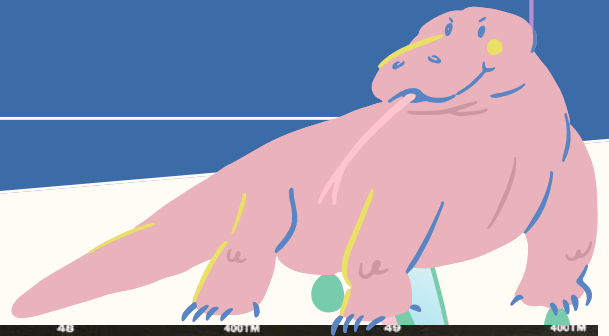
Splashes of Learning

Fifth-grade students create, play, and teach others the rules of the games they invented.





Researching and presenting facts about animals and their habitats.





YEP!

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Stefanie Pratt

Reading Program Lead

Nicholas Klacsanzky

Youth Program Lead

Adila Azad

Special Thanks

To our communities, funders, and partners.

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Communities of
Rooted Brilliance