

Xavier University's
Summer Reading Practicum
Top 10 Questions

Information about the History of the Summer Reading Practicum

Xavier's Summer Reading Practicum has been in existence for over 35 years. It was designed as part of the coursework for the M.Ed. degree and Reading Specialist Program for teacher who desired to become master teachers in the curricular area of reading education. The purpose of the Practicum is two-fold: 1.) To guide Graduate Students and Master Teachers in the art of teaching reading strategies to students who are challenged by the process; and, 2.) to offer a reading clinic where students in the primary, middle and upper level grades have an opportunity to strengthen their reading abilities and their enjoyment of reading through guided instruction that is both fundamental and fun.

The following are the top 10 questions asked each year by inquiring parents and guardians who send their children to the Summer Reading Practicum. It is hoped that this information will be helpful as you plan your child's summer activities.

1. What are the dates, times, grade levels and cost of the Summer Reading Camp?

Dates: Monday through Friday, June 12th-23rd, **June 19 off due to Holiday, Campus will be closed**

Time: 8:30am – 11:30am

Place: Xavier University Campus, Hailstones Hall

Grade Levels: 1 – 8

Cost: \$95 for 2-week session

Please sign up for the grade the student is going in to for the Fall.

*Make sure you are on time for drop-off and pick-up. We do not want your child to miss any of the exiting lessons or to worry if you are not there to pick them up after your lesson.

Students are required to attend both weeks due to the structure of the program.

2. How can I reach the Camp in case of an emergency? What should I do if my child is going to be late or absent?

Should you have an emergency event during the course of the Summer Reading Camp or if your child is going to be late or ill for any given day, please contact **Ms. Gillian Garcia, Communications Director for our program, at 513-745-3797, garciag6@xavier.edu**. She will promptly forward the information to one of the summer directors for immediate attention.

3. What is the dress code?

Students should wear comfortable clothing for indoors and/or outdoor learning environments.

4. Do we serve snacks?

We do not serve snacks to the students because of the prevalence of food allergies and dietary restrictions. However, if your child needs a snack for a medical condition, feel free to send the snack with your child each day of the camp. Please let the staff know, and we would be happy to remind your child to eat his/her snack at the appropriate time. It is very important that your child have a nourishing breakfast before he/she comes to the practicum that will sustain him/her during the tutoring times.

Remember: When the body is nourished, the mind can flourish!

5. Do the children get a break each morning?

Every day, part of the routine of the Summer Reading Camp is to take a short break, when appropriate, from the morning's activities for a restroom break, water and movement. Learning time is maximized. Restroom facilities are available when needed.

6. Will the Camp be limited to the indoors?

Some of the reading activities may be part of an outdoor activities. These activities are limited to campus. Children will be supervised at all times by their graduate tutors, and the Supervisors assigned to each grade level.

7. What materials does t child need to bring to the Summer Reading Camp?

All materials used in the program are provided by Xavier University and the Summer Reading practicum. Your tuition dollars are used in part to provide disposable materials from writing instruments, to paper, to books. In addition, teacher materials, idea books, games, trade texts are purchased to supplement lesson plans of the graduate tutors.

8. What is the Staffing Organization of the Practicum?

Directors:

- Dr. Delane Bender-Slack and Dr. Tammy Zilliox are the Summer Reading Directors and the instructors for the course entitled EDRE 679, Practicum in Reading. They are responsible for the day-to-day organization of the graduate coursework, and the tutoring schedule, and the consistency of the curriculum for your child.

Supervisors:

- There are eight (8) Master professors who work for the Summer Reading Practicum and assist Dr. Laney Bender-Slack and Dr. Tammy Zilliox as supervisors for each of the grade level curriculum, lesson planning, and classroom management.

Graduate Students

- The classroom tutors for the Summer Reading Practicum are master teachers who are completing both their Reading Endorsement, K012 as a highly qualified reading teacher and/or their M.Ed. in Reading. This course is generally the capstone course for their degree. The average ratio of tutor to student is 3:1.

9. Describe the Curriculum of the Summer Reading Camp.

The Practicum is an individualized reading program that analyzes the strengths and weaknesses of the students who attend, and develops curriculum focused on developmentally appropriate reading strategies that will enhance each student's reading abilities. All of the materials introduced, practiced, and reviewed are based upon the Language Arts Curriculum, K-12, and are developed from the Ohio State Department of Education guidelines. We concentrate on all areas of the reading process: reading, writing, speaking and listening each day, in every planned lesson.

There will be both individual; instruction and group instruction developed around a theme selected by the Graduate Master Teachers. Each grade level will have its own physical classroom space and designated area of study.

10. Classroom Visitation

During the course of the Summer Reading Camp, parents/guardians will not be allowed to visit the classroom while the tutoring is in progress. The best teaching and learning happen when the student can concentrate and not be distracted by family observations.

There will be an update/newsletter of progress and activities at the end of each week of the Summer Reading Practicum. The final newsletter will also include an individual report of your child's progress and work, along with suggestions for home support until school resumes this Fall.

On the last day of the Summer Reading Camp, families will be invited to the Closing Celebration. You will receive an invitation to the festivities at the end of the first week of the practicum.

NOTE: Reading Camp will end and children will leave with their parents after the Closing Celebration.

Should you have any further questions or concerns, please contact our Communications Director, Ms. Gillian Garcia, 513-745-3797 and/or garciag6@xavier.edu . She will forward your concerns to the appropriate person(s). Most questions or concerns will be answered by the next business day of the University.