

Jamaican Literacy Camp 2008 Results

What we did:

- Provided 2 weeks of residential camp for 70 children
- Provided school supplies for teachers and students
 - notebooks, pencils, paper, books, incentives
- Hired 6.5 Jamaican teachers (13 half day teachers)
- Hired support staff including:
 - Cooks, cleaners, groundskeeper, night monitors, nurse
- Rented school classrooms, dormitories and kitchen facilities
- Provided 3 hot nutritious meals daily
- Provided exposure to computer technology

Provided a Memorable Experience that created Changes in:

- Positive Attitudes towards learning
- Increased Self-esteem
- Improved Levels of Literacy
- Desire to stay in school

Most Students Experienced,

For the First Time in their 10 or 11 years of life,

- Academic Success
- Individual attention in a learning setting
- Small group instruction
- Diagnosis and remediation of reading problems
- Praise
- Acceptance
- Hope

These children wanted to be there and wanted to learn!

Gained in confidence to speak up and offer answers and ideas

For example, one student named Reno, had very positive results:

- scored 80% on word recognition

- declared himself a "reader"

- believed that he could go back to school in September and be successful... so proud that he could read!

- his parents were so grateful with the experience and proud of him

Test Results

Pre-test

- consisted of word recognition, only

- majority could not read basic sight words, such as “ball”, “play”, “go”
(could show sample ‘word list’)

Post test

- consisted of word recognition, reading comprehension and a writing task

Word recognition

73% of children achieved 90% or better

Reading Comprehension

19% of children achieved 70% or better

Writing Task

36.5% of children achieved 70% or better

Overall Test Results

87% of children ‘passed’ the whole test (ie. >50% on test)