



“STUDENTS EXPERIENCE CUMULATIVE SUMMER LEARNING LOSSES THROUGHOUT THEIR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL YEARS.

SUMMER SLIDE AFFECTS MILLIONS OF CHILDREN EACH YEAR IN THIS COUNTRY—BUT IT DOESN'T HAVE TO.” (WWW.RIF.ORG)

Dear Parent or Guardian,

Thank you for your interest in the YMCA READS! Summer literacy program. **This free program will give your child the opportunity to increase his/her reading skills over the 2015 summer break.** The students will practice phonics, sight word recognition, spelling, fluency and comprehension.

This YMCA READS! program has a full-time coordinator, part-time assistant, and volunteer mentors on site each day. The coordinator will provide curriculum and training, and recruit volunteer mentors to work with the children. All of the staff and mentors will have to complete background checks.

Your child may be referred to the program based on his/her assessments and teacher recommendations. *Your child will be assigned to attend 2-4 days a week.* **The session times are Monday-Thursday from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Semester 1 will begin on June 9th and end June 23rd, 2015. Semester 2 will begin on June 24th and end on July 15th.** All K-12 Summer School Programs will be closed the entire week of June 29th - July 3rd. Breakfast and lunch will be served at no cost to you. You will be notified by both a phone call and a letter. Placement will be made to maximize groups based on assessment test results.

Since this is a summer program, your child may stay in the program until 2:00 PM on the days he/she attends YMCA READS! We do ask that you make a commitment to this program by making certain your child attends on a regular basis and picking up your child on time. A waiting list will be made after the total number of trained tutors meets the 2-1 student to mentor ratio.

Attendance is one of the biggest factors negatively affecting learning at YMCA READS! Attendance is required to continue the program. **Without exception, any child with 3 unexcused absences or late pick-ups will be replaced with another student from the waiting list.**

To start your child in the program, you must complete and return a registration form to the teacher unless your child is already registered in the YMCA READS! after-school program for the 2014-2015 school year. Once the registration form is received, you will be contacted. **Only students in grades K-1 for the 2014-2015 school year will be eligible to attend.**

The deadline to return the application is May 15th, 2015. After that time, no new students will be accepted. This letter is given with specific purpose to those students who can benefit most. However, **returned applications will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis.** Therefore, do not hesitate to turn in your application as soon as possible!

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