Becoming a Successful Reader!

A big theme at CDSA is reading together! It comes in many forms... child-led reading where kids read out loud to other kids, volunteer readers visiting from other community based organizations, like Refugee Women's Alliance (REWA), group trips to the local library for story time, and partnerships with literacy programs like Team Read, whose young staff come for one-on-one reading time. Pictured above is CDSA Intern Malcolm Nelson from Washington State University.

Team Read’s ‘Big Top Book Night’ gave CDSA a chance to set up games that promoted literacy for families and kids to try out at our CDSA family engagement table (bottom left). This event was a huge success, with over 10 Team Read partner agencies, and 400 families attending!
CDSA Summer Camp Volunteer Mentors

CDSA is grateful to its volunteer mentors, who bring their hearts and talents to our sites for show & tell, and answering great questions from kids exploring what they feel passionate about. Thank you all!

**Trish Bostrom, Wimbledon Tennis Pro**
Trish was one of the 1st women professional tennis players to play at Wimbledon. Today Trish is an estate planning lawyer at Bostrom Law Offices in Seattle.

Each of the tennis balls being held up in this photo represents a dream called out by a child, as Trish tossed each of them a ball...

Once they held their ball, Trish asked them to share a few ‘sub-goals’ that would help them achieve their dream. This mirrored Trish’s own story of how she got to Wimbledon -- first setting a high goal, her dream, and then filling in ‘sub-goals’ to help her get there. Her goals included getting into a free tennis league, finishing school, and then getting into a college with a tennis team. Trish completed her inspiring presentation by playing the BANJO for kids, who requested and joined in singing songs like “Old McDonald Had a Farm”.

**Cassandra Manuelito-Kerkvliet, President of Antioch University**
Cassandra shared the history of her Native American background, including stories about her great-great-grandfather Chief Manuelito, who signed the Navajo Treaty of 1968. Chief Manuelito said: “Education is the ladder to success, tell my grandchildren to climb that ladder.”

...Cassandra has lived by these words. CDSA kids learned from Cassandra how to count to 5 in the Navajo language. Cassandra also brought Navajo baskets & rugs and shared the meaning of the woven patterns. She finished her presentation by offering a blessing to kids, using her precious eagle feather, which is only legal for Native Americans to own.

**Nyasha Tunduwani, IT Business Owner**
A tech industry guru, Nyasha has over 9 years of experience as a Technology Solutions Advisor. Nyasha shared how he grew up in a rural village in Africa with no electricity or any entertainment needing electricity, which is when he first learned to play chess. The thinking skills he used in chess went on to help Nyasha one day develop his own IT business.

Kids asked if Nyasha’s village now has i-phones, and the answer was YES... along with internet and computers. But no doubt folks still gather together to enjoy a good game of chess... like CDSA ‘chess club’ students shared with Nyasha after his presentation!

**Dr. Hugh Foy, Harborview Surgeon & Professor of Surgery at UW School of Medicine**
Hugh shared how being a surgeon at Harborview means being part of a team where everyone has a roll and works together. He showed a ‘visual tour’ of an operating room, and kids learned about air pressure and how reading & math are part of his job.

Hugh also showed kids the REI headlamp he carries in his pocket, for seeing really well, the same way a carpenter carries tools on a tool belt. When CDSA kids came up with examples of jobs that require a person to be brave like a surgeon, their creative examples: zoologist, astronaut, policeman and cowboy!
CDSA Welcomes Abby Maclean to the Team!

CDSA is proud to welcome our new Operations Program Specialist, Abby Maclean, who joins us with over two decades of Preschool - 6th grade classroom experience, and over six years of Education Administration Leadership experience in the field.

Her work in designing, implementing, and measuring curriculum has included supervising a multi-site Migrant and Seasonal Head Start program in Hood River, OR as well as developing and designing an integrated two year curriculum for a K-6 School in Mosier, Oregon. Pictured here is Abby instructing character development, focused attention, and body regulation, in a CDSA yoga course.

Summer Learning Math Teacher, Len Hill

Len Hill is a member of our CDSA staff team over the summer, and is a Hawthorne Seattle Public School teacher during the school year. Many of CDSA’s Hawthorne summer camp children will join Mr. Hill’s classroom in the Fall, after they’ve worked with him all day for our 11-week summer camp program.

Their time together has included classroom style learning, like the math class pictured here (right), as well as layers of memory-making enrichment learning experiences they’ve shared together throughout Seattle. CDSA staff will continue to collaborate with Mr. Hill in the Fall, when many of these same children (left) will continue on in CDSA’s after school learning program.

Center Director Christine Stark

CDSA’s Madrona Center Director, Christine, recently attended a convention for the National Association of Education for Young Children, focused on developmentally appropriate teaching practices. After returning to Seattle, she led a training with her peer CDSA Center Directors, to share highlights on topics ranging from differentiated instruction and individualized learning plans, to working effectively with cross-agency collaborations.
Partnering with Schools to Increase Collective Impact

Press Conference at Beacon Hill

CDSA was proud to be chosen as the community based organization to be featured in a recent press conference with Mayor McGinn, Seattle Public Schools’ new Superintendent, and the Principal of Beacon Hill International School. Our Director of Development, Catherine Willis Cleveland, spoke about CDSA’s holistic approach to helping kids succeed in school and in life. She also acknowledged that it takes the support of the Families & Education Levy, United Way of King County, and individual donors to make our multi-faceted program possible.

Press clip can be viewed at:
http://www.seattlechannel.org/videos/video.asp ID=1061356

Hawthorne Principal Sandra Scott

One of the other leaders impacting our CDSA kids is the Principal at each of our on-site Seattle Public School locations. Without their devotion to our program, and vision for the supplemental learning beyond the classroom which we offer, our work would not be possible. Pictured here is Principal Sandra at this all day collaborative training with her team of Hawthorne teachers and CDSA teachers.

Above Right: Teachers co-create their own history lesson ‘pod-cast’ — in this instance the ‘Bugle Boy’ song overlaid with interviews of the ‘Captain of Company B’, and the concerned wife of Bugle Boy.

Back at school, here’s Sandra with Hawthorne Elementary and CDSA afterschool student Lucas, who was the lucky winner of a drawing to become a ‘Principal for a Day’. Lucas shadowed his mentor Principal Sandra, and even got to announce recess over the school loudspeaker!

All Staff Training with Partner Agencies

CDSA teachers are learners too. Pictured here is an all-staff training where speakers from Schools Out Washington, Child Care Resources, and Public Health are leading a dialogue on techniques for engaging children according to their individual needs.
To empower children, we give them ‘voice’ through journaling, singing, and even play-writing. Preparing a play together develops creativity and builds skills in group cooperation. In this summer activity, script-writing, set design, and character-acting culminated in a visit to the Paramount Theatre, where CDSA kids got to stand in the spotlight, literally, and dream BIG!

Lights, Camera, Action at Paramount

A visit to the outdoor sculptures at the Ballard Locks

Students spend a day at Seattle’s Sculpture Park

CDSA staff at Annual Kimball Art Walk where families marked on a world map where they want to visit

Visiting Local Art

The new MOHAI museum, on the shore of South Lake Union, offered CDSA kids plenty of hands on earning -- from a historic Seattle movie that incorporates time period music & 3 dimensional moving sets. Pictured here, kids build their own railroad track! Kids also loved another Seattle favorite, the EMP.

MOHAI and Experience Music Project
CDSA kids enjoy hands-on science experiments, which offer a chance to test theories, question facts, and grow innovative thinking. It’s also a chance to have a good laugh! Pictured here, kids test the theory of whether or not a banana peel really is as slippery as the cartoon’s say they are, and watch the impact of a breath mint on a large carbonated bottle of soda pop! Kids help come up with these Myth Busters experiments themselves, as one of the many ways we help kids feel engaged in their own learning.

Over 300 CDSA family members and staff joined for this year’s CDSA Zoo Day! Families enjoyed Woodland Park Zoo’s new otter exhibit, and much more, including a CDSA goody bag!

Other field trips to Woodland Park Zoo are coupled with learning in math and literacy. Reading books containing animal characters, and visualizing ratios in math by drawing zoo animals ‘to scale’ are examples of ways we help bring classroom lessons alive, while also preserving the FUN of summer!

CDSA teamed up again with Technology Access Foundation this summer to teach CDSA kids robotics & computer programming. Such an early start in computer technology can provide a foundation for kids to one day fill the many TECH jobs of our region!
Nutrition and Wellness

Concentration and learning are best supported with healthy bodies, and at CDSA we incorporate a focus on nutrition and wellness into our curriculum.

For starters, we provide breakfast and two healthy snacks each day, which comply with guidelines established by the Federal Food program, from whom we receive funding.

We also team up with local resources for a range of wellness education. Pictured here are just a few of our partners, collaborating with CDSA kids & staff to help promote good health in exciting ways!

Solid Ground’s ‘Cooking Matters’

Chefs from Solid Ground help teach math to CDSA kids too, through measuring and ratios, while engaging them with nutritional recipes that even include how to sauté! Pictured here is graduation day, after 6 weeks, when CDSA kids proudly receive their “Cooking Matters” certificates.

Pacific Science Center at CDSA

A visitor from the Pacific Science Center, shows CDSA kids the wonder of the human brain – both by viewing an actual brain with its various lobes, and by getting to chance to wear ‘brain goggles’, to experience how our brains control balance through eyesight.

Learning about Healthy Lungs

The American Academy of Physicians sponsored a ‘Tar Wars’ class where kids learned about the importance of breathing clean air to maintain healthy pink lungs.

Ropes Course & Hiking Discovery Park

(Left) CDSA kids navigate a ‘bridge building’ obstacle course -- a chance to combine fitness with an early lesson in engineering!

(Right) Hiking the beaches of Discovery Park provided CDSA kids with a hands on context for learning about plants, animals, insects, and eco-systems!
With your help, our non-profit serves over 1,000 children, ages 3-12, in 9 Seattle Public School locations

Our outcome results are complete for 2012-2013, and it’s good news!

Our School Age kids achieved 92% academic growth and 90% socio-emotional growth on surveys completed by Seattle School Teachers, CDSA Teachers, and Parents. CDSA Preschool results averaged 92% over 6 areas measured.

We’re grateful to ALL who’ve supported CDSA kids... their success is yours too!

Funding awarded this month:

United Way of King County  $100,000  
Sheng-Yen Lu Foundation  $10,000  
Lucky 7 Foundation  $5,000  
T-Mobile  $5,000 plus in-kind service

Other recent funding and in-kind support, including free & reduced admission to Seattle's many attractions:

T-Mobile at Leschi Elementary

Over 200 Volunteers from T-Mobile came to Leschi Elementary to paint Leschi and CDSA classrooms! They also donated art supplies, installed cubbies, & beautified our site with new furniture!

Another summer work project was generously offered by a Starbucks volunteer team who painted our Hawthorne site!

To donate to our Designated Scholarship Fund or enroll your child go to: communitydayschool.org