

## STEM

**STEMenrichment: Where Science, Technology, Engineering and Math meet Fun!**

Utilizing Lego Education products, campers enjoyed a hands-on building experience. Each day campers, working in teams, built, tested and modified a Lego model that explored STEM concepts. Incorporating STEM opportunities for our campers and getting them engaged and excited about studying science, technology, engineering and math helps them to be equipped with the knowledge and skills to solve problems, gather and evaluate evidence, and make sense of information. A part of the culminating camp activity included a STEM Expo where campers presented their projects to an audience.



## Additional Camp Activities

- ◆ Daily Bible Lesson
- ◆ Play 60 (Outside Recreation)
- ◆ Weekly visit to Wylie Park Pool
- ◆ Computer Lab Time
- ◆ Bowling at Kershaw Bowling Alley
- ◆ Skating at Kate's Skating Center
- ◆ Movie at Regal Theater
- ◆ Arts & Crafts
- ◆ Weekly Spanish Lesson
- ◆ Board Games
- ◆ Day at Bethelwoods Camp

## Computer Lab

Campers have access to a five station computer lab.



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## Summer Enrichment Camp

Reading and Math

Computer Time

STEM Activities

Fieldtrips

Recreational Activities

## Summer Enrichment Camp

As the school year draws to a close, many students will be preparing to take a break from learning – but Pleasant Ridge Presbyterian Church offers a unique summer program that combines academics with recreation and propels students towards success.

We recognized to generate enthusiasm and excitement for a summer program that we needed to provide a program that was relevant, integrated and age appropriate. We were committed to creating an atmosphere that inspires a lifelong love of learning and helps each camper to reach his or her potential. We took into consideration that students learn best in an environment of sharing, caring, laughing, questioning, risk-taking and safe.

In the summer of 2014, Pleasant Ridge Presbyterian Church embarked on a greater level of youth ministry and established Young Disciples Academy (YDA). One component of the ministry was the Summer Enrichment Camp. The mission of the YDA Summer Enrichment Camp is to facilitate quality-based and innovative educational opportunities for children of the Lancaster community.

The YDA Summer Enrichment Camp provides a holistic, comprehensive summer program with both academic and non-academic activities. The camp is held daily from 9:00 to 5:00 and runs for 8 weeks. Camp activities include a camp-wide reading program, focus on STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) where students create a project using Legos and field trip excursions. Participation in the camp is based on first come first serve. Twenty-six slots are available.



## YDA Campers “Dive Into Reading”

Summer reading programs are a great enrichment opportunity. These programs encourage children to read, help children retain reading skills over the summer and can help to develop a lifelong habit of reading.

### 2014

- ◆ Provided 30 minutes daily for independent reading.
- ◆ Provided activities to strengthen and enhance reading skills and concepts.
- ◆ Read and discussed book, Charlotte’s Web. Followed up with trip to watch the movie at Epic Center in Charlotte.

### 2015

- ◆ Continued to provide time for independent reading and focused work on reading skills.
- ◆ At the heart of this camp’s activity, was the writing and producing of a modern day original play.

### 2016

- ◆ Encouraged each camper to read at least 25 books during weeks camp was held.
- ◆ Provided incentives to read and continue reading with logo, **Readers Are Leaders** (dog tag with chain, water bottle, drawstring backpack, tee shirt).
- ◆ Celebration at Dave & Buster’s for reaching reading goal of 25 books.

### 2017

- ◆ **Read for the WIN!** - -Students read mystery and sports books and completed related activities in small groups.



## Field Trip Excursions

While field trips take a great deal of work, energy and money, broadening the horizons of the campers is worth it. Field trips expose children to different cultural aspects of the world around them. Field trips to historical sites and science or art museums give students hands-on learning experiences to explore concepts and exposes students to cultural experiences they might not experience otherwise. Field trips take the book learning from the classroom and extend it to real life.

### 2014-2017 Field Trip Excursions

#### South Carolina Field Trip Excursions

State Capitol, EdVenture, Riverbanks Zoo, Myrtle Beach

#### North Carolina Field Trip Excursions

Discovery Place, Bird Sanctuary, ImaginOn

#### Georgia Field Trip Excursion

Martin Luther King’s Historical Site

**Washington, DC Field Trip Excursion** - 2 day tour of historical sites/museums

