

UConn

HUSKY SPORT

READY, SET, READ! PROGRAM REPORT

2018 - 2019

Get Active! Change the Game!

UConn

NEAG SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

READY, SET, READ! PROGRAM REPORT

2018 - 2019 Annual Report

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Program Overview

Ready, Set, Read! is a literacy skill building initiative engaging elementary age students and their teachers as part of Husky Sport's school-time programs. Each week students in grades Pre-K to 2nd grade are engaged in a lesson focusing on a section of the USDA My Plate, physical literacy skill and life skill. Each lesson includes a dynamic read aloud, an interactive game/activity and once a month, a healthy tasting to showcase one section of the My Plate.

Program Scope

Dynamic Read Alouds: Program Leaders engaged students in dynamic read alouds of new children's book each week

Diverse Children's Books: Books were chosen each week that were representative of Wish School

Family Engagement: Families were invited to join their student's Ready, Set, Read! class to read and participate in class activities

Bilingual Instruction & Materials: Materials and children's books this year were offered in English and Spanish to ensure all students could understand and participate

Hands on Learning Opportunities: Each month students engaged in a hands on cooking opportunity to reinforce healthy eating and the MyPlate



Over 24 weeks, a total of 8 classes participated in "Read Mondays"

154 Pre-K - 2nd Grade Students

7 Healthy Tastings

48 Children's Books Read

5 Mystery Readers/
Family Volunteers

Curriculum & Lesson Planning

Cycle	Life Skill	Physical Activity	Nutrition	Tasting
1	Relationship Building	Introduction to Physical Literacy	Introduction to the My Plate	Apple Tuna Salad Sandwich
2	Respect	Agility	Vegetables	Ants On A Log (With Sunbutter)
3	Hands & Feet to Self	Balance	Fruits	Melon Avocado Smoothies
4	Relationship Building	Flexibility	Dairy	Yogurt Banana Split
5	Be Responsible	Strength	Protein	Fruit & Sunbutter Wraps
6	Teamwork/ Be Yourself	Team Building Exercises	MyPlate	Whole Wheat Strawberry Pancakes
7	Be There, Be Ready	Hand/Eye Coordination	Grains	Nut Free Trail Mix

Each week a lesson focused on one of the themes in the current cycle. Themes include a Life Skill, related to PBIS, Physical Activity and Nutrition; tastings occurred the last week of each cycle. As a literacy program, a read-aloud was prepared every week with a book that connected to the day's theme (ie. Milk: From Cow to Carton by Aliki; Nutrition: Dairy). Program Leaders planned intentional pre and post reading questions to engage students. It was effective when Program Leaders connected with classroom teachers to support their reading instruction. For example, to support first graders in retelling stories, it was incorporated to have students sequence events during read-alouds.



For preschool students, a book was read along with a snack tasting. The focus is to introduce the MyPlate and have students explore and try new foods using their five senses. Some tastings included cucumbers, turkey/cheese rollups, mangos and bell peppers.

Pillar Focus



Nutrition Education

During each cycle, students participated and took part in monthly tastings that connected to the MyPlate with a variety of healthy options that enriched their experience during programming.

Academic Enrichment

For every week during programming, a book that was representative of the student demographic population, the themes for the cycle, or representative of other identities or groups was intentionally chosen to develop and enrich their reading comprehension.

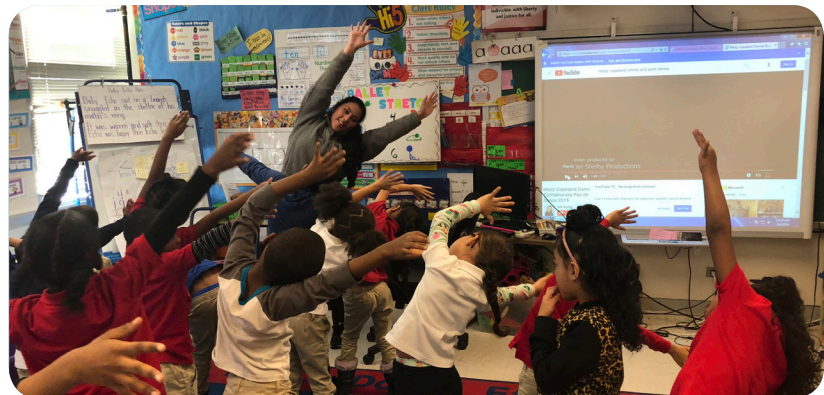


Life Skill Development

Husky Sport staff strived to support student growth and social development in the classroom by reminding the students and following the expectations that were established in the classroom and rewarding students for following those expectations.

Physical Activity

Husky Sport staff supported student development in Physical Literacy by scaffolding and differentiating activities based on student ability and building those key foundational skills.



Mystery Reader Program

In the 2018-2019 academic year, Husky Sport Program Leaders coordinating the Ready, Set, Read! Program created a new initiative to engage families and community leaders within our program. Through the school year parents were invited to come in and surprise students by reading a book during Read Mondays. This was a way for students to develop enjoyment in reading, see different perspectives and skill sets, and promote family engagement at the school. Parents could choose to run a small group activity or do a read aloud that connected to our themes.



Positive Behavior Engagement

Husky Sport staff strive to engage students in programming, and a part of that is following the PBIS framework in place at Wish. Students receive tickets for positive behavior, which is then used for a weekly raffle wherein students can receive a book and time for Lunch Bunch with Husky Sport staff members. Expectations for how to earn tickets are followed by the school's "High-Five Rules", which include:

- Be respectful
- Be responsible
- Hands and feet to self
- Be there, be ready
- Follow directions

Staff and teachers are not limited to the High-Five rules and give tickets based on other positive behaviors as well. Students can use their tickets to purchase prizes at the Wish School Store.

Top Three Ticket Totals by Class:

1st Place: Albee (1st grade)
918 tickets

2nd Place: Satchell (Kindergarten)
885 tickets

3rd Place: Ellison (1st grade)
872 tickets



Ready, Set, Read! Annual Evaluation



Each year, students in the Ready, Set, Read! Program participate in a program evaluation to collect their feedback on their experience with the Ready, Set, Read! program, literacy in their classroom and their feeling about their school Positive Behavior program (PBIS). Data is collected while students participate in an obstacle course, stopping at “pit stops” to answer a series of questions. Following the evaluation, students enjoy an outdoor recess with Husky Sport program leaders to celebrate the end of the year!

2019 Spring Evaluation Scope:

7

Participating
Classrooms

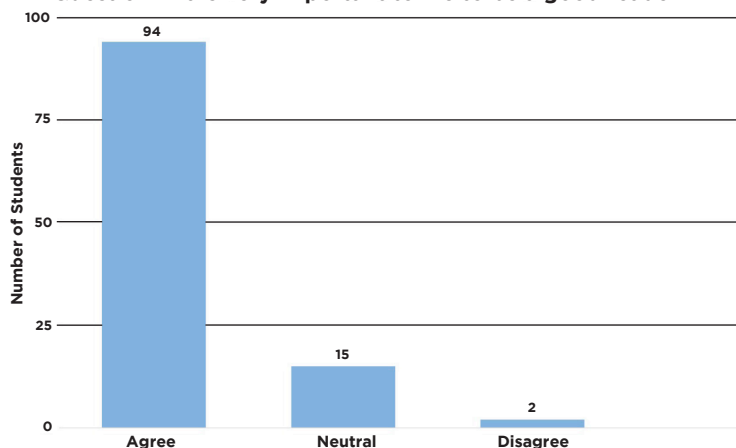
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Questions
Asked

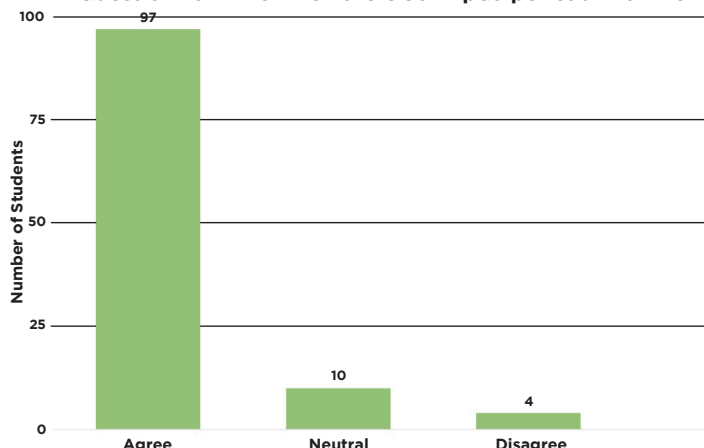
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Total
Participants

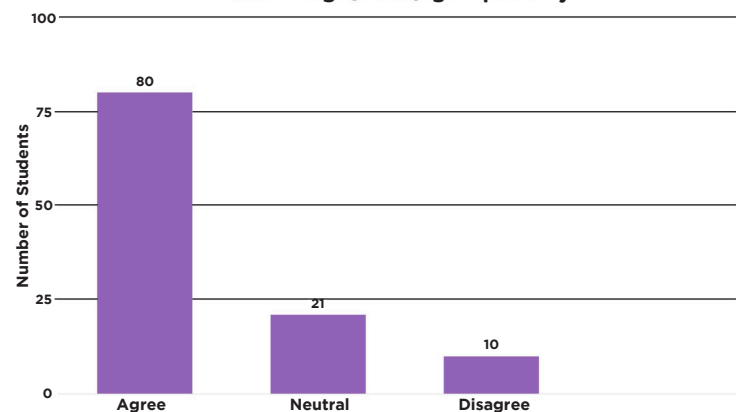
Question 1: It is very important to me to be a good reader



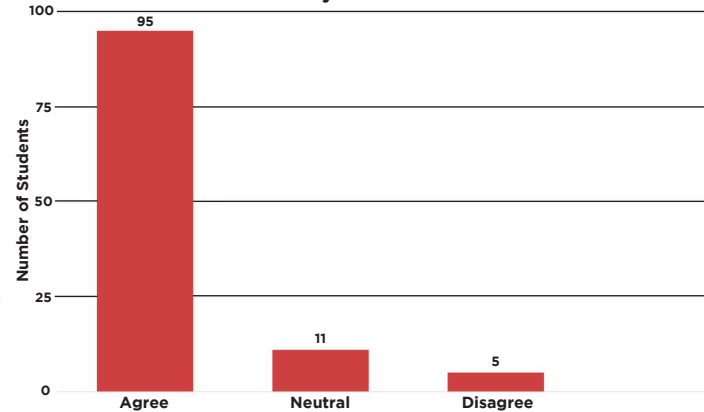
Question 10: I like when the UConn people read with me



Question 11: Reading in small groups is my favorite



Question 6: I like when my teacher reads to the whole class



Looking Ahead/ Lessons Learned

Lessons Learned

Due to time constraints, shorten books by strategically selecting pages that capture the essence of the book and is cohesive for flow. When possible, try reading the books in advance and putting sticky notes or paper clips on pages

To keep younger students engaged during read alouds, check for understanding by asking meaningful questions and eliciting whole group responses. Ex. When you hear the word rice, say yum!

Ask students about their prior knowledge of a particular topic before asking the Question of the Day or make a connection to everyday life to personalize.



Continue mystery readers and inviting family members as well as community leaders to read for programming. Children love it and so do parents!

Looking Ahead

Combine classes for tastings with the younger ones as it allows for community building amongst the students in the same grade level and has proven to be efficient for program leaders.

Two program leaders reading a book at the same time adds voice variation which promotes active engagement amongst students as they follow along with the text.