

4Kids, a Program Summary

4Kids believes every child has within themselves the capacity to fulfill a destiny of amazing potential. It is up to us as a community to help them see and experience this truth, and to assist them in unlocking their own abilities. With patient encouragement, positive belief and hard work they can be all they are meant to be!

Empowering kids now for a bright future is the 4Kids mission!

Our Strategy

Using a three pronged strategy 4Kids empowers kids to believe in themselves. By building relationships, nurturing hope and practically equipping kids with skills for living we help them develop habits of moral excellence, and leadership while reaching higher levels of academic achievement.

Our goal is to ensure they realize self-worth through real experiences of success while learning the perseverance necessary to overcome personal obstacles. Relationships are established which bring hope through consistency and determination. Practical equipping is accomplished by modeling the characteristics we expect to see as we participate in tutoring and extracurricular achievement programs. The true benefit is the partnering relationships being built that will better the entire community.



Building Relationships



Nurturing Hope



Practically Equipping

Outcomes tell the Story.

To date outcomes have been measured through self-assessment by the kids and staff review of both behavioral data and academic achievement. In every instance the overall findings indicate improvement. Behavioral referrals have dropped, personal academic achievement has improved and students remark that spending time with the 4Kids team has impacted both their attitudes and actions positively. The key to success is the weekly class for 6th graders called Leadership Academy. This trains kids to regard themselves as leaders and learn to take responsibility for their own development, personally and academically. The future looks brighter in the eyes of these students and attitude is more than half the battle!

Program Overview

After school Homework Help, 2011-2019



Description:

Volunteers work one on one with students requiring extra help on homework or catch up assignments. Typically 4Kids volunteers are in class with a grade level teacher, providing personal support for students who might otherwise be on their own to accomplish their schoolwork.

Benefits include:

- Personal attention and encouragement for students
- Help with focus and building perseverance and initiative
- Identification of needs beyond normal
- Increased comprehension

After School Achiever Projects, 2011-2019



Description:

Designed to facilitate experiential learning and group collaboration Achiever Projects are 4-6 weeks academic enhancement sessions designed to support multi-week curriculum projects. Volunteers support kids by helping them expand skills necessary for the research and development of larger projects. Depending on the topic, AP sessions may include guest speakers who lend credible expertise and the excitement levels build as we learn to combine talents and help each other succeed. Peer-to-Peer Mentoring is encouraged with older students participating as helpers in projects they've previously completed bringing community and camaraderie to the projects.

Benefits include:

- Higher achievement levels for all involved students
- First time successes for under achieving students, students who typically may not have completed large project work at all are receiving A's and B's
- Student collaboration skills are built and kids learn to help each other grow and succeed
- Guest speakers offer additional credibility to the in-class lessons and excitement for learning is increased
- Teachers are included in Learning Sessions yet are viewed in a different light as they are helping rather than leading. Relationships are built fostering communication student to teacher and between staff

Broadway Buddies Program



Description:

Serving as an extracurricular activity designed to both build relationships and offer student growth opportunities, Broadway Buddies is for those who may benefit from a more hands-on experience with professional Theatre. Manners and etiquette training is combined with back stage tours and then attendance at a live Broadway performance. Students gain insight on career opportunities in the Arts.

Benefits include:

- Unique opportunity for a behind the scenes look at careers in the Arts, Exposure for students to career opportunities for those with creative gifting
- Relationship building with kids who will gain from special recognition
- Opportunities for the kids to receive instruction on behavior from an external source in confirmation of training received on moral excellence

Special Clubs – Chess



Description:

Student initiated clubs that we as a community can support have arisen from requests as a result of relationships. Chess Club is one such club that 4Kids helps to facilitate with the help of a local college player. It has proven to be an amazing avenue to build relationships and allow students to develop personal leadership skills.

Benefits include:

- Student are developing strategic thinking skills requiring longer term planning
- Students who enjoy mind challenges are finding an outlet in a setting, which also facilitates community and relationship building
- Initiation of club by students with the help of a specialist from UK has allowed practice on the development of real time leadership skills
- Mock tournament play has focused energies on purposeful learning
- Beginners and Intermediate players are learning to purposefully mix so student led teaching and mentoring is taking place

Reading Intervention 2011-2019



Description:

Both in class tutoring and response to intervention help has been provided by 4Kids. Our volunteers can be found both in specialized reading classes and assisting students one on one outside of class. In addition, mature volunteers have been trained to assist in obtaining intervention assessment information for staff by meeting with students and working through specific exercises.

Weekly volunteers build trust with the lower performing students and we see them respond as they are simply helped one on one to believe in their own ability to learn. Similar to other off-site programs, in Reading Intervention we aim to instill confidence one child at a time. The key difference is that all students are potentially able to receive our help during their school day.

Benefits include:

- One to one relationships for students needing individualized attention
- Identification of life issues have led students into avenues for additional help, mentor relationships have developed
- Weekly volunteers expand staff capacity at school
- Adult volunteers expand the reliable network of community support for kids

Organizational and Learning help - 2012-2019



Description:

Academic Enhancement was identified as a need of 55 kids at our pilot school in the 2012-13 school year. They required intervention in most all subject areas and were placed in a class which offered specific extra help. 4Kids was called in to help in tutoring, but it soon became obvious that help with basic study skills, organization, goal setting and morale building would be necessary to truly impact student performance.

A responsive program was developed for these kids called Leadership Academy. Various topics were covered that related to needs identified in collaboration with the Intervention staff and an Incentive Rewards program was also implemented. End of Year recognition of their completion of Leadership Academy and overall improvement was a significant highlight for the majority of kids.

Benefits include:

- Individual attention offered to a specific group of at-risk kids allows for discovery of gifts and recognition of success, which leads to their growth
- Student morale was built person by person in kids often regarded as behavior problems. It is the individual attention that makes the difference
- Academic Achievement improvement was recorded in all but a handful of kids who judging from their smiles at Awards day programs were very proud of their personal accomplishments
- Behavioral referrals school wide dropped significantly this school year in part due to this program

School-wide Assemblies



Description:

Working in conjunction with the school administration 4Kids has helped orchestrate a series of school wide assemblies designed to positively impact school culture and introduce kids to our community impact team. Selecting speakers with dynamic personalities capable of delivering targeted messages has been a pattern now for three years. Having the 4Kids team participate in the assemblies and become a visible network of community partners supporting kids has been important in building expectation and trust in the kids. We have partnered with Asbury University and their Adventure Leadership department to help make the events fun for the kids and teachers alike. Enthusiastic response has been the norm and interactive events have had the most impact.

Benefits include:

- Setting the tone of expectation that can be coordinated through the extra curricular activities is key. Assemblies compliment activities happening in Leadership Academy and during community-sponsored events at Lunch. There is a common language being developed which allows the teachers, volunteers, and staff to be on the same page with student leadership initiatives.
- Community collaboration that is targeted and purposeful has been the result of intentional communication and trust built between the school administration and the 4Kids team. Volunteers respond to purposeful, planned engagement.
- Teachers participate in the assemblies and the kids see them in a more interactive role that is fun. These experiences foster relationships between teachers, kids and the larger community. This leads to increased trust and in time the ability for staff to demand higher expectations for achievement and behavior.

Lunch Bunch



Description:

The Lunch Bunch Crew is about having fun! Building a culture of relationship while making it clear we do follow through on questions and challenges is the reasoning behind our working in this venue. Often when we do a school-wide assembly we will issue a challenge for growth then follow up in a Lunch period several weeks or a month later to check on the results. Some of the most interactive student responses have come up during this setting. Since it is a social setting it is also meant to promote Peer leadership through students setting the tone and leading the way. Coordination of these times with the broader impact planned for the school culture implementation is important so real collaboration is essential between all parties. Teachers and staff alike are invited to participate.





Benefits include;

-Fun yet purposeful events provide learning outside of the regularity of the classroom schedule

-Casual setting invites non-threatening participation

-Teachers are involved and participate with students in a more relational setting giving them the opportunity to be seen in a different light

-Follow up on challenges with a Peer group watching is a great way to instill culture growth and build camaraderie

-Building intentional relational community between students at a grade level leads to higher expectations Peer-to-Peer

Leading to Learn Trips



Description:

Field trips with a purpose combined with a high ratio of trained volunteers can make a difference that will influence a child for life. Using community resources at hand, 4Kids takes field trips with smaller groups of kids to engage and enlighten them to opportunities and potential that can be theirs with intentional work and perseverance. Universities have opened their doors to students engaging them by demonstrating the potential of higher education in a different light. Tours are hosted by students themselves and have been developed to lead kids to see education from a new light. These extracurricular trips have engaged and inspired kids to experience

and believe that greater potential exists for them as they apply themselves and work hard to learn. Comments like "I never knew college could be this fun, I want to go now" are commonly heard after our Leading to Learn trips!



Benefits include:

- Relationships make a difference. When students lead students there is a substantial impact made. Purposeful relationships between those trained as mentors and younger students make a lasting impact on both the mentor and the mentored.
- Experience makes kids believers. Being on a college campus and experiencing through the eyes of another student can change attitudes and actions inspiring different outcomes in their current work ethic. Student storytellers connect and make a believable impact on kids.

Leadership Academy



Description:

Leadership Academy is an in-school program developed in conjunction with Fayette County teaching staff that builds community and expectations throughout the sixth grade age level. The aim is to impact a school's culture and climate by strategically empowering kids. We set the bar of expectation high developing fun activities and research based teaching modules that help kids hold each other to the new standard.

Designed to impact both attitudes and actions, the Academy addresses cultural issues and creates an appreciation for equity among all people. By building empathy between students we lead them to changed viewpoints. Our goal is cause students to embrace differences between themselves while becoming people who see value in

helping each other succeed. Together kids are rising to new standards. We have seen bullies changed into leaders and those previously ostracized become empowered support persons leading from their own strengths.

Using a specially developed teaching tool "ELGLBHAV" we instill in students a Code for Global Living which promotes Leadership and Character growth. Fun, interactive collaboration between students, teachers and the 4Kids team promotes hands-on learning engaging everyone and leading to new levels of understanding and cooperation between all. We've seen real empowerment for change with student leaders paving the way.

Benefits include:

- Every student in a grade level is engaged in Leadership training recognizing their own self worth and potential
- Attitudes and actions are shifted by the Peer group rather than by authority
- Empathy training leads to critical thinking, which causes us to understand some of the differences between people and respond more purposefully
- Integral and inherent equity among people is emphasized, while all are invited to rise to new levels of cooperative and contribution
- Hands on activities engage all students positioning them for cooperative movement forward
- A common language of expectation is being formed which is transferable and crosses typical barriers
- History and current events can be used to lay foundations and groundwork for a next generation leaders to be developed
- Special speakers have visited our classes to promoting cross cultural growth and diversity training



Special Events - Transformation Week-end



Description:

Transformation Weekend is an event designed to allow Leadership Academy students to express what they've learned while making use of their unique personality style and talents. 4 teams of kids working in areas of Art, Video, Music or Service produce evidences of their learning useful to help others understand and grow also. Our goal is to practice living what we've learned intentionally becoming people who add value to others and are change agents impacting the world.

Together we can be people rising to our highest potential while inspiring and helping others around us to do the same!



Benefits include:

- Kids experience hands-on opportunity to work in teams focused on a common goal
- Allowing opportunities for creative expression opens new gateways to learning and the experience of success
- Participating collaboratively helps kids realize that together we are stronger and shared values lead to higher outcomes.
- Teaching a topic deepens learning. Kids are given opportunity to both learn and teach in a controlled setting.
- Having the experience of purposeful contribution inspires us towards next levels of achievement and impacts our emotional belief system. The kids positive experiences invite repeating.