MCUFFEY READING CENTER
Prekindergarten Reading Camps – 4 and 5 Year Olds

Dates: Please see website for current summer dates

Times: Please see website for current summer times

Phone: 434-924-7034 (main # for Sheila Johnson Center in Bavaro Hall)

Drop Off: Drop off begins 15 minutes prior to start time so we can ensure a prompt start to the session (e.g., if start time is 12:30, then drop off begins at 12:15)

Pick Up: Pick up begins at the session’s end time/all children must be picked up by 15 minutes past end time (e.g., if end time is 3:30, then children must be picked up by 3:45)

Where: Camp will be in Bavaro Hall at 417 Emmet Street, South beside Ruffner Hall. Our drop off will be in Bavaro Hall’s parking lot. Please see the map below.
Drop Off/ Pick Up
Particulars: Please pull into the parking lot to drop your child off – we will take your child out of your car so we can keep the line of cars moving. We will also put your child back in the car for pick up. If you need to chat for a minute, please pull into the parking lot and park. If you are carpooling or if someone other than you (parent/guardian) will be picking up your child, please let the front desk know. We will not let your child leave with anyone other than you unless you have alerted us.

Meet and Greet: We will host a meet and greet on the week prior to the camp. Exact day, time, location TBA. At this time, you and your child can come to the McGuffey Reading Center and meet our lead teacher.

Teachers: Each camp has a lead teacher, who is a graduate of the Curry School of Education’s M.Ed. program in Reading Education and holds a current VA endorsement as reading specialist. A Curry School of Education graduate student in Elementary Education often serves as the assistant teacher.

Camp Focus: Our focus during the preschool camp for rising kindergartners is to build literacy schools foundational to success transitioning into school. Camp will follow a schedule common to the kindergarten language arts block. We will include some whole and small group work. Our whole group time will be devoted to read alouds for a variety of purposes. For example, we may have read alouds as a backdrop for language play. Small groups will comprise the majority of our camp time. These groups will focus on your child’s specific strengths and literacy needs. Through the small groups, we will be able to build preliteracy skills for those children still learning to read and extend skills for those students who are already reading. Regardless of the group format, our goal is to build literacy skills in a fun, engaging way.

FAQs: When can I talk to my teacher?
Both our lead teacher and teaching assistant often have other camp groups during the day, so they will not be able to talk for an extended amount of time before or after camp. However, Tisha Hayes, the McGuffey Reading Center director, can be available upon request.

Do the children get breaks?
We have water available in the camp room and are near restrooms, so we can provide bathroom breaks easily.

What if my child is sick?
Please call 434-924-7034 to let the front desk know your child will not come to camp. We are not able to provide make-up days/times.

What if we are late one morning?
Please call the front desk at 434-924-7034. They will let us know. We will wait for your child, so knowing you are running late is helpful. You will need to
go to the front desk of the Sheila Johnson Center, Bavaro Hall, upon arrival.

*Is it okay to send snacks and drinks?*
No. Please do not send snacks and drinks. We will have breaks and will provide water.

*How can I learn more about how my child is doing during camp?*
A newsletter will come home at the end of the week. This newsletter will update you on activities throughout the week and will provide you with ideas for extending and continuing their work.

*Are there additional assessments we can sign up for?*
We can offer additional assessments through the McGuffey Reading Center (as part of the Sheila Johnson Center) through our diagnostic services. You can call McGuffey’s message line (434-924-9349) for more information.

*What about after the summer program? Do you offer tutoring in the school year?*
Yes. We offer one-to-one after school tutoring twice a week for school-age children. Most semesters we tutor on Monday/Wednesday from 3:30 to 4:30 PM and 4:35 to 5:35, serving children from grades K through 8.