

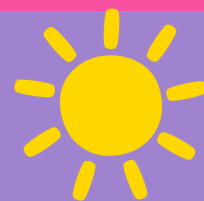


Peaslee Neighborhood Center Summer 2026 Newsletter





Summer Programs!



PEASLEE KIDS

Our Peaslee Kids program for ages 6-10 flourished this year. Through our partnership with Beech Acres Parenting Center, we used The Character Effect curriculum to help each kid identify their own strengths. Each week the kids focused on a different strength such as perseverance, humor, curiosity, kindness, and more! To support each child's growth, we continued using a daily emotions chart and shared positive affirmations with one another. Campers also participated in weekly art, gardening, outdoor adventures, percussion, yoga, and book club. In response to last year's feedback, we also increased pool time to every day! This allowed kids to practice what they learn in swim lessons and get better every day.



AGENTS OF CHANGE

Agents of Change youth, ages 11-15, dove into history, culture, and creative expression this summer. They learned about Black history and culture, from groundbreaking inventors to the tutnese language, and discussed the national anthem and July 4th traditions. Agents also read Agent of the Day cards, with special emphasis on changemakers from the Appalachian community. Creativity thrived as Agents produced original music and did art and gardening every week. The summer was also packed with adventure: urban hikes in Over-the-Rhine, a day at Kings Island, the high ropes course at Camp Ernst, camping at Mammoth Cave, swimming, and classic park games like kickball and freeze tag!

Special thanks to program partners:

Baba Charles Miller (drumming), Beech Acres Parenting Center, Civic Garden Center, Community Literacy Liaisons, Freedom School on Afrofuturism, Jody Jones (music), Julie Klear (art), Miami University, Nature Next Door, Rothenberg Rooftop Garden, SwimSafe, Yoga Done Fun, University of Cincinnati, We Outside, Whole Again, Xavier University, YMCA Camp Ernst, & our amazing volunteers!

Summer Highlights

66
campers

yoga

art

10 field
trips

Camp Ernst

swimming

5,538 meals
and snacks
served

Family Night

3,060
minutes at
the pool

drumming

book clubs

Krohn Conservatory

1,110
minutes
reading

Field Day

garden

camping trip

Nature Next Door

Many thanks to donors who made Peaslee summer camp possible:

City of Cincinnati Human Services Fund, Keep Cincinnati Beautiful, Ohio Arts Council, Pfau Foundation, SC Ministry Foundation, United Way Community Empowerment Works, and many individuals!



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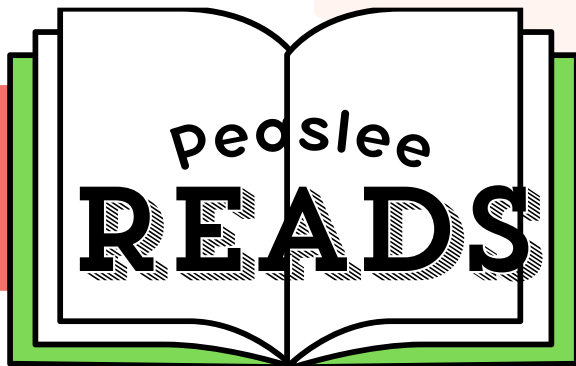


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@peasleecenter

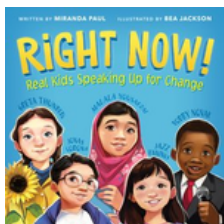


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Right Now! by Miranda Paul



Peaslee Kids read **Right Now!: Real Kids Speaking Up for Change**, which profiles young activists from around the globe who chose not to wait until adulthood to take action on critical global issues. The book sheds light on youth-led movements addressing climate change, bullying, and human rights. It also illustrates how passion and advocacy transcend age.

I'm From by Gary R. Gray, Jr.



Peaslee Kids read **I'm From**, which captures a young Black boy's journey of self-discovery as he reflects on the everyday moments, family traditions, and neighborhood connections that define who he is. The book not only sheds light on the beauty found in ordinary routines and cultural roots, but also demonstrates how personal identity is built from community, memory, and love.

Ghost by Jason Reynolds

Some Agents read **Ghost**, which follows Castle "Ghost" Cranshaw, a middle schooler with raw natural speed who joins an elite track team while harboring deep trauma from a violent past. The story sheds light on his struggles with anger, poverty, and fitting in. It also examines how mentorship and accountability can help a young person process grief.



Blended by Sharon M. Draper

Another group of the Agents of Change read **Blended**, which explores the reality of an eleven-year-old biracial girl as she navigates back-and-forth custody arrangements between her divorced parents. The story examines how microaggressions and systemic racial biases impact young people.



Come read with us!
This summer, Peaslee campers
read stories that affirmed,
inspired, and expanded
their understanding
of the world.