

## Andy Roddick Foundation 2022 Summer Learning Program Outcomes Reports

The Andy Roddick Foundation worked with Thomas G. Harris, Bernice Hart, and Pecan Springs Early College Prep Elementary Schools in Austin to provide free 6-week summer learning programs. The program engaged children in over 210 hours of hands-on academic and physical activities. With this year's "Once Upon a Story" theme, children engaged in STEM, physical activity, art, literacy, music, community service, healthy eating, and much more! Children also participated in weekly field trip and fun activities that brought their learning to life.

The goals of the program are to not only provide a fun and memorable summer experience but also focus on those skills and factors that help predict future success for elementary-age children. Those include reducing summer learning loss to help children be on-level academically, increasing academic engagement, developing strong social and emotional learning skills, engaging families in their children's learning, and keeping children physically active.



**Program Enrollment:** A total of **214** children attended the 2022 summer learning program. Of those enrolled, 76% identify as Hispanic, 16% as Black, 3% as White, 0.5% as Asian, and 4.5% as multiracial. Most (89%) qualify for free or reduced lunch during the school year and 64% of children are emergent bilingual. Some children (18%) receive special education services during the school year.

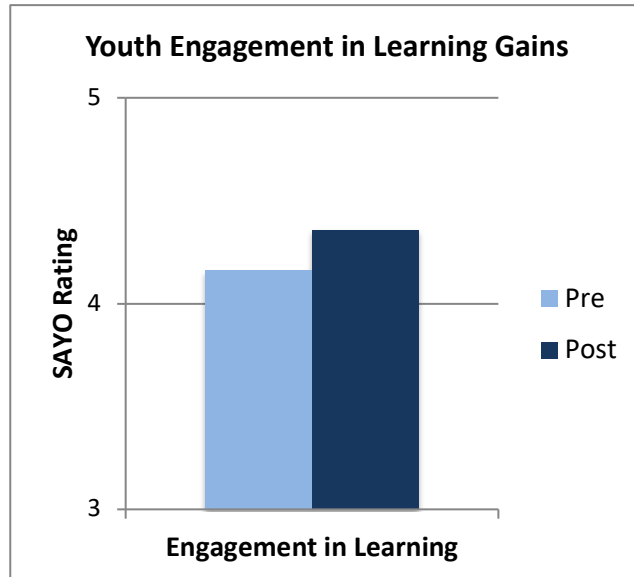
**Program Attendance:** The average daily attendance rate for the summer was **80%**, with most absences due to COVID illness or quarantine requirements. Half (**50%**) of children were returning for a second summer, and **49** youth returned for their third, fourth, fifth, or sixth year.

**Program Satisfaction:** Overall, **98%** of guardians would send their child to the program next summer and **100%** would recommend the program to a friend.<sup>i</sup> **96%** of children surveyed said they enjoyed coming to the program and **99%** have fun while they are at the program.<sup>ii</sup>

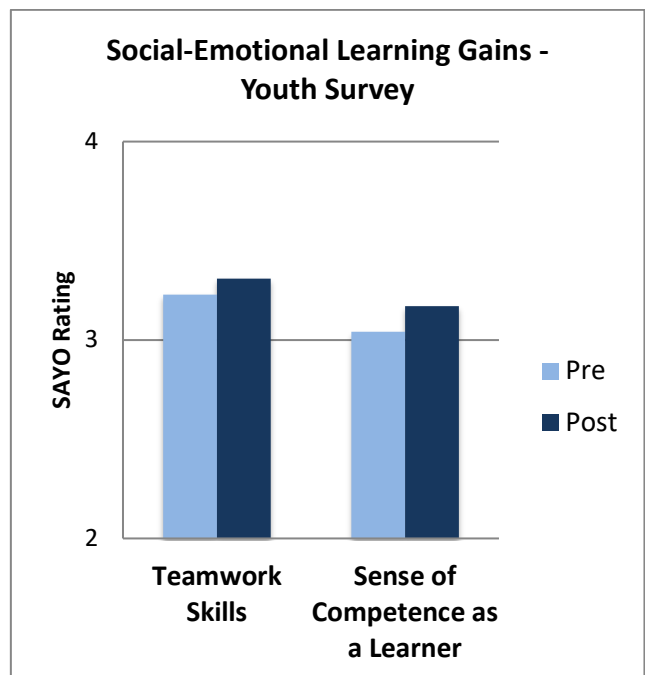
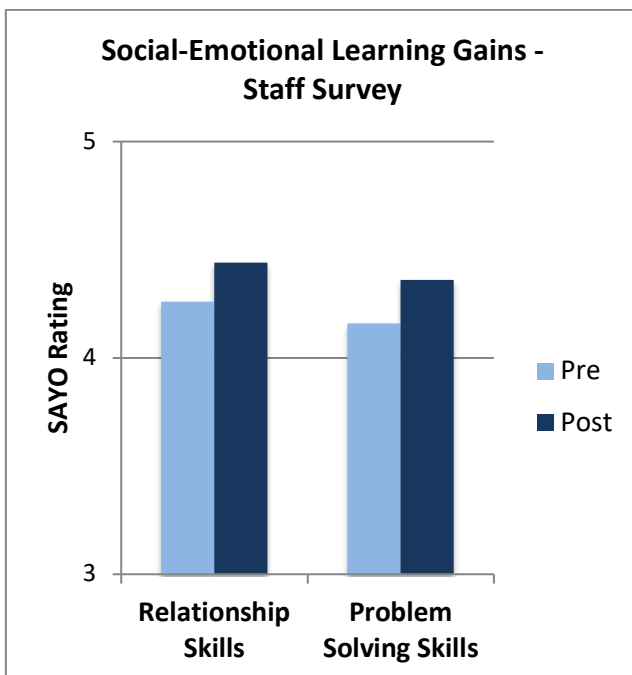


**Academic Learning:** Children participated in over three hours of academic activities daily. These hands-on activities blended literacy, math, science, engineering, technology, and arts. At the end of the program, **96%** of children said they learned new things in the program, and **93%** said they had the opportunity to do things at the program they had never done before. Additionally, **94%** of guardians felt their child was ready for the next grade compared to 82% at the start of the program.<sup>iii</sup>

**Engagement in Learning:** Regular participation in the summer learning program leads to stronger engagement in learning. A validated instrument, the Survey of Academic and Youth Outcomes (SAYO), was used this summer to measure impact in this area. Using a 5.0 scale, staff reported a pre/post **statistically significant positive difference**<sup>iv</sup> in **engagement in learning**, such as showing interest and being actively engaged in learning activities.



**Social and Emotional Development:** To build resiliency in youth, the program focused on developing core social-emotional skills including persistence, initiative, and pro-social behavior. The SAYO was also used this summer to measure impact in this area. Using a 5.0 scale, staff reported a pre/post **statistically significant positive difference**<sup>v</sup> in **problem solving skills**, where youth are able to think through and solve challenges, and **relationship skills**, specifically focused on youth’s ability to get along with their peers. A positive increase was also found, using a 4.0 scale, in youth **teamwork skills**, where they feel comfortable sharing their ideas, listening to others, and sharing responsibility, and sense of **competence as a learner**, including persistence and confidence, for youth who just completed 5<sup>th</sup> grade.



**Family Engagement:** The program had multiple strategies in place to engage families, including family events, weekly newsletters, weekly positive notes home, and personal interactions with staff. During the program, **86%** of families attended at least 1 family event. All families (**100%**) enjoyed the family events. Additionally, families received a weekly take-home project to keep children learning at home. All (**100%**) families that participated reported enjoying those activities. Almost all (**96%**) of guardians said that being a part of the program has helped them better understand their child’s strengths. All (**100%**) guardians believed the program helped them feel more involved in their children’s learning.

**Physical Activity:** Each day, children participated in over two and a half hours of physical activity. This includes activities and sports like rugby, tennis, lacrosse, and more. The Foundation was also able to increase nutrition lessons and distribute 12,800 pounds of fresh fruits and vegetables to participating families through a partnership with the organization, Brighter Bites with over 60 volunteers supporting the packing and distribution of the produce.



**Supportive Adults:** To ensure strong relationships between children, families, and summer staff and to promote individualized support for youth, a low ratio of 1 adult to 10 children was maintained over the summer. Supportive adult relationships are a key part of the program design to achieve youth goals, and **93%** of children said there was an adult at the program they trust.



**Looking Ahead:** Overall, the 2022 summer learning program was successful in helping youth meet their goals while providing a fun and memorable summer. The Foundation is building upon this success and lessons learned to enhance programming for the summer of 2023 and continuing working with the community to expand opportunities for young people to learn, thrive, and succeed.

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<sup>i</sup> 51% response rate on the post-program guardian survey

<sup>ii</sup> 100% response rate for 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> grade students surveyed

<sup>iii</sup> Statistically significant difference,  $p < .01$

<sup>iv</sup> Statistically significant difference,  $p < .001$

<sup>v</sup> Statistically significant difference,  $p < .01$