

# Never too young to learn: College for Little Kids is a success

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When you're a kid, worms, watercolors and the outdoors are part of the recipe for summer fun.

Children had the opportunity to experience these and more at the third annual College for Little Kids at the BC Center. The two-week program is a fundraiser for the center, which provides affordable childcare to SUNY Broome students and the community.

Geared toward 4 to 6-year-olds, the program runs at the same time as the popular College for Kids, which serves children ages 7 to 9 in one session and ages 10 to 13 in another. Many College for Little Kids participants have older siblings in College for Kids, and end up "graduating" into the other program as they get older, Center Director Nancy Seliga noted.

"We draw people from the campus and people we've never met before," she said of participants' families.

The College for Little Kids curriculum was developed by Teacher Education/Early Childhood Department Professor Christine Duffy-Webb, and taught by experienced staff members Heather Montross and Kelly Page.

"I donated my time and built the curriculum to include high-quality, creative and cognitive hands-on activities to support the themes," said Duffy-Webb, adding that her daughter also attended the program.

"I have never seen anyone work as hard as these ladies! They are amazing," she added. "It was my honor to be a part of the experience and to watch this really grow over time, to be really successful for the great folks over at the BC Center."

Week one included "The Science Detective," which had youngsters perform experiments with mysterious mixtures, fizzes and goo, and "Jump Into a Good Book," involving literature-related activities. During week two, students enjoyed some outside time with "Nature Gone Wild." They also studied major artists and created their own masterpieces in "Adventures with Art."

The program typically raises about \$3,000 to \$4,000 for the Center, which is open during the Fall and Spring semesters into the first part of Summer Term. Twenty-eight children enrolled this year's College for Little Kids, which is in line with enrollment from previous years, Seliga said.

"They had a blast this week and last week," said Seliga, as the laughter of children echoed through the BC Center.



**SUNY Broome's third annual  
College for Little Kids**

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