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# REPORT

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## **Program/Curriculum Success**

### ***Summer Literacy Learning Program***



## RAINY RIVER DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

### *Summer Literacy Learning Program 2013*

The Rainy River District School Board held the Summer Literacy Learning Program once again for its students and parents during the month of July. This was the fourth year that this Council of Ontario Directors of Education (CODE) project was funded through the Ministry of Education.

This year, the Board provided three sites for the 71 students that took part in the Program: Donald Young School, Robert Moore School, and the new site for this year, Mine Centre School. Based on recommendations from the Rainy River District School Board staff, the Ministry of Education decided to include a First Nations Métis Inuit (FNMI) component to the Summer Literacy Learning Program.

The overall goal of the Summer Literacy Learning Program is to provide students an opportunity to work on their literacy skills in a relaxed and fun environment. The Program balances literacy instruction with fun activities, recreation and field trips, with students spending 4.5 hours per day for a 10 day period in the Program.

A research component is associated with the Summer Literacy Learning Program, supported by McMaster University. A student's literacy level is assessed according to the STAR assessment tool at the beginning of the Program and again at the end of the Program. This student information is kept confidential, used only in aggregate format, to provide researchers with data on students' retention of literacy skills as supported through this additional programming.

Feedback from students, teachers, and parents has been overwhelmingly positive, with students truly looking forward to the activities offered through the Program, and parents and teachers the gains made by the students enrolled. Overall, the Program offers an additional opportunity for students to gain support in the foundational skill of literacy and increased confidence and thus, engagement of students in their learning.