

SPARK NEWS

Students Pursuing Academics, Resources and Knowledge

Igniting Futures!

SPARK stands for Students Pursuing Academics, Resources and Knowledge. The purpose of the camp is to ensure that middle school children are readying themselves for high school and beyond as well as the importance of choosing positive behaviors. Camp numbers are kept low to help staff and campers engage in bonding and supportive relationships. Partnerships with local law enforcement also encourage positive relationships with those in authority.

“We aim to provide an educational experience for our campers but we do it in a fun way,” said Tristan Shaw, Camp Director. “They have such a good time that they don’t know that they are learning.”

Campers also go home with some “swag”. Most campers come from homes that struggle to provide back to school gear. Camp SPARK sends campers back to class with t-shirts, backpacks, school supplies and hygiene kits. This year, they even received socks! They also took home some fun stuff like sunglasses and beach towels. Parents really appreciate the help with school supplies due to the annual costs.

This year, the agency was provided a bus from the Head Start program. It has been deemed the “activity bus” and it was utilized to transport kids to and from camp as well as on field trips. Providing transportation has been one of the best things about camp and one less thing for parents to worry about when searching for activities for their children.

“Our fourth summer was another success!”



Camp SPARK hosted a total of 24 area middle school kids this summer.

That would not have been possible without the generosity and partnerships formed with others in the community.



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Officer Tyler Garcia from the Galax Police Department having fun on the job.



Gaming at WCC.

2019 Activities

Rising sixth, seventh and eighth grade students from Grayson, Carroll and Galax participated in a one week day camp. Two weeks in July were offered. Due to the planning and work put in by our Camp Director, Tristan Shaw, everything ran smoothly. The campers stayed busy and on the go. By the end of the week, the kids (and Staff) were tired but ready for camp next year!

Let's have some fun!

Campers participated in enriching but fun activities. The kids toured Wytheville Community College and got a feel for a local college experience. Campers visited the Roanoke Science Museum and loved the hands-on exhibits. They also had gigantic slices of pizza thanks to Benny's. A relaxing, yet fun day was spent poolside and on the waterslides at Lake Ridge RV Resort. The kids had a picnic, played arcade games and took turns on the paddleboats. Campers were sad to leave on the last day and want to come back next year if they are still age eligible.

Thanks to our Partners!

Office of Attorney General, Food Lion, Jeff Johnson Chevrolet, Galax Police Department, Grayson County Sherriff's Office, Pepsico, WCC, and donors from the community.

We appreciate you!!!!

Building teams and making friends!



Our intern, Hannah Burnette, poses with one of Benny's pizza boxes.



Sgt. Rhonda Halsey of the Grayson County Sheriff's Office

VA Rules

A partnership formed in 2017 with the Office of Attorney General produced funds for VA Rules. This project is to offer structured lessons pertaining to bullying, student responsibilities, trust between law enforcement and teens and more. Lessons are delivered by local police officers in a friendly and positive environment. We are proud to say that the Galax Police Department, and Grayson County Sheriffs Department participated this year. Officers serve as volunteer staff for camp activities and arrive in plain clothes in order to fully foster a comfortable relationship with the campers. The officers love to interact with the kids and have fun too!



Selfies with Officer Vickie Taylor from the Galax PD.



Officer Kevin Hall took time from the Galax PD to paddle around with the campers.

Looking forward to 2019!

The summer of 2019 was a blast but also a little bitter-sweet. Our fantastic Camp Director (pictured right) , Tristan Shaw, will soon be graduating from college and joining the 'adult' world. We will miss all he brings to camp and wish him the best and brightest future. We love you, Tristan!

Summer 2020 will be our 5th camp season and we are already busy planning new and fun things to do. Giving children support, new experiences, laughs and friends are still on the agenda. We hope that it is one of our best summers yet! Applications will go out in early spring. Make sure you get one asap!



We Need Your Help!

In order to provide a well-rounded experience for our campers, Rooftop of VA CAP is always searching for partners. Volunteers are needed to help plan and operate the camp. Donations are greatly needed. Ask us about tax credits to receive from your donation! If you would like to become a partner, please contact us today.

Help give our area kids a head start into their future!



Rooftop of Virginia CAP
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Contact Us

Give us a call for more information about our camp, to volunteer or to become one of our partners.

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