

READING IMPROVEMENT EXPERIMENTAL

One way to improve a student's ability to read is to broaden his background, pique his curiosity, and use his experience to improve his vocabulary.

Such an "experience centered" approach is being used in a program with a two-fold thrust at Kit Carson Elementary School this summer, under the sponsorship of the Office of Intergroup Education of the Clark County School District.

The program brings together nearly 100 students--about 20 whites and 80 blacks--to ease the shift from segregated to integrated schools, and at the same time provide enrichment reading instruction.

Every week the students embark on at least two field trips and in some weeks, more time is spent in the field. Students might visit Nellis Air Force Base, the fish hatchery at Willow Beach, the Southern Nevada Museum in Henderson, or the Reptile Institute on the Boulder Highway. No matter where they go, the trip is carefully based around reading improvement.

A trip to the reptile institute begins with class discussion of snakes, lizards, and other things the students might see. After their return, the experience is used for a variety of activities. Students are encouraged to write stories about their trip. Books about snakes are read. Facts are gathered, and bulletin boards are prepared. The trip is discussed and shared, all with the goal of increasing vocabulary and thus the ability to read well.

Above all, the program develops a student's interest in school and learning and encourages him to approach the coming school year with enthusiasm.

The program, which ends July 23, is under the direction of Bernice Moten and Jim Shipp of the Office of Intergroup Education. Teachers and teacher aides are provided by the school district, the Office of Economic Opportunity, and the University of Nevada, Las Vegas.

STUDENTS VISIT SOUTHERN NEVADA MUSEUM



MUSEUM VISIT - Students (from left) Edward Perkins, 7, Kathy Jackson, 10, and Tammy Roby, 10, check out an antique doll in a pioneer bedroom at the Southern Nevada Museum in Henderson as part of an experience-oriented

program in reading improvement at Kit Carson Elementary School. When the students return to Kit Carson, their experience at the museum will be used as a foundation for reading, creative writing, and motivation to further study.

Progress Has No Ending But, It Does Have A Beginning

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