

SWOSU Students Helping Area Children Improve Reading Skills

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Area children participating in the SWOSU summer reading program are (front row from left): Lauren Jones; Emma Coats; Kayla Richardson; Kaylie Esparza and Jaycee Hardin. Second row from left-Gracie Mooney; Laura Esparza; Sarah Adibi and Addi Lyon. Third row from left-Bryler Atchley; Amir Adibi; Alex Rodriguez and Brennon Wilson. Back from left-Brayden Boyles; Riley Ingram; Tre Rodriguez and Jayden Quintero. Not pictures: Luke Wilson and Emma Victory.

Eighteen Southwestern Oklahoma State University students on the Weatherford campus are helping area children learn and improve their reading skills.

The SWOSU students in Dr. Ann Russell's summer course, Diagnostic Practices in Teaching Reading, are enjoying an excellent opportunity to engage in service learning as they instruct children in reading. University students in the SWOSU Department of Education tutor individual children who sign up for a reading boost.

Russell, who has been associated with the program for 23 years, said the program builds success by motivating an enjoyment of reading, and many children return several years in a row to be a part of the program.

Enrollment for the eight-week summer program begins after spring break each year, and the class is full within a couple of weeks. The program is well supported by area teachers and administrators who refer participants in grades 1-6.