

# Oasis Summer Enrichment Programs

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Grades k-12

## The Program

*Oasis Children's Services* (OCS) is an educational and recreational organization that provides summer experiences for academically at-risk children who reside in low-income urban communities. Operated in partnership with neighborhood schools, OCS operates full and half-day programs for 6-8 weeks, integrating academic support in literacy and mathematics in a safe environment that emphasizes positive, community-building interaction among children, adult counselors, and instructors. The curriculum combines academic skill-building with visual arts, music, creative writing, drama, dance, sports, environmental studies, and service-learning. Weekly field trips to area museums and recreation sites round out the enrichment experience. In addition, students fulfilling summer remedial classes in the morning are offered "wraparound" OCS programs in the afternoon.

## Results

ELA and Math achievement data for the years 2003 through 2008 indicate that a greater proportion of OCS participants met and exceeded state proficiency standards than did nonparticipants, i.e., students from the same schools as the participants. Further, OCS students' average attendance rate for the school year following the summer program was considerably higher than that of comparison students.



## Learning Standards

**English Language Arts:** (1-4) Students will read, write, listen, and speak for information and understanding, literary response and expression, critical analysis and evaluation, and social interaction.

**Mathematics:** (3) Students will understand mathematics and become mathematically confident by communicating and reasoning mathematically, and by applying mathematics in real-life settings.

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