



SUMMER/FALL NEWS

SUCCEED2GETHER

BUILDING OUR FUTURE, ONE CHILD AT A TIME

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After-School Tutoring Program

Succeed2gether has been all about meeting challenges collaboratively, ever since its start 11 years ago. So, how did we cope in a pandemic? We succeeded, of course – together. It was no simple exercise.

But within two weeks of school closures, S2G's after-school tutoring program was operating online. Supported by the tech wizardry of our program assistant, Jamila Shivers; the determination of tutors, young and not-so-young; and the true grit of students and parents unwilling to let opportunity be torn away, we stuck to our mission.

"I miss everything!" middle school student Stella, told her math tutor Karen G. in March. On the other hand, Stella was thrilled to be on Zoom: "You can share your screen? Oooh, I can see everything you are doing. So cool." In their sessions continuing through June, the pair completed homework and added online math games, including one in which they calculated the amount of silverware and table linens required on the maiden (fateful) voyage of the Titanic, and estimated the cost of a first class ticket today: \$30,000.

Likewise, tutor/student pair Luc and Nitai had some of their most rewarding moments "studying" calculus when they ventured into an online game of Slope/Intercept basketball.

And Beyer and Tatiana explored the nexus between higher mathematics and art, using videos, music, and college-level tutorials.

Our Language Arts, ESL and Early Reader students did not stop making strides, despite the difficulties of this new way of learning and tutoring. High-school-age tutor Spencer used every tool at his digital disposal to help 2nd-grader Muhammed improve his reading fluency, pronunciation, and comprehension. "That's it! Boom!" Spencer called out whenever Muhammed mastered a tricky passage; Muhammed's beaming smile lit up the screen.

S2G Board member and tutor Angela Cali called in from California to work with 1st-grader Charlie, flying through books online and word games to broaden his vocabulary.

By special request, some students continued with their work throughout the summer. Rising high school senior Zaki had his college essay done before school was out, working with our S2G College Essay Writing program. So, he and tutor Arielle E. began touring potential colleges online. Noah W. and Camilla met weekly through the summer to perfect her essay-writing skills.

Our Zoom sessions are individually monitored by staff to meet S2G's custodial responsibilities, and tutor background checks remain in place.

Partnering with Montclair State University (MSU)

This year, S2G is excited to announce that it is partnering with Montclair State University's Center for Community Engagement to assist our students. Twelve graduate students from the speech-language pathology program at MSU will provide extra tutoring for students, as well as offering ideas to other tutors on how to engage students online with learning.

S2G hosted a tutor training session with Dr. Lesley Sylvan, Assistant Professor in the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders at Montclair State University; Dr. Robyn Becker, Adjunct Professor in the Communication Sciences and Disorders Department, and also an experienced speech-language pathologist in the Hillsborough Township School District; and Parissa Venouss, a current graduate student in the Montclair State speech-language pathology master's degree program who has experience working with children as a student clinician and as a tutor.

The training was called "Making Zoom Fun! – Using Technology to Engage Students". It covered resources and techniques to assist our tutors during the academic year as well as ways to avoid zoom fatigue. Our tutors were thankful and found the session helpful.

This year MSU will also provide some tutors – students who are service learners and those who are involved with the university's new Volunteer Corp. In addition, students who are part of the Bonner Program, a college scholarship program that affords students access to education and an opportunity to serve, will work with S2G students.

We are grateful for this opportunity to work with MSU's professors, students, and the Center for Community Engagement!

"I cannot thank you enough. Without the one-on-one tutoring program, my grandson would have been lost. The school was good but your tutoring program is remarkable." –RosaM.

S2G TUTORING IS BACK AS OF SEPTEMBER 14!

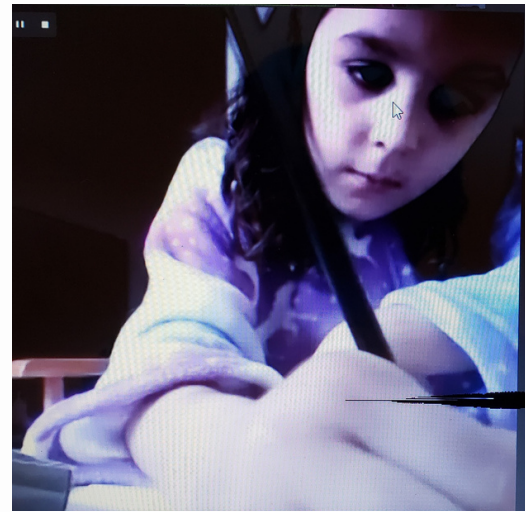
OUR NEW HOURS, ACCOMMODATING THE SCHEDULE OF ONLINE INSTRUCTION IN AREA SCHOOLS AS BEST WE CAN, ARE:

**MONDAY THROUGH THURSDAY
2 P.M. – 6 P.M.**

S2G Student meets Author Jeff Kinney

In partnership with watchung booksellers, one of S2G's longtime students, Matthew Sementi, met with author Jeff Kinney in August. Jeff, author of the beloved *Diary of a Wimpy Kid* series, was on his Awesome Friendly Socially-Distanced Adventure Bus Tour and stopped by one of his biggest fans to say hello!

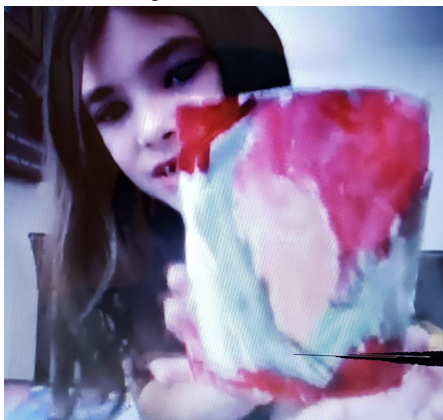




Summer Report

From learning Mandarin to dance to chess, this year's S2G Summer Enrichment program had something for everyone. In response to Covid-19, this year S2G opened up its online summer classes as free to the entire community. And the turnout was remarkable.

Aurora Mendez, a violinist with the Montclair Orchestra and the New Haven Symphony Orchestra, offered virtual violin classes to middle and high school students, who borrowed violins from Succeed2gether. At the end of the week of classes, students were excited to perform their first recital. Other popular classes included 3-D printing, nutrition, African drumming, arts and crafts and writing.



"My daughter loved the Collage and Watercolor workshops, and she liked the dance class! I'm happy we were able to participate in this great program!"

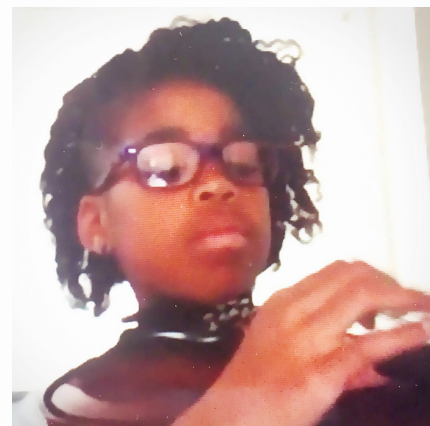
David Veldran, sophomore at Princeton University, taught our Math Rising 4th–6th class covering order of operations, place value, addition/subtraction with place value, fractions and decimals, and conversion between mixed numbers, decimals, and improper fractions.

Julia Schanen, rising Junior at Montclair High School, taught our Math Rising 1st–3rd class, and co-taught our Algebra Rising 7th–9th class covering two-digit addition and subtraction without regrouping and with regrouping to Algebra concepts.

Daniel Mathis, rising sophomore at Haverford College, assisted us by monitoring our sessions for two classes, Science of Habit and Constructing an Argument that were taught by Thomas Duncan.

Moreover, these were classes our students enjoyed, and parents appreciated!

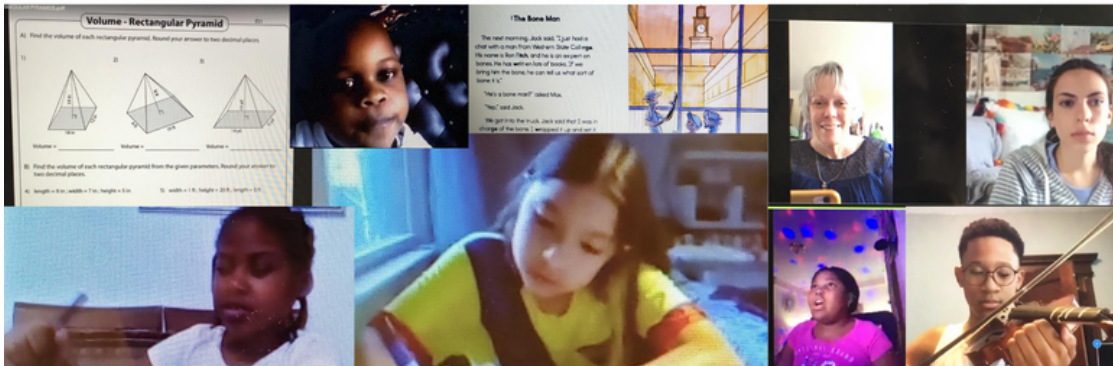
"My kids enjoyed using the new skills they learned. The classes were interesting and fun!"





SUCCEED2GETHER
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ONE-ON-ONE TUTORING VIA ZOOM



- **FREE** for low- and moderate-income families
- All students' grades K-12
- Weekly – Monday through Thursday
- Sessions hourly, from 2:00 to 6:00 pm
- September 14, 2020 to May 27, 2021

SIGN UP TODAY

- Qualified, caring, experienced tutors
- Students matched with tutors
- Math & Book Buddies for K-3

For more info:
www.succeed2gether.org
info@succeed2gether.org
 973-746-0553

Tutor Recruit

S2G individually matches our volunteer tutors with students needing an academic boost and the one-to-one bond that can inspire them to do their best.

For the past 11 years, we have marshalled an extraordinary band of tutors each year – diverse in age, skills, and life experience. Our adult crew includes working and retired professionals, retired teachers, writers, and others.

In addition, some volunteers are college students, high school students, and even middle school students (as book buddies and math buddies for younger children.)

With S2G on Zoom for the time being, we especially seek tutors who are comfortable using the format. No problem if you are not, however! We offer tutor trainings with basic Zoom orientation included.



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FALL ENRICHMENT CLASSES

MONDAY

- 4:30-5.30pm, Poetry,
Grades 7-12

TUESDAY

- 3:00-4:00pm, Drumming,
Grades 3-5
- 4:30-5.30pm, Creative
Writing, Grades 7-9

WEDNESDAY

- 3:00-4:00pm, Debate Club,
Grades 7-9
- 4:30-5.30pm, Reading &
Writing, Grades 2-4

THURSDAY

- 3:00-4:00pm, Violin,
Grades 1-3

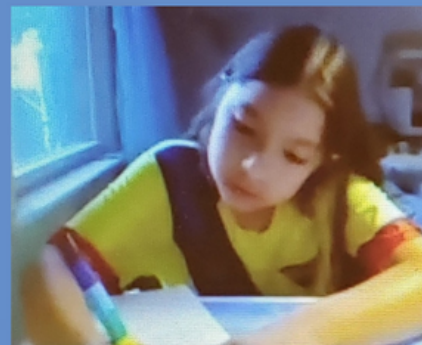
FRIDAY

- 3:00-4.00pm, Math,
Grades 6-8
- 4:30-5:30pm, Beginner
Spanish, Grades 6-8

SIGN UP TODAY

- Classes are FREE to students who qualify.
- Classes begin week of Monday October 5, 2020.
- All classes run for four weeks, except violin (six weeks).
- For more information or class descriptions, visit

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Get Ready for the Polar Express

S2G is partnering with Rutgers University' Cooperative Extension 4-H Program to offer a new Polar Science enrichment program for our students. Students will learn about climate change and the life of a polar scientist.

Sessions will include meetings with polar scientists, hands-on activities, and creative arts projects to be done at home.

We have scheduled this program to run for 1.5 hours on Wednesdays from November 5, 4:30-6:00pm for four weeks. How 'cool' is that?