

R.A.W.



Reading, Arithmetic & Writing

Submitted by: Q. Chiles

When Stevie came to our R.A.W program in April of 2009, he was an inquisitive and bright young man. An energetic, smart, and funny young African American male in the critical academic year of being a third grader. Being in third grade is a crucial year for our young males because this is the year standardized testing begins and the measurements of academic performance begins. Stevie came to our program with social, emotional, and academic challenges. We assessed his ability to learn and work with others, and immediately placed him on an individualized academic plan, coupled with a counselor who supported him and coached him around social needs. Stevie's mother was very involved and brought him daily to our after-school program for instructional support and assistance. As she brought Stevie daily, we began to work with her and tap into the goals she had set aside for herself in order to meet the needs of her son. After setting benchmark goals for Stevie and working with him on specific reading and math objectives, Stevie grew from a low level two to a high three in proficiency in math and reading. His behavior improved and we targeted specific goals identified by his school counselor to work with him. He blossomed into a well respectable young man, excelling in areas he came to us struggling with. His mother also enrolled in nursing school and with constant support, coaching, and mentoring of her sons, she graduated and began working in the medical field! Stevie's story is one that will be told again and again because we know and believe that any and every child can succeed and achieve greatness, as long as they have a strong support system and a program that is designed to target their growth areas and create individualized plans to meet their needs.

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