

TRU 100: READ Philosophy for Kids Project

Action Project Leader: Kim Ramos

Location: RAP Program, Ray Miller Elementary School

Community Partner: Molly Tuggle, RAP Coordinator

Volunteers: Taylor Baldwin, Courtney Crow, Logan Feulner, Anna Moore, Marliere Toothaker, Michael Walka, Haley Wells

Description of Project:

Dr. Sarah Mohler (English) and Dr. Chad Mohler (Philosophy and Religion) trained teams of TRU 100: READ students to help introduce elementary school kids to the world of philosophy by reading and discussing children's books with them.

Student teams made classroom visits to students in the Ray Miller Elementary RAP program to discuss ethics, metaphysics, and epistemology with 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders using the children's classics, *The Velveteen Rabbit*, *Tuck Everlasting*, and *Frog & Toad are Friends*.

Quotes from TRU 100: READ Volunteers:

"Philosophy for Kids allowed me to not only introduce kids to the world of philosophy but also allowed me to look at children's literature in a different light that I never thought was possible."

-- Taylor Baldwin

"The whole process of going in and discussing philosophy with the third graders was quite enjoyable. Our discussion about how we tell if things are 'real' was thorough and well thought out. All the kids were enthusiastic to respond and had no difficulty understanding these difficult concepts. I even brought up some ideas that I had learned in my Intro to Philosophy class. It was so amazing to see the kids not only understand what I was saying but put their own twists on it. The class was an amazing experience that I am grateful for and I hope to do it again in the future!"

--Marliere Toothaker