

## Tennis and Reading Combine for an Exciting and Unique Summer Camp

**Greensboro, NC** - On Monday, July 22, 2013, thirteen youth who reside in Greensboro Housing Authority (GHA) communities traveled to the Spencer Love Tennis Center to embark on a new adventure. They were enthusiastic about learning the game of tennis and even more excited to participate in the reading program.



Youth learn basic strokes, tactics and how to keep score during summer camp.

With a mission to use tennis as a vehicle for educating young people, tennis instructor Mike Belangia and the Greensboro Tennis Program staff led youth through 16 hours of tennis clinics. GHA youth learned the basic strokes and tactics on how to keep the ball in play. They played daily against an opponent, learning how to keep score in a tennis match.

In between tennis sessions, the youth participated in an additional 16 hours of literacy exercises. Lead teacher Ms. Elaine Delgado, created work areas in the classroom where youth partnered with their peers to read. The literacy stations consisted of reading books, language arts activities, and arts and crafts. Youth read books about the sea, nature, and other mammals. After each book, the youth made their own books to illustrate and summarize the story. In addition, they learned the meaning of antonyms and synonyms, cause and effect, and opinion and fact. In arts and crafts, they made aquariums using paper plates, plastic wrap, and a sheet of paper. They also used tissue paper, ribbon, and coffee filters to make jelly fish.



Children participate in Reading Ball, a literacy exercise.

Greensboro Housing Authority youth Nashon Broadnax and Mykel Berrie played an instrumental part in assisting coaching staff with

helping younger participants with tennis instruction and reading exercises.

Youth participants were Nashon Broadnax, Isis Artison, Torian Richards, Ryan Jones, and Mykel Berrie all from Lakespring Court; Bacar Toure of Foxworth; Azaria Howell, Kennedy Fikes, Kendall Fikes, Kavone Pace, Kaeden Pace, and Justin Matteaux all from Laurel Oaks, and Alexis Battle of Applewood.