

# 'Learning To Swim'



Taking care of administrative details at the office desk is Hal Roberts, one of the directors of the camp. The camp is completely staffed and administered by UCSC students which has one disadvantage voiced by Roberts: "I wish I could be out there with the kids!"

Take all the best qualities of a summer camp—hiking, field trips, arts and crafts, being outdoors—add what most youngsters like least about school—learning. The result is a highly successful pilot program at Summer Camp Tutorial Project at the University of California at Santa Cruz.

The three-week sessions provided 90 "underprivileged and disadvantaged" children, 30 at each session, with an opportunity to catch up with others in their classes at school, and with an opportunity to find out that learning and going to school can be fun.

The camp, completely staffed and administered by UCSC students and financed mostly by Economic Opportunity Act funds, not only builds skills needed in school—reading and writing ability—but also provides the often needed encouragement that pupils need to keep up with their classmates.

According to Hal Roberts, one of the summer camp directors who will be a senior this fall at UCSC, the winter Tutorial Project conducted on Saturdays during the school year, received much encouragement from teachers who said that the youngsters' attitudes and learning abilities seemed to have improved. Roberts expects even better comments following a full summer of tutorial camp.

Roberts said he could tell the children were enjoying themselves, and they seemed to enjoy learning too.

An average day at the camp begins when one of the counselors drives the rented bus to pick up the youngsters at their schools. At camp they begin with small groups or individual studies in language or math or work on special problems. Following a snack and rest, the activity resumes with arts and crafts or special projects. Lunch is provided each day, free of charge.

In the afternoon there are short hikes, physical education and instruction in games. The day concludes with "What's Around Us"—a time when each child collects something from the environment and tries to find out more about it.

The children range from the first through the sixth grade. They are recommended by their teachers and are selected because they come from a low income family, show academic need or have emotional problems.

At the camp the youngsters are provided with what direct- or Roberts says may, for some, be their first exposure to personal hygiene. Many local dentists donated toothbrushes which the children are required to use. In one case the student administrators at the camp arranged for a young camper to get glasses, free of charge. Other donations included vitamins, cider and linen for the beds for rest time.

Besides the activities at the camp, field trips to the San Francisco zoo, to the tide pools at the beach and to the planetarium at Cabrillo college proved both educational and fun for the youngsters.

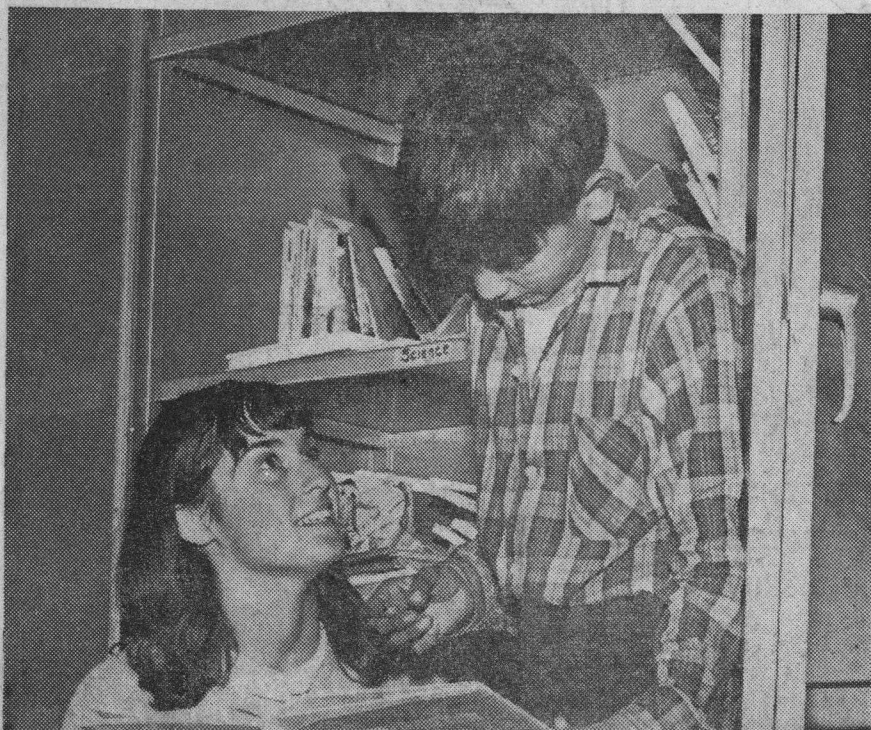
According to the summary the UCSC organizing staff sent with the program outline to the Office of Economic Opportunities and to the university, students "are making the endeavor a rewarding and stable base from which we take our first steps. By the end of the summer we will have our feet wet, probably we will wade all the way up to our necks; but in the process we will learn how to swim and most important, so will the children."

The camp will end this week with a barbecue for all involved in this summer session and the children will return to



Someone found a tiny egg, someone else, namely Professor Todd Newberry who instructs biology classes at UCSC, donated stereo microscopes,

and, as a result, these young ladies are able to learn more about the world around them under the instruction of counselor Leonard Conradson.







Co-director Liz Guarino helps one of the campers choose a book from the library of donated books. Although the library is small, it is in constant use.

Friday. But on Saturday, under the directorship of Victor Nee, a UCLA transfer student who set the program up last year, many of the youngsters will return to the winter tutorial project and continue their "swimming" lessons, with the UCSC tutors who will volunteer their time and abilities.

## Tree'n'Sea Living

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Craft projects include work with donated lumber and leather and tools. Here, the youngsters are working and watching the construction of a Trojan horse, which, when

completed, they will be able to play in, proud that they helped in the construction. Helping them are counselors Don Gensler and Joan Moll.



Another craft is making puppets. These young ladies are sewing and pasting together puppets for a show. Much of the material was donated by pro-

fessors' wives from their art boxes and sewing supplies.



Learning to type not only provides the youngster with a skill in typing but can help improve both reading and writing ability. Here, counselor Terry Ball helps a reporter write up her special feature for the camp

newspaper, published at the end of each session. On the wall is the sign-out list for books borrowed from the tutorial project library.