

## Avondale 4th-graders get reading-lesson boost at EMCC

by [Megan Gordon](#) - Jul. 2, 2010 11:08 AM  
*The Arizona Republic*

Incoming fourth-graders from an Avondale school got an extra boost of reading lessons during camp this week.

Sixteen Lattie Coor Elementary School students who needed help with their reading skills participated in a four-day summer reading camp at Estrella Mountain Community College



in Avondale.



### Reading camp at EMCC in Goodyear

The program is designed to make reading fun, said Gay Romack, deacon and outreach coordinator with St. Peter's Episcopal Church in Litchfield Park, the camp's sponsor.

"If reading is fun, then the children will be more engaged," she said.

The reading instruction was headed by 14 student teachers enrolled in EMCC's teaching program. The class instructor, Pete Turner, is former superintendent of Littleton Elementary School District. He supervised and mentored the college students



, helping them create lesson plans and activities.

"The goal is not really to drastically improve their reading skills," said student-teacher Donna Pike, 30. "The biggest thing is giving them a new attitude towards reading."

The children played games and activities geared toward reading comprehension, writing or following directions, Romack said.

Litzy Santana, 9, said she feels the program will help her during the next school year.

"Reading is more interesting than it was before. It's fun now," she said. "I think the teachers are very nice, and they're part of the fun."

The camp ended Thursday, but students spent Friday playing games with family at St. Peter's Episcopal Church.

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