

Tutoring: What Can You Do In An Hour?

Sajina Jacob



The Glen Ellen Children's Resource Center's (GERC) mission is to provide low-income families the necessary academic skills and social interaction to successfully move through school and into adulthood. Fifteen-year-old Sajith Jacob is one of the tutors there. He works on a volunteer basis and comes in every Wednesday afternoon to work with nine-year-old Axel.

4:30 p.m.



The kids walk into the library, but Axel is being too hyper. Supervisor Mariam has to pull him aside and ask him to calm down.

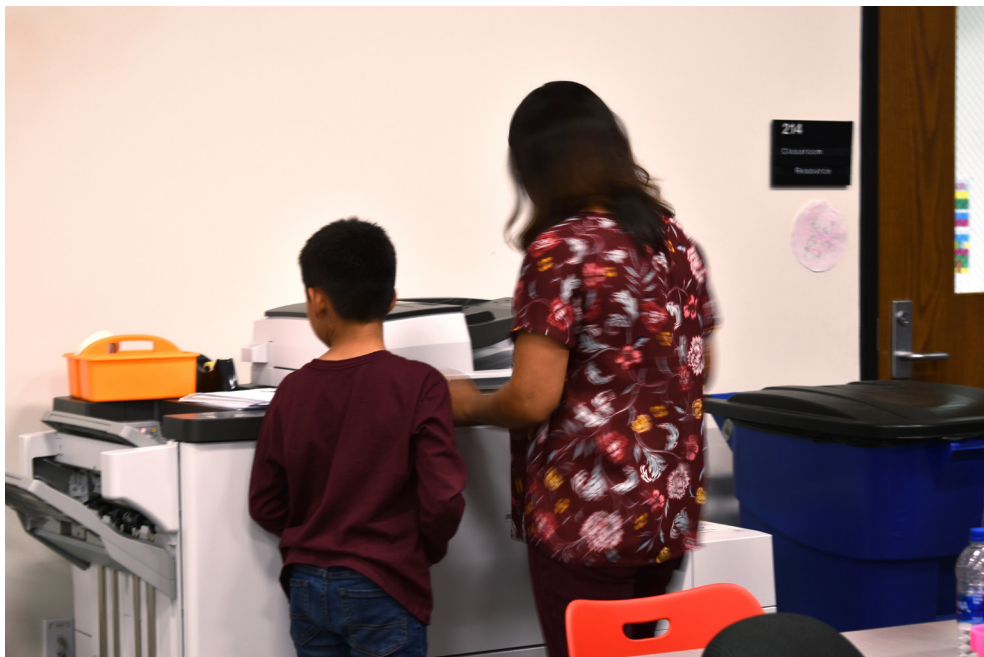
4:35 p.m.

Axel tells the Tutor Program Head, Jackie Reeves, that he forgot his math worksheet in his classroom.



Mrs. Reeves tells him he can't go back and grab it.

4:38 p.m.



Axel asked one of his classmates for the worksheet and Mrs. Reeves was able to photocopy it for him.

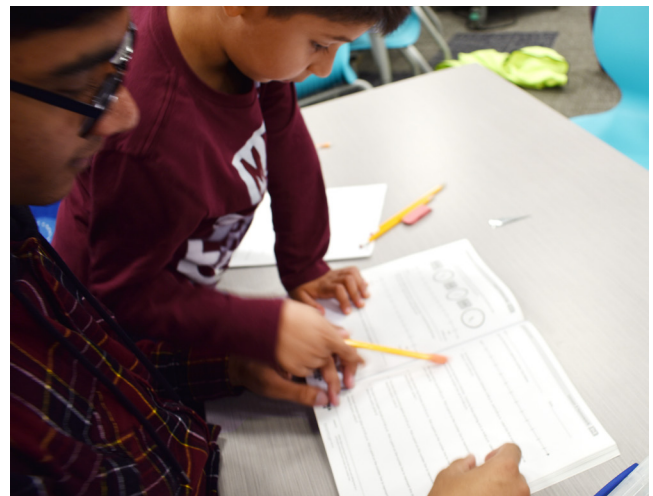
4:40 p.m.



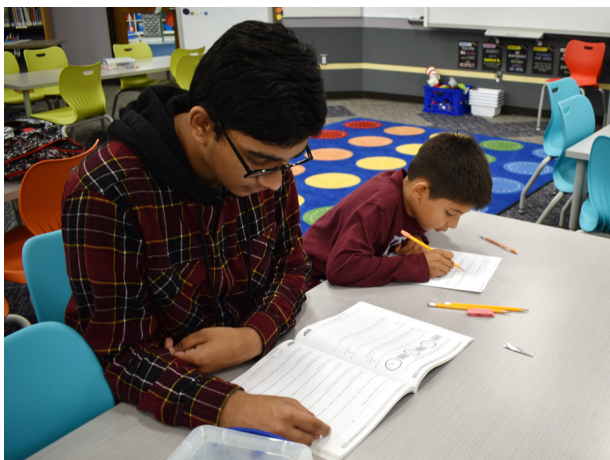
It's finally time to work. The tutor, Sajith, looks on as Axel speeds through his math worksheet.

4:47 p.m.

Axel has a question, but his worksheet is written in his first language, Spanish. He points to the question in the English version of the workbook and asks for help.

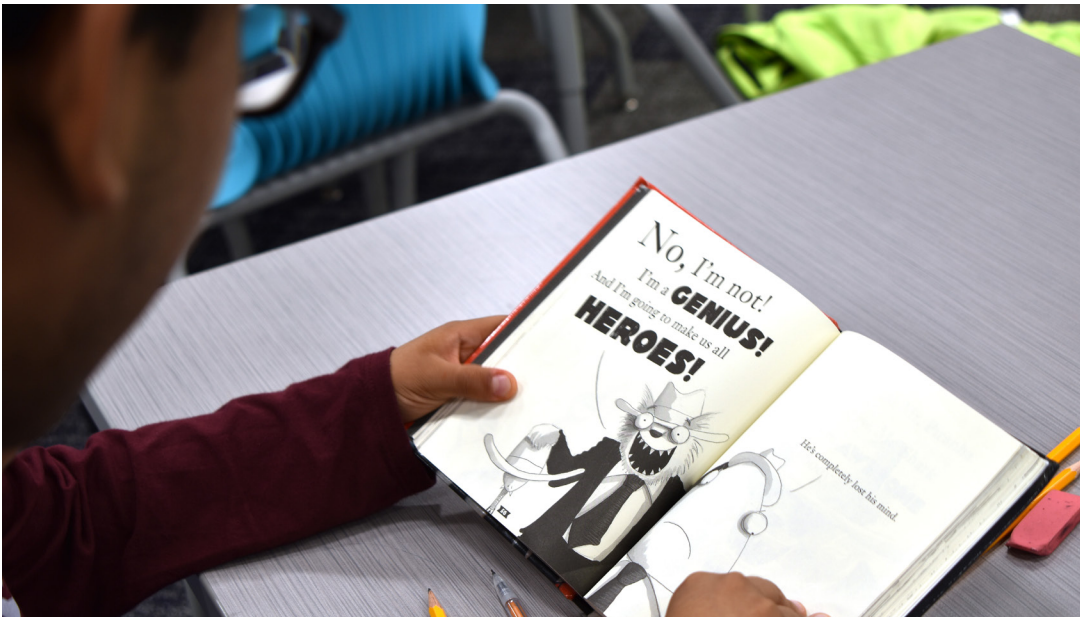


4:50 p.m.



The tutor reviews the worksheet one last time as Axel finishes up.

4:55 p.m.



Axel finished his worksheet. His teacher gave him permission to read a book with his tutor. He can't decide which one.

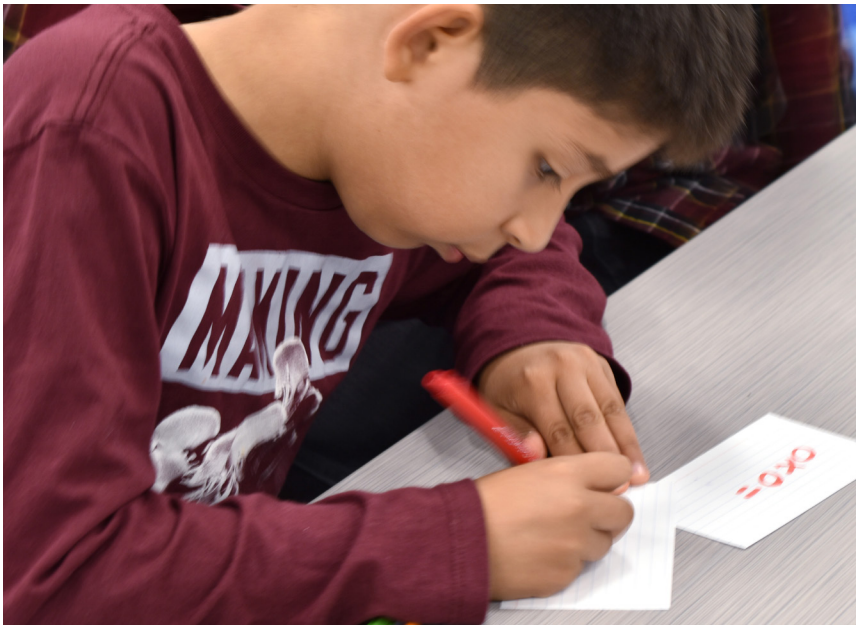
Axel picks a book. He and Sajith take turns reading it out loud. Sajith helps Axel with words he doesn't know.

5:10 p.m.



The teacher, Mrs. Dodie, comes around and tells Axel he is doing a great job with his work today. He is very happy to hear the praise.

5:13 p.m.



Axel is in 3rd grade and is beginning to learn multiplication. He is making flashcards based of of facts he already knows.



Axel doesn't want to make flashcards; he wants to play games. His tutor tells him he needs to finish his flashcards and show them to Mrs. Dodie first.

5:20 p.m.



The tutoring staff was pleased that Axel was able to stay focused today and rewarded him with a pencil.

5:22 p.m.



Axel continues to make his flashcards but asks his tutor to draw a border on the completed flashcards. The tutor complies.

5:26 p.m.

It's time to go home.

Axel is making a sword out of pens before being called to circle time and wrapping up the day.

