

Switching It Up With Richa and Friends!

Tuesday, July 12:

Today we painted a bowl of fruit and played with play doh. This was the first day of Switching It Up With Richa and Friends, so many of the residents had never done an activity like this before, which made them a bit hesitant and cautious at first, but after they got comfortable they really started to enjoy it. One resident (pat) strayed away from painting the fruit and ended up with a beautiful and colorful design, while another resident made a mini, stand alone person out of play doh. I feel that this was an overall enjoyable and exciting experience for everyone involved and I'm excited to see what the next couple of weeks bring.

Wednesday, July 13:

Today we tie dyed shirts and did some coloring pages. Many residents did not understand the concept of tie dying, but they enjoyed it nonetheless. They enjoyed seeing all the different colors on their bundled towels, and liked having the freedom to decorate the towels by themselves. There were only 9 residents there but they were very enthusiastic about the activity. The volunteers that helped with the activity and I are really excited to see their reactions to the finished product tomorrow. The coloring pages at the end of the session were really a last minute decision. A few residents had so much fun with tie dying that they wanted to stay longer and spend time with the volunteers and their friends, so we brought out coloring pages, which turned out being a huge success!!

Thursday, July 14:

Today was the big reveal and cupcake cover art!! We showed the residents their finished tie dye towels, which turned out so incredible and the residents really loved seeing them. They were really surprised that they had made the towels all by themselves! The residents not understanding the concept while they were tie dying was actually a good thing because it was more of a surprise when they actually saw the finished project. The happiness on their faces was so amazing to see and be a part of. Conversely, the cupcake cover art did not go so well, the reason being that everyone had played bingo immediately before our activity, so many residents, tired from the bingo, went back to their rooms. Only 4 residents participated, and they did not understand what they were doing, so they ended up coloring again, which they enjoyed much more.

Friday, July 15:

Today we drew a stuffed animal and did coloring pages. Today was the best day of the week because the residents were very open to all of the activities. When we introduced the activity a couple of them said "I don't know if I can do that, but I'll try". This attitude is what the other volunteers and I had been waiting for all week, we wanted them to try and today they really did. They all drew a picture of the stuffed animal and did a coloring page. Some of them even finished early and played with play doh!! The residents were in a great mood and were encouraging their friends to do the activity! There were about 11 people there and they all really enjoyed it.