



PRESS RELEASE

BU Summer Camp Kids Receive Lessons in Personal Safety and Crime Prevention from Nationally Recognized Program radKIDS

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Miami Shores, Fla. - radKIDS, a nationally renowned crime prevention program designed for children, was taught to all campers ages 5-11 at the BUCKids Summer Camp during Safety Awareness Week July 10-14. All the campers were introduced to concepts like good/bad stranger, 911 emergency response, and physical resistance techniques. Kids were asked to take ownership over their own personal safety by recognizing and avoiding potential dangers in their environment.

During Safety Awareness Week, kids trained everyday for two hours to prepare for the radKIDS simulation. The simulation was comprised of a series of scenarios that tested the child's abilities to defend themselves against physical aggression. The children were then awarded with certificates of completion. The week was capped off by a K-9 unit demonstration by Officers Lee and Jessup of the Miami Shores Police Department. Both officers brought their dogs and showed the kids how their K-9 partners help them investigate a crime scene and take down a criminal.

"We try to incorporate learning into our program using fun and innovative means. Personal safety is a life skill that we feel is important," said Ed Londono, director of CRW and program director for BUCKids. "radKIDS is a program that we added specifically to address this need and is unique to any camp in Florida."

BUCKids Summer Camp has been a great success this year, averaging more than 90 campers each week. It is a program facilitated by Campus Recreation and Wellness (CRW), and during Safety Awareness Week, worked together with the university's Public Safety department to bring programming that is meaningful to children of all ages.

"It makes our job much easier and more effective when concepts like danger recognition and awareness are introduced at a young age," said Lorrie Thomas of Public Safety.

radKIDS (<http://www.radkids.org/>) is the youth equivalent of the RAD self defense program offered to the Barry University community through the ISR program. For more information on radKIDS, visit www.radkids.org.



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