Suncoast Campaign for Grade-Level Reading Honored as a Pacesetter

We're excited to share that the national Campaign for Grade-Level Reading has recognized the Suncoast Campaign for Grade-Level Reading as a Pacesetter for leading by example to solve the challenges that can undermine early literacy.

"Pacesetter Honors are among the highest awards presented by the GLR Campaign," said Ralph Smith, the managing director of the Campaign for Grade-Level Reading. "We are very proud of the Suncoast Campaign and the numerous organizations and individuals behind the community for joining forces and working tirelessly to uplift children and families. They remind us that we are seeing great progress and real results all across the country."

Pacesetters are part of a nationwide network of more than 300 GLR Campaign communities, working together to provide all children with thesupports and services they need to succeed in school and life.
representing 42 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. The Campaign communities are dedicated to narrowing the achievement gap between children from low-income families and their more affluent peers.

"It is an honor to be recognized as a Pacesetter community," said Beth Duda, director of Suncoast Campaign for Grade-Level Reading for The Patterson Foundation. "It's inspiring to see how Sarasota and Manatee counties have joined together to ensure that our most at-risk children and their families have the tools needed to close the educational achievement gap. So far, we have accomplished incredible things, and we hope this recognition will mobilize our community to continue working toward the goal of helping all children read on grade level by the end of third grade."

CONTINUE READING

April is Reach Out and Read Month Across the Suncoast!

In recognition of the importance of school readiness, the Board of County Commissioners of Manatee County and Sarasota County have both declared April 2017 Reach Out and Read month!

A child's first five years sets the stage for all future learning. That's why school readiness is one of the key solution areas of the Suncoast Campaign for Grade-Level Reading - because early learning directly influences a child's ability to learn and succeed. In order to thrive in school and in life, children need to enter kindergarten ready to read and learn. That's where programs like Reach Out and Read come in.

Reach Out and Read is a school readiness program that incorporates books into pediatric care. Through Reach Out and Read, pediatricians give families prescriptions to read by providing developmentally appropriate books for children from six months to five years old and advising parents about the importance of reading aloud.

Children may not be enrolled in a formal early education program, but chances are they are regularly going to the doctor. In fact, more than 90 percent of young children routinely see a
Reach Out and Read is possible in our region because of the partnership between the Manatee Community Foundation, Community Foundation of Sarasota County, The Patterson Foundation, and United Way of Manatee County.

Celebrate Reach Out and Read month with us on social media! Follow @SuncoastCGLR on Twitter and Facebook, and use #GLReading.

How Can Something as Simple as Reading to a Child Be So Effective?

Reading Fact No. 1: Human beings are pleasure-centered

We read to children for all the same reasons we talk with children: to reassure, to entertain, to bond; to inform or explain, to arouse curiosity, to inspire. But in reading aloud, we also condition the child's brain to associate reading with pleasure, create background knowledge, build vocabulary, and provide a reading role model.

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Share the Newsletter

Research shows us that the first five years of a child’s life are a critical time for brain development and the basis for future success. We look forward to sharing engaging news and updates with you related to the earliest years of life. The Patterson Foundation respects your privacy and will not share or sell your contact information.

To be added into the 0-5 Express newsletter distribution list, please click HERE. If there is information you are interested in learning more about, email SCGLR.

Founding Network Weavers

We welcome your thoughts. Contact us at info@GradeLevelReadingSuncoast.net