



Suncoast Campaign for Grade-Level Reading (SCGLR):  
0-5 Express

March 2019

**-- The Kindergarten Round-up! --**

Is your child ready to learn?

School readiness is a term used to describe all the preparation that takes place in the years between birth and the first day of kindergarten. Children who enter school with early skills, including a basic knowledge of math and reading and a well-developed vocabulary, are better positioned for school success.

The Suncoast Campaign for Grade-Level Reading has assembled more than 6,000 Kindergarten Readiness Bags for all incoming students in Charlotte, DeSoto, Sarasota counties, and Manatee County students attending Title 1 schools. Kindergarten Readiness Bags are filled with nearly 20 tools to provide learning support for parents and children in the months before school begins.

Watch this short 2.5 minute video to see what's inside each bag and to learn about tips that can help you help your kiddo succeed.



**MIND** in the Making

**FREE WORKSHOPS**

**Mind in the Making (MITM)**  
**Currently Registering:**

**Team Grand North Port**

Saturday, March 30  
Saturday, April 6  
8:00am - 4:00pm

**Team X-Plore Bradenton**

Saturday, April 27  
Saturday, May 4  
8:30am - 4:30pm



**Kindergarten Round-up!**  
**at Alta Vista Elementary**

Thursday, March 7  
6:00pm-7:30pm

Kindergarten Round-Ups, held at elementary schools in the spring before a child enters kindergarten, provide an opportunity for families to pick up their Kindergarten Readiness Bags. These events also allow families the chance to learn about the school, play, and explore.

At the Round-Ups, children get to meet other kids going through the same experience, and parents get to meet other families from their community whose child may potentially be a classmate. Historically, Kindergarten Round-Ups have been a positive experience for the incoming students, parents, and the schools.

Click here to access the printable [Kindergarten Readiness Guide: ideas and activities for parents and children](#).

Click here for a [list of Kindergarten Round-Up! dates](#).

The Suncoast Campaign for Grade-Level reading is grateful for the generous support of our [volunteers](#), [The Patterson Foundation](#), [Charlotte Community Foundation](#), [Murdock Rotary Club](#), the [Rotary Club of Sarasota Foundation](#), and the [School District of DeSoto County](#) -- for making the distribution of the Kindergarten Readiness Bags possible.

## -- 1 COMMUNITY, 24 Questions --

What is an age-friendly community? It's a community where people of all ages have the chance to be heard. Your opportunity awaits.

Help identify 3-5 key priorities by completing this 7-minute survey!



The [Florida Department of Health \(DOH\)](#) and [Age-Friendly Sarasota](#) are conducting an age-friendly survey, [#ForAllAges](#).

Questions include topics about housing, safe walkable / bikeable neighborhoods, Universal Design, transportation, outdoor spaces, and takes about seven minutes to complete.

We encourage you to share your voice.

Take the survey in [English HERE](#)  
Take the survey in [Spanish HERE](#)

### **SCGLR welcomes the Attendance Awareness Poster Contest winners to the Pittsburgh Pirates Major League Baseball Spring Training Game**

Saturday, March 9  
1:00pm - 3:30pm

### **Kindergarten Round-up! at Gocio Elementary**

Tuesday, March 12  
5:30pm - 7:30pm

### **Kindergarten Round-up! at James Tillman Elementary**

Thursday, March 21  
2:00pm - 6:00pm

### **Kindergarten Round-up! at Blanche H. Daughtrey Elementary**

Thursday, March 21  
2:00pm - 6:00pm

### **Kindergarten Round-up! at Florine J. Abel Elementary**

Thursday, March 21  
4:00pm - 6:00pm

### **Kindergarten Round-up! at Palm View Elementary**

Thursday, March 21  
4:00pm - 6:30pm

### **Kindergarten Round-up! at Cranberry Elementary**

Thursday, March 28  
6:00pm - 7:00pm

### **Kindergarten Round-up! at Tatum Ridge Elementary**

Thursday, April 4  
6:00pm - 7:30pm

### **FREE Parenting Program Groups at Forty Carrots Family Center**

### **SCGLR at All Faiths Food Bank Distribution**

**VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES**

## -- The PULSE --

To harness the inherent power of Suncoast families and strengthen the parents who shape them, the Suncoast Campaign for Grade-Level Reading, with support from The Patterson Foundation, is facilitating a series of [Book Circles open to the community](#) to explore *The Power of Presence*, written by Peabody Award-winning author Joy Thomas Moore.

[SCGLR's Attendance Awareness Poster Contest Pirates Baseball Game!](#)

Saturday, March 9  
10:00am-1:00pm

**"I didn't want to present myself as an expert because I wasn't, I was an experimenter along the way." -- Joy Thomas Moore**

The PULSE newsletter connects [The Power of Presence](#) Book Circles across our region. Join SCGLR as

we explore together how the 7 Pillars of Presence: mind, heart, faith, courage, resources, connectedness and values are changing the lives of hundreds in our community.

[The Power of Presence Book Circle Discussion Guide](#): This guide provides questions designed to spark conversations.

[The PULSE: Newsletter #1](#): What happens when you connect more than 200 community members, dedicated staff and a Peabody author?



[The PULSE: Newsletter #2](#): Book circle leaders gathered at the library to discuss how they could strengthen their book circles.

[The PULSE Newsletter #3](#): Book Circle leaders are taking the conversation on *The Power of Presence* to social media.

[The PULSE Newsletter #4](#): Book Circle leaders are using interactive techniques to engage participants.

A video player thumbnail for a video titled "The Fight For Grade-Level Reading Ep. 8: Joy Thomas Moore and 'The Power of Presence'". The video is 23:05 minutes long. The thumbnail features a photograph of Joy Thomas Moore, a woman with short dark hair and glasses, wearing a white cardigan over a black top. To the right of the photo is a large orange play button icon. Above the play button are icons for information, RSS, and share. The text "The Fight For Grade-Level Reading" is at the top, and "Ep. 8: Joy Thomas Moore and 'The Power of Presence'" is in the center. The duration "23:05" is at the bottom left.

[continue scrolling]

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**Why Mind in the Making is the Bee's Knees!**

1. A learning adventure designed to help you and your kids thrive
2. Workshops available in English and [Spanish](#)
3. [Convenient dates, times, locations, and new classes](#)
4. An excellent way to show the ♥ to the little ones in your life
5. Parents, grandparents, child-care professionals, early-learning educators, and caregivers are welcome
6. FREE workshops|FREE childcare
7. Meals Provided

**The 7 Essential Life Skills:  
#1 Focus and Self-Control**

Mastering Focus and Self control, the first essential life skill, enables children and adults to pay attention in ways that empower them to get the most out of what they are learning and improve their overall success in achieving goals. Do you know who else finally mastered self-control? After many, many years of impulsively devouring cookies, in 2012, Cookie Monster was able to tap into his willpower.



## Me Want It (But Me Wait) [total time: 3 minutes 37 seconds]

If you're interested in learning more about Focus and Self-Control and the remaining essential life skills, join SCGLR's Mind in the Making facilitators on a learning adventure designed to help you and your children thrive!

This FREE workshop based on the groundbreaking book by Ellen Galinsky entitled *Mind in the Making: The Seven Essential Life Skills Every Child Needs*, is hosted at various locations in our four-county region.

Here's what a few participants shared when asked how they were going to use Mind in the Making in their lives going forward:

- Mind in the Making has opened my awareness about the role of the brain's executive functions and how learning them and putting the teachings into practice can be life changing at every age. I hope to be able to engage both children and adults on a level that encourages growth, openness, integrity, and honesty.
- I plan to use these modules as a learning tool with my own child. I think Mind in the Making is great and can't wait to read the book!
- My wish is that I will use the Mind in the Making principles to continue learning and growing. The outcome will be that I will be an example to the young people in my life. The obstacle will be time constraints. The plan is to rearrange my schedule to allow for it.

The last participant explained her hopes for Mind in the Making in the form of a [WOOP](#); a strategy participants learned about in class to help them reach their goals.

We hope you will join us in this series of FREE workshops. Each Mind in the Making workshop provides participants the opportunity to reflect on their own experiences and practices, discover how children (and adults) learn best, and discuss how to apply the knowledge while learning about all 7 Essential Life Skills. Click on the links below to access past newsletters with information about other essential life skills:

- [Focus and Self Control](#)
- [Perspective Taking](#)
- [Communicating](#)
- [Making Connections](#)
- [Critical Thinking](#)
- [Taking On Challenges](#)
- [Self-Directed Engaged Learning](#)

[Mind in the Making](#) is made possible for the Suncoast Campaign for Grade-Level Reading with generous support from [The Patterson Foundation](#).

If you would like to have a series of workshops at your place of employment, church, or community organization, or are [interested in participating in the workshops](#), please contact SCGLR at [info@gradelevelreadingsuncoast.net](mailto:info@gradelevelreadingsuncoast.net).

We welcome your thoughts. Contact us at [info@GradeLevelReadingSuncoast.net](mailto:info@GradeLevelReadingSuncoast.net).