Updates from Bath

The Suncoast Campaign for Grade-Level Reading (SCGLR) is a community-wide effort to help children, especially those from low-income families, achieve reading proficiency by the end of third grade.

Learning to read and write doesn’t start in kindergartens of first grade. In fact, new science tells us that children’s first few years are when they develop the foundation for all future learning. Learning to read begins when babies are first able to learn to see the world. Seeing letters, finger shapes, and talking to one another are important ways children acquire language skills.

If you dream with a child, it’s not just their weight that light up, it’s their brains. In these moments, half a million neurons fire at once. Taking in all the things we say and do.

Parents are the first and most important teachers in their children’s lives. Research shows that students are most successful academically and socially when their parents are involved and engaged in their learning. In this month’s newsletter we explore ways SCGLR is reaching the needle in this area.

Moving the Needle

The brain develops most rapidly during the first five years of life.

Vroom

Vroom is a movement commissioned by the Bezos Family Foundation, designed to share the science of early brain development in new ways so that all children have the chance to become thinking adults.

Vroom’s approach is simple: read with parents while they are close, then through them as they grow. The goal is to build parents’ confidence in their daily journey with offering reinforcing messages about building brain development through daily moments for each parent.

The SCGLR Vroom pilot program, occurring in Manatee and Sarasota counties over the past few months, aimed to engage over 300 local families have been using Vroom’s app and answering a series of surveys. The results are consistently positive and heartening.

To read more about the pilot program, click here.

Learning & Sharing

Sarasota County Fair SCGLR Booth - Volunteers Needed!

The Suncoast Campaign for Grade-Level Reading (SCGLR) will have a booth at the Sarasota County Fair March 18-19 offering the Foundation Awareness postcard created by Sarasota County students. We’re seeking volunteers to help staff the booth.

Volunteers will be asked to help answer questions about SCGLR, assist Sarasota County students with selling their poster, while the booth and assist interested fair goers with downloading the Vroom app on their mobile phones.

Click here to volunteer for the SCGLR booth at the Sarasota County Fair.

The Science Behind Vroom

Mind In The Making

Vroom’s chief science advisor, Ellen Galinsky, is also President and Co-Founder of Families and Work Institute (FWI), Mind in the Making and the author of Silence is Golden: The Seven Essential Life Skills Every Child Needs.

Preceding “Executive Function” life skills, are the basics of Mind In The Making (FWI), Mind in the Making shares the science of children learning with the general public, families, and professionals who work with children and families.

To learn more about Mind In the Making, visit their website: www.mindinthemaking.org

Mind In The Making Fact

The brain develops fastest in the first five years of life, making over 700 new neural connections per second.

Founding Network Weavers

Volunteers will help with the Sarasota and Manatee county booth andForever Learning will honor the regional level for the SCGLR Foundation Awareness Pitch Contest were recognized in their respective school board mandating awareness. In addition to participating in a weeklong, weeklong mentoring program with families, friends and school administration, the students also received an award for creating the poster contest, an award.

To view photos from both events, click here below.

Planning the needle

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