



# 3rd Grade Reading Success Matters

Suncoast Campaign for Grade-Level Reading (SCGLR)

January 2019



"The image of the lioness was a huge comfort and helped me change the way I viewed myself and my family's journey. Single mothers are hunting for food, caring for their young, fending off danger--they are able to do it by relying on one another. Lionesses' resourcefulness and power become emblematic of the spirit of single motherhood. if you think of yourself as part of a larger pride, sharing ideas and championing others, you will succeed in ways beyond your wildest dreams." - Joy Thomas Moore, author of *The Power of Presence*

## -- THE POWER OF PRESENCE -- You still have time to join!



## MIND in the Making



### FREE WORKSHOPS

**Mind in the Making**  
currently enrolling:

#### **Team Zeal -- Palmetto**

Wednesdays  
6:30pm - 9:00pm

#### **Team Cosy -- SRQ**

Tuesdays  
4:00pm - 8:00pm

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. **Moore will visit the region to kick-off the Book Circles on Thursday, Jan. 31.**

It's not too late to [create and lead](#) or [participate](#) in a Book Circle! Each Book Circle, a small group of eight people -- friends, family, neighbors, co-workers - will meet 2-5 times to discuss *The Power of Presence*, in which author Joy Thomas Moore reflects on her journey as a single mother and explains the seven pillars of presence -- mind, heart, faith, courage, resources, connectedness, and values. Moore says these pillars are key to being a lingering voice of positive influence on children -- even when their parents can't be with them.

In addition to an invitation to attend Moore's kick-off event at Pine View School at 7:00pm [Jan 31], [The Patterson Foundation](#) is providing registered Book Circle leaders with copies of the book for their group, discussion guides, and funds to assist with covering costs.

[Click here to attend the kick-off event on Thursday, Jan 31.](#)

"Families are facing new, unfamiliar challenges today compared to previous generations. Parents are working longer hours or multiple jobs, and more children are being raised in single-parent households. Families are changing, but the need to have an indelible presence in the lives and futures of our children has not." - Joy Thomas Moore

So far, 78 individuals, schools, nonprofits, and organizations have created book circles to make an investment in our children and community. For example, Ashley Coone will be leading a Book Circle over afternoon tea, and Stacy Sternberg will be leading her Book Circle via picnics at various locations throughout Sarasota. There's no end to the imaginative ways you can lead a Book Circle!

**Team Bold -- Bradenton**  
Thursdays  
6:00pm - 8:00pm

**Team Wishful -- SRQ**  
Tuesdays & Thursdays  
9:00am - 1:00pm

**Team X-Plore Bradenton**  
Saturday, April 27th  
Saturday, May 4th  
8:30am - 4:30pm



**VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES**

**Kindergarten Readiness Bags - Shift 2**  
January 22  
3:00pm - 5:00pm

**Kindergarten Readiness Bags - Shift 3**  
January 23  
3:00pm - 5:30pm

**Kindergarten Readiness Bags - Shift 4**  
January 24  
1:00pm - 3:00pm

**Kindergarten Readiness Bags - Shift 6**  
January 25  
2:00pm - 5:00pm

**COMMUNITY EVENTS**

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

**MLK Community Health Health Fair**  
January 26  
11:00am - 5:00pm

**Cranberry Elementary 5K Race**  
February 2  
7:00am - 10:00am

### Three Whooty Whoos for SCGLR's Attendance Awareness Poster Contest Regional Winners!



Three "Whoody Whoos" to each student, parent, school, volunteer, and community member who has helped make the 2018-19 Attendance Awareness Poster Contest incredible: Whoody Who! Whoody Who! Whoody Who!

In honor of Attendance Awareness Month in September, the Suncoast Campaign for Grade-Level Reading hosts an Attendance Awareness Poster Contest to promote outstanding attendance habits and help students and parents understand why going to school every day matters. In total, 49,911 students from 82 elementary schools in the four counties participated. The theme for this year's contest was "Strive for Less Than Five Days Absent" to encourage students and their parents to set goals for the school year.

"Creating an original piece of artwork for the Attendance Awareness Poster Contest gives students an engaging way to internalize the importance of attending school every day," said Beth Duda, director of the Suncoast Campaign for Grade-Level Reading for The Patterson Foundation. "The messages the students incorporate into their posters serve as a reminder for parents and families that outstanding attendance is an important component in realizing their hopes and dreams for their children."

In addition to an iPad, [each regional winner](#) will receive four tickets to a Major League Baseball spring training game in their region as a gift from the Suncoast Campaign for Grade-Level Reading through support from The Patterson Foundation. Regional winners will also receive recognition at school board meetings in their respective counties.

Since the Suncoast Campaign for Grade-Level Reading's inaugural poster contest in 2015, nearly 200,000 posters have been created by students from Charlotte, DeSoto, Manatee, and Sarasota counties.

7:00am - 10:00am

### **DeSoto County Fair**

February 6  
5:00pm - 9:00pm

### **Arcadia Housing Authority Open House**

February 8  
10:00am - 1:00pm

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

February 26  
5:30pm - 7:00pm



### **All Faiths Food Bank Mobile Distribution**

#### **Booker Middle**

February 4  
4:00pm - 5:30

#### **Good Shepherd Episcopal Church**

February 6  
10:00am - 11:30am

#### **Brentwood Elementary**

February 11  
4:30pm - 6:00pm

#### **Grace Church**

February 14  
9:00am - 10:30am

#### **Seventh-Day Adventist Church**

February 21  
10:00am - 12:00pm

## **RING RING...CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS**

**HOT OFF THE PRESS!** SCGLR needs volunteers to join us as we prepare Kindergarten Readiness Bags for incoming kindergartners in Sarasota, Manatee, Charlotte, and DeSoto counties.

These materials are designed for parent-child interactions to help the little ones transition between pre-k and kindergarten.



Get a sneak peek into nearly 20 tools that help kids succeed in school.

[ACCESS THE SCGLR VOLUNTEER CALENDAR TO REGISTER](#)

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