By now, SCGLR is hoping you already know about the Suncoast Summer Reading Challenge featuring THIS BOOK IS COOL!, which received the prestigious Bright Spot award from the Campaign for Grade-Level Reading. Click here if you need a reminder.

The last day to register for full participation (20 free books) is Monday, May 31. Please help us share far and wide, so Suncoast children don’t miss out on this magical learning adventure!

It's in our nature not to leave anyone behind. We understand that everyone in the 4-county region may not have access to our messaging circles. No worries! Folks who find out about this opportunity later can still participate. Families signing up between June 1 and June 13 are eligible to receive ten books at the 2nd distribution, which will begin on June 30.

Questions? Please contact the Suncoast Summer Reading Challenge project manager, Karen Windon.

We are overjoyed for this year's reading challenge and are glad to be working with each of you to make it a ballooning success!

Family engagement is a collective responsibility in which schools and other community groups and organizations are committed to reaching out to engage families in meaningful ways and in which families are committed to actively supporting their children's learning and development. Statistics show that family engagement in reading has a major impact on reading success!

So without further ado, here are the TOP 5 REASONS to join SCGLR on June 1 for our family engagement night with origami artist, Kuniko Yamamoto

1. It’s Free + Fun
2. Multigenerational enjoyment for children, parents, and grandparents
3. Learn how to make Origami (magic with paper)
4. Experience "Story-gami"
5. Spend time with THIS BOOK IS COOL! host Beth Duda and the amazing Kuniko Yamamoto

REGISTER HERE
Millions of Americans now can qualify for a $50-per-month subsidy to pay for broadband internet, thanks to the stimulus bill passed in December.

The Federal Communication Commission (FCC) has announced that households can apply for the Emergency Broadband Benefit (EBB) beginning on May 12. The program, which teams up with broadband providers, offers a $50 discount on broadband bills ($75 for those living on tribal lands) and a $100 discount toward devices.

**Who qualifies for EBB, and how do people apply for the program?**

According to the FCC, a household is eligible if it meets any of these criteria:

- Has an income that is at or below 135% of the federal poverty guidelines or participates in certain assistance programs, such as SNAP, Medicaid, or Lifeline
- Is approved to receive benefits under the federal free and reduced-price school lunch program or the school breakfast program, including through the USDA Community Eligibility Provision in the 2019-2020 or 2020-2021 school year
- Has received a federal Pell Grant during the current award year
- Experienced a substantial loss of income because of job loss or furlough since Feb. 29, 2020, and had a total income in 2020 at or below $99,000 for single filers and $198,000 for joint filers
- Meets the eligibility criteria for a participating provider's existing low-income or COVID-19 program

During a recent FCC webinar for consumers and outreach partners, it was confirmed that all previous debt an applicant might owe to a broadband company...
A sampling of submissions from the Patriot Plaza Family Engagement Activity Book Celebrating President's Day.

With Memorial Day around the corner, The Patterson Foundation is highlighting Patriot Plaza -- a 2,800-seat ceremonial amphitheater at Sarasota National Cemetery. Patriot Plaza features commissioned art that honors veterans, inspires patriotism, and embraces freedom.

Continuing in the spirit of innovating, The Patterson Foundation decided to create Patriot Plaza Family Engagement Activity Books as ways to bring Patriot Plaza into homes.

The third edition is now available and can be shared with THIS BOOK IS COOL! registrants and other community organizations. Download your copy here.

This activity book is focused on the art at Patriot Plaza and offers many activities that encourage readers to explore their creative genes with interesting activities like vegetable mosaics and homemade doe sculpture. Children are invited to share their projects which will be posted on the foundation and the campaign's communications outlets. The first 50 submissions will receive a prize as a gift from The Patterson Foundation so be sure to submit pictures to SCGLR Engagement Team member, Laurie Miller.

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