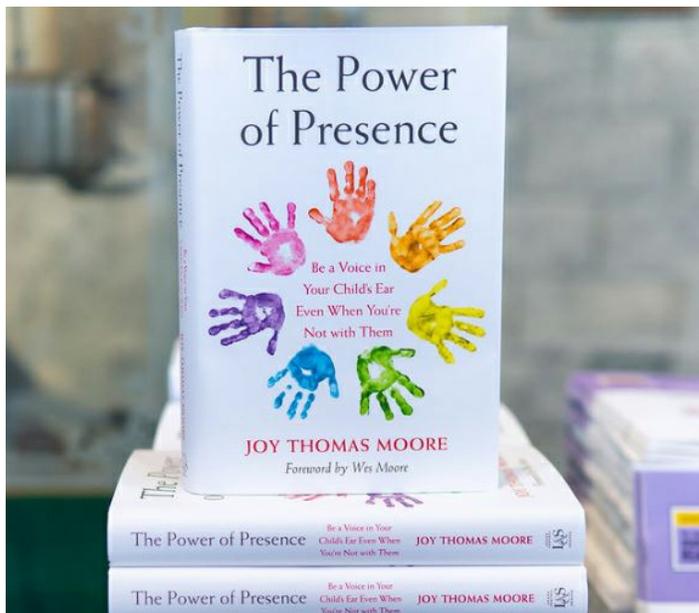




June 2020

FAMILY ENGAGEMENT



Editor's Note: Regardless of whether you participated in the The Power of Presence book circles or the Zoom chats, the clips below are valuable nuggets of wisdom that may prove useful.

In 2019, to harness the inherent power of Suncoast families and strengthen the parents who shape them, SCGLR, with support from [The Patterson Foundation](#), facilitated a series of book circles open to the community to explore *The Power of Presence*, written by Peabody Award-winning author Joy Thomas Moore.

Now, in the time of COVID-19, SCGLR reconnected with Joy virtually to discuss the

evolving changes brought about by the pandemic via a series of Zoom chats on how the seven pillars of presence can help guide

THIS BOOK IS COOL!



**BEGINS JUNE 1, 2020
REGISTRATION CLOSING WEEK 7**

GRADES PREK-3

Many of you have already heard about SCGLR's THIS BOOK IS COOL!, but lots of questions are coming in, so here's the scoop!

Question: What exactly is THIS BOOK IS COOL!?

Answer: THIS BOOK IS COOL! is a series of webisodes to encourage a love of reading. Qualified children who've signed up for THIS BOOK IS COOL! will receive up to 20 books as a gift from The Patterson Foundation.

Question: Is it too late to sign up my child?

Answer: Not yet. Registration, which allows qualifying families to receive free books,

families through these challenging times.

In partnership with [The Florida Center for Early Childhood](#), we are happy to share brief recap videos with Joy's insight into *The Power of Presence*.



[Silver Linings](#)



[Self-care for Parents](#)



[Presence of Heart](#)

officially ends at week 7.

Question: I was unable to pick-up my child's books. Is there another opportunity?

Answer: SCGLR is currently working with locations in all four counties trying to arrange for alternative book pick-up locations. If you are unable to pick up your books at our distribution events, SCGLR will work with you to discuss options. [Please contact us.](#)

Question: How do I share my child's log to make sure we qualify to get the next round of books?

Answer: Families should reply to the email from one of our Engagement Team members asking them to report the number of books their child has read. When you visit a pick-up location, SCGLR will know if your child is eligible to get books and rewards. If you are unable to respond to the email, then bring your child's log to the pick-up location.

Question: Will my child earn rewards by reading additional books?

Answer: Absolutely! If you have books at home, go ahead and read them with your child. Log those too. That way, your kiddo can collect more bracelets and become a stronger reader!

Question: Where we can pick-up the books?

Answer: The dates and times will be shared with families via email. This week, SCGLR only gave 24-hour notice, because we had to change the locations four times! Sorry about that, folks!

Question: Why should our family participate in THIS BOOK IS COOL!?

Answer: Reading is one of the most important skills your child can master. There is a strong connection between reading well and overall academic and life success. Research shows that children who do not read regularly can lose two months or more of reading skills over the summer. Reading just six books at



[Mindfulness](#)



[Helping](#)



[School & Family Interaction](#)

the appropriate reading level during the summer can help your child soar during the school year.

It's no secret that many children look to the adults in their lives as role models. When parents model and show enthusiasm about reading, the kiddos will want to read too. This multidimensional program includes books, webisodes, activities, and vocabulary words to help you inspire your children.

Question: How do I get started?

Answer: To begin, visit the [THIS BOOK IS COOL!](#) webpage on the Suncoast Campaign for Grade-Level Reading website and register.

Then, click the grade-appropriate webisode library and get familiar with what's offered.

Each webisode features a book, talks about why it's cool, and provides a suggested activity. The books you receive from SCGLR are the same books discussed in the webisodes. Each week, SCGLR will add two new webisodes, totaling 20 webisodes for each grade level at week 10.

THIS BOOK IS COOL! webisodes, activity guides, and featured books will provide numerous opportunities for children, parents, and families to engage in reading and learning.

During these uncertain times, reading and enjoying book-related activities will help build strong family bonds and create joyful memories that children can carry with them for the rest of their lives. Now that is COOL!

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER TODAY](#)

Fill Out the Census for the Children

By Kim Doleatto, Herald-Tribune Media Group





[Relying on Faith](#)



[Political Lens](#)



[Affirmations](#)



Philip Tavill, president & CEO of Children First

The census impacts everyone, but young children are especially affected by an undercount.

Available online for the first time, [the census never has been easier to fill out](#). It's also never been harder to get people to do it.

Financial cuts to outreach efforts, a historical trend of undercounting, and immigrant policies that instill fear, even among legally residing immigrant families, stand in the way of participation and an accurate count. Add a sudden pandemic and social distancing, and those challenges grow teeth and nails.

The 2020 Census will help determine how more than \$1.5 trillion in federal funding to state and local governments, organizations, and individuals is parceled out for the next 10 years.

In the last census in 2010, more than 70,000 of Florida's children under the age of 5 went uncounted.

For every person who doesn't participate, \$1,500 per day for 10 years is lost. For the last census period, we lost \$420 million for Sarasota County.

Now is your time to respond to the 2020 Census by phone, mail, or online at my2020census.gov.

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