

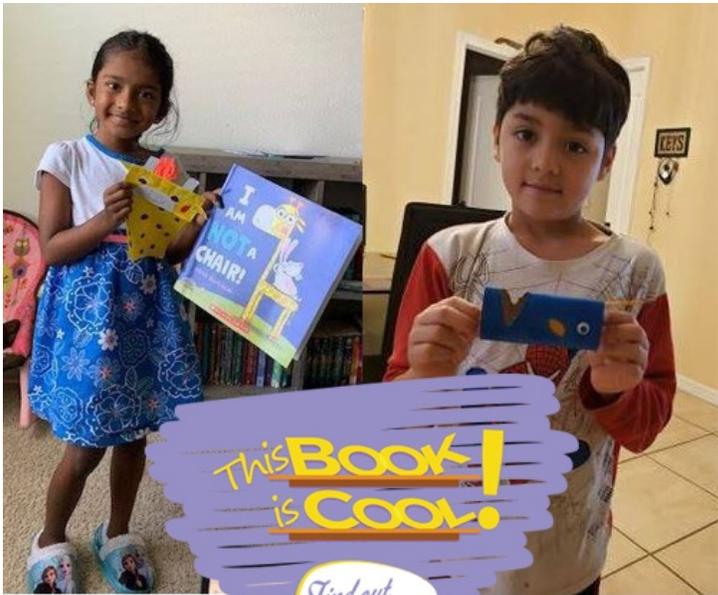
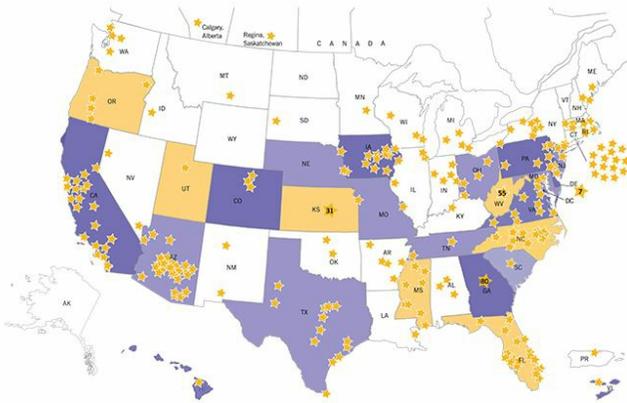


# 3rd Grade Reading Success Matters

Suncoast Campaign for Grade-Level Reading (SCGLR)  
July 2020

## GLR WEEK 2020

## MORE THIS BOOK IS COOL!



"Going virtual offered the opportunity. We seized it! GLR WEEK 2020 was transformed into series of events and activities featuring the work, priorities, and progress of two dozen states and communities in the GLR Network."

-- [Campaign for Grade-Level Reading](#)

The campaign featured webinars on several topics, including "Supporting Children and Families in the First Three Years," "Reaching and Supporting Parents through 211," "The Role of Shared Services and Staffed Family Childcare Networks," "COVID-19 and Education: Ensuring Equity as We Address COVID-19 Learning Loss," and more.

Additionally, the campaign screened the [No Small Matter documentary](#) which was

followed by a discussion on the importance of advocating for early learning.

Summer is an exciting time for children, and this year is clearly unique! While the Suncoast Summer Reading Challenge ends after week ten, SCGLR is happily inviting families, nonprofits, and organizations to use [THIS BOOK IS COOL!](#) as a tool to promote literacy moving forward.

[THIS BOOK IS COOL!](#) is a series of 100 webisodes to encourage a love of reading for children in grades Pre-K-3. Each 10-15-minute webisode features a special guest

sharing reasons why this book is cool, new vocabulary words, and a suggested activity that goes with the book. Activity guides with

Wes Moore, the beloved son of Joy Thomas Moore, author of [The Power of Presence](#), reminded us of our responsibility to make sure our students are not falling behind but rather forging ahead.



Wes Moore reminds us that we must be thoughtful about how we approach this work. "It is our moral responsibility to make sure our students are not falling behind but instead they are forging ahead." Than...



## Mitigate and Reverse Learning Loss

And Beth Duda shared how SCGLR successfully implemented its summer learning program, [THIS BOOK IS COOL!](#), to more than 4,000 children with help from community members, the Engagement Team, celebrity guests, and generous support from [The Patterson Foundation](#).

On Friday, July 17, the campaign will honor its 2020 Pacesetters.

"Recognizing Pacesetters is our way of applauding and thanking the civic leaders, organizations, and agencies that have joined forces to build brighter futures for children in their communities. We are learning with them and from them what it takes to move the needle and close the gap. Mobilized communities are essential to ensuring school success." -- Ralph Smith, managing director of CGLR.

"Each year, CGLR uses its Pacesetter Honors to highlight communities that report making measurable progress on key indicators of early school success. These communities serve as proof points and represent the

leading edge of innovation, impact, and improvement within the GLR Network, currently comprised of more than 300 communities, representing 44 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands and Alberta, Canada." --

step-by-step instructions for each featured book can be found at the bottom of each webisode library.

Although the webisodes are not read-aloud stories -- SCGLR encourages children to read the books themselves -- they are very engaging. Your local library is a great place to pick up books that correspond to the webisodes.

[Click here to view the photo album of THIS BOOK IS COOL!'s activities in action on Facebook.](#)

Are you ready to share the fun with your network? Join us on this fantastic, virtual reading adventure at [gradelevelreadingsuncoast.net](http://gradelevelreadingsuncoast.net).

## FAMILY EVENTS WITH SCGLR!



[Spoken Word Poetry with Cedric Hameed](#)

On June 30, Cedric Hameed guided online guests through an interactive journey of spoken-word poetry. Families created and shared poems that began with "I need you because..." "I want to see you..." "I want you to know..." and "Because even when I am gone..."

Here is the poem Cedric and his AMAZING kiddos, Avianna and Tyus, so beautifully shared:

I need you because when I am broken you heal me, you appreciate me, you free me,

## Campaign for Grade-Level Reading

Stay tuned to learn if SCGLR will once again be honored for its achievements!

### THIS BOOK IS COOL!

SCGLR is approaching Week 8 and as of 7/12, there's been 17,783 total webisode views, and more than 4,000 children and 80 summer providers are participating!

Special thanks to each celebrity for helping to create the magic. Click a name below to watch them in action!

#### Week 1

[Kelli Karen Smith](#)  
[Tracy Calla](#)  
[Amanda Horne](#)  
[Carolina Franco](#)  
[Ben Tollefson](#)  
[Lynn Dorler](#)  
[Hannah Saeger Karnei](#)  
[John Ferguson](#)  
[Adam Ratner](#)  
[John Scalzi](#)

#### Week 2

[Laurie Miller](#)  
[Ashley Coone](#)  
[Heather Young](#)  
[Asa Thomas](#)  
[Danielle Brown](#)  
[EJ Porter](#)  
[Declan Sheehy](#)  
[Jodie Williams](#)

[Susan Nations](#)  
[Amanda McNary](#)

#### Week 3

[Leah Verier-Dunn](#)  
[Angie Matthiessen](#)  
[Sara Walker](#)

I need you because you engorge my heart  
with love, because you generate love,  
because without you there is no love,  
I need you because you create life, because  
you take the darkness out of life, because  
you breathe life,  
I'll never leave you alone, scared, furious  
I want to see you prosperous, Brave, curious,  
I want you to know that I love you, that I'll  
always be there, that you don't have to fear,  
Because even when I am gone, our  
memories, and the moments we share,  
always keeps you near!

Others shared their poems, too!



[Spoken Word Poetry with Cedric Hameed](#)

Then on July 14, Origami artist Kuniko Yamamoto guided online guests through an interactive, creative adventure of "story-gami."

Families helped build creative narrative as Kuniko folded paper to create various objects.

Then, she taught participants how to fold the farthest flying paper airplanes!



[Live Family Event with Kuniko Yamamoto  
— July 14, 2020](#)

[Click here to view highlights](#)

[John Weida](#)

[Leigh Michalojko](#)

[Ben Jewell-Plocher](#)

[Dr. Lisa Merritt, MD](#)

[Karen Bell](#)

[Dr. Laura Kingsley](#)

[Carrie Mills](#)

#### Week 4

[Jenifer Johnson](#)

[Melissa Nelson](#)

[Jamie Kattrein](#)

[Xtavia Bailey](#)

[Nate Brown](#)

[Dr. Patti Folino](#)

[Brad Tanner](#)

[Catrese Estes](#)

[Adam Ratner](#)

[Maribeth Mason](#)



During the event, she shared that *Captain Awesome to the Rescue* was one of her favorite webisodes/books. Then she declared herself an origami hero...we couldn't agree more!

#### Week 5

[Cindy McDowell](#)

[Dr. Robin Thompson](#)

[Kirsten Russell](#)

[Kuniko Yamamoto](#)

[Kelli Maldonado](#)

[Holly Brody](#)

[Cedric Hameed](#)

[Nicole Rice](#)

[Bronwyn Beightol](#)

[Carolyn Michel](#)



[Captain Awesome to the Rescue](#)

#### Week 6

[Deb Lombard](#)

[Bruce Rogers](#)

[Jacqueline Moore](#)

[Ken Waters](#)

[Dr. Sheila Halpin](#)

[Jennifer Kahler](#)

[Derrick L. Randall](#)

[Ben Tollefson](#)

[Chris Renouf](#)

Captain Awesome is about an eight-year-old Eugene McGillicudy, an imaginative boy who loves comic books and superheroes. Eugene also has his very own super secret superhero alter ego named Captain Awesome.

When the McGillicudy family relocates to a new town called Sunnyview, Eugene starts a new school, finds a best friend, and even finds time to defend his toys from his two

[Susie Bowie](#)

## Week 7

[Kathryn Shea](#)

[Marshall Jones, III](#)

[Rev. Patrick Wilson](#)

[Jeanie Baik](#)

[Karen Windon](#)

[Karen Arango](#)

[Joel PE King](#)

[Shelley Keeling](#)

[Hilarie King](#)

[Michelle Delp](#)

Stay tuned each week as SCGLR shares new videos, activities, and [special moments](#).

midst time to defend his toys from his two-year-old little sister, Molly! Luckily for Sunnyview, Captain Awesome is there to protect the town (and the universe) from a hilarious cast of comical "bad guys."

Source: Simon & Schuster

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