



September 2020

FOR THE GROWNUPS

With less than 30-days left, our focus has turned to why Census 2020 is CRITICAL for our children's future. In 2010, children aged 0-4 were the most under-counted population. This negatively affects school planning, food assistance funding and many other programs. You can help by making sure everyone you know with children has completed the 2020 Census!

TOP 5 REASONS WHY CENSUS 2020 IS CRITICAL TO OUR KIDS:

1. Kids ages 0-4 were the most undercounted group. The census only happens every ten years, if you don't count your baby this year, they won't be accounted for any planning that affects them until 2030.
2. Census data is used in funding for Head Start, schools, special education, childcare, school lunch programs, and more. If the children in your life aren't counted, it isn't you who misses out over the next ten years, it's them!
3. In the age of COVID-19, families are trying to figure out the best way to get their kids the technology it takes to stay learning no matter what. Census data helps fund technology in schools so that they can be prepared for the unimaginable (also known as the year 2020!).

FOR THE LITTLE ONES



Buitengebieden @buitengebieden_ · Jun 13
Bedtime story 🥰



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Uncover [tips in this article](#) for babies, toddlers, emerging readers, early readers, reluctant readers, and visual readers. There are even tips for parents that aren't so keen on reading!

Here are a few of our favorite tips:

#1. Reacquaint Yourself With Reading. If you've let reading slide to the margins of your life, now is the time to bring it back.

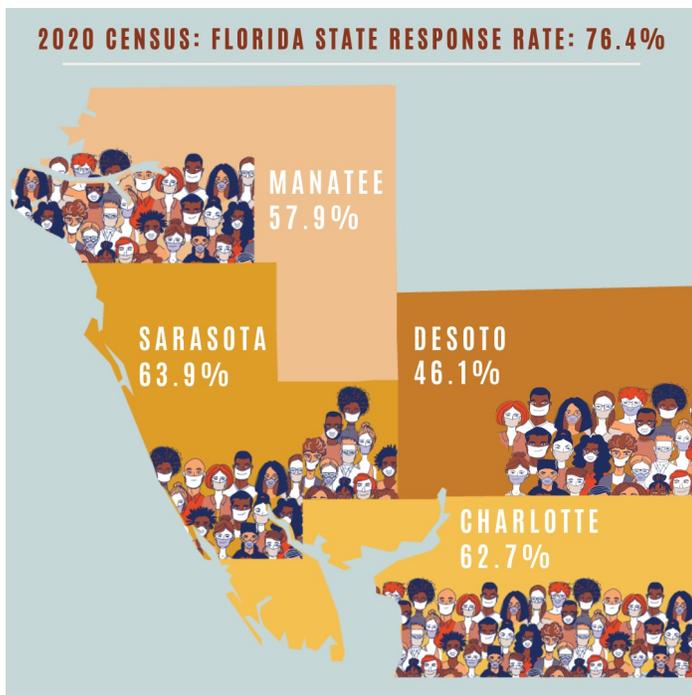
Make the space, and time, for books you read for yourself, and books you read with your child. If you want to raise a reader, be a reader.

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4.It's not just about school. Census data is used to help fund housing assistance, SNAP, WIC, Title I grants, and many other critical social services. By counting kids in the 2020 Census, we ensure that safety net programs remain intact.

5. Teach kids that they count. The census is about how many people live in the U.S. That's it. Regardless of economic status, race, immigration status or anything else, your family and your children count. Teach them young what it means to be counted

[Take a few minutes to complete the 2020 Census :-\)](#)



SCREEN TIME DURING A PANDEMIC



#2. Read out loud, every day.

Any book. You can read anything to a newborn: a cookbook, a novel, a parenting manual. The content doesn't matter. What does matter is the sound of your voice, the cadence of the text and the words themselves. Research has shown that the number of words an infant is exposed to has a direct impact on language development and literacy. But here's the catch: The language has to be live, in person, and directed at the child. Turning on a television, or even an audio book, doesn't count. Sure, it's good to get started reading aloud the children's books that will be part of your child's library. But don't feel limited. Just be sure to enjoy yourself.

#3. Choose diverse books. All children need to see themselves reflected in the picture books around them. Seek out books that feature children who look similar to yours. Children also benefit from books that show kids with different skin tones and ethnicities. All children need to encounter books that present the variety of cultural traditions and family structures that coexist in our communities. Exposing children to diversity in books will prepare them for life in a diverse world.

#4. Mind your audience.

Make eye contact, but don't look for a particular reaction. It may seem like babies are not listening, but they are absorbing the experience, the patterns, and routines. Attentive habits that are set now will last a lifetime.

[Source: New York Times | Books](#)

[CONTINUE READING](#)

FOR THE BIG KIDS

vroom
Brain building moments

In the past, you may have heard about the consequences of too much screen time, but during this pandemic, to [make lemonade out lemons](#), the rules have been muddled!

Dr. Michael Levine, senior vice president of Learning and Impact for Noggin, a division of Nickelodeon, shares the 3 C's to help parents and caregivers create an optimal learning environment when relying on more screen time than usual.



[Examining Screen Time With Michael Levine](#)

(total time: 6 minutes)

As a way to supplement the challenges of social distancing while obtaining reading gains this summer, SCGLR embraced virtual learning with [THIS BOOK IS COOL!](#) In true SCGLR fashion, each webisode was used as a

tool to promote the joys of literacy by inspiring children to read the corresponding books and participate in book-related activities found at the bottom of the [webisode libraries](#).

SCGLR encourages families to continue to use THIS BOOK IS COOL! webisodes and activity guides as a family engagement tool moving forward.

Thanks to [Early Learning Nation's article](#), readers can take a glimpse into how books for THIS BOOK IS COOL! were chosen and the strategy behind choosing many of the program's special guests.

Playtime Picks

Pick a color or letter with your child and, together, go on a scavenger hunt to find as many things as you can in three minutes. How many things in the house are blue? Count out loud together as you find each item. You can also play with letters: How many things do you see that start with T?

Brainy Background Powered by Mind In The Making

"I Spy" games like this one are great brain-builders. They make your child aware of his/her environment and teach him/her to make connections between similar things. You can try this game with letters, colors, shapes - anything really!

Fun with Stories



total time: 1 minute

When reading with your child, involve them in the story. Have fun with your words and

how you use your voice. When your child makes comments, follow up and encourage them to tell you more. Help your child make connections between what they see in the book and what's around them. When you make storytelling fun, you are helping your child develop a lifelong love of language.

-- [Vroom](#)