

3rd Grade Reading Success Matters

Suncoast Campaign for Grade-Level Reading (SCGLR)

March 2021

2021 Suncoast Summer Reading Challenge



Registration in [English](#) and [Spanish](#) for the Suncoast Summer Reading Challenge will open March 22.

If you are planning to market the Suncoast Summer Reading Challenge to your network, the SCGLR Engagement Team encourages you to watch the 21-minute panel discussion about THIS BOOK IS COOL! Learn the intentionality behind the book selection process,

discover how children will benefit from reading these

CRUCIBLE OF PRACTICE

On March 11, Charlotte County held its Crucible of Practice. One **WOW** nugget shared: five years ago, Charlotte County's 3rd-grade reading level was at 50%. Now, they're at 70%!

How is Charlotte closing the gap? By working together to shape its future through mentors, economic development, and relationship building.

Panelists included passionaries Beth Duda and Angie Matthiessen along with possibilarians Teri Ashley □ Geri Waksler □ Kim Amontree □ Cara Reynolds □ Eva Worden □ Sue Sorenson □ Elizabeth Sides □ Lynn Dorler □ Carmel Kisiday □ and Melissa Nelson.

specific books, relax knowing activities corresponding with each book is already sorted, and smile when you hear how children and families responded last year.



[An inside look at THIS BOOK IS COOL! \(21 minutes\)](#)

TBIC was conceptualized then realized as a response to the pandemic. Last year, 5,302 children participated; reading 94,383 books.

SCGLR obtained aggregate performance data for 79 summer providers who worked with elementary school-aged children for at least four weeks during the summer months. SCGLR compared the first diagnostic reading test the students took in the fall of 2020 with the last diagnostic reading test administered in the winter or spring of 2020 for an indication of reading skill loss. **Of the 5,302 students who participated in 2020, 73% HAD NO LEARNING LOSS during the summer.** The National Summer Learning Association reports that asset-limited children typically lose two to three months in reading over the summer months.

"When the winds of change blow, some people build walls, others build windmills."

Chinese Proverb

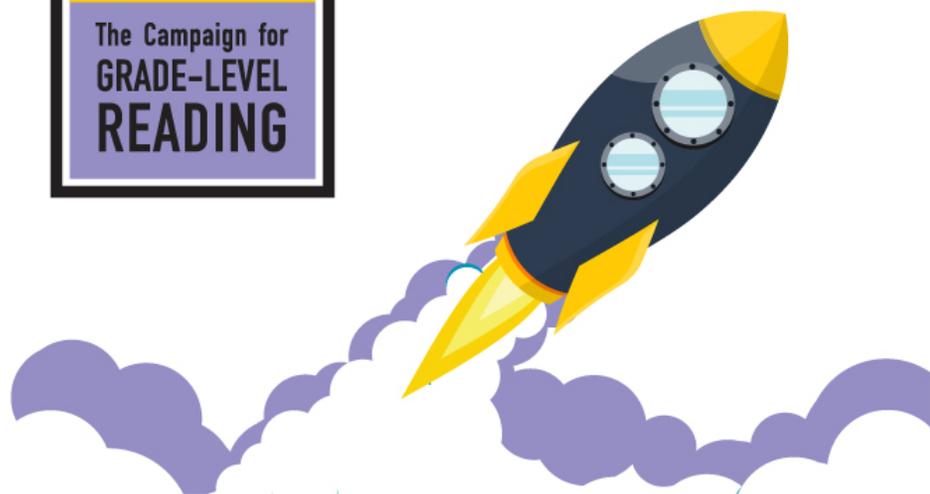
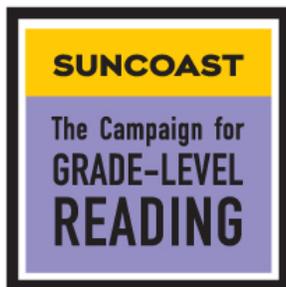
Learn how SCGLR's county-specific work in Manatee and DeSoto counties, led by [United Way Suncoast](#), is helping to design and frame the emerging work in DeSoto County and is working with partners to implement The Big Plan in Manatee County.

Join Beth Duda and Bronwyn Beightol as they talk with possibilarians Derrick Randall, CEO, Rubonia Community Center and United Community Center □ Luz Corcuera, CEO UnidosNow □ Jacki Dezelski, CEO, Manatee Chamber of Commerce □ and Reggie Bellamy, Manatee County Commissioner on March 26.

[Crucible of Practice: Manatee & DeSoto County Friday, March 26, 8:30a-9:30a](#)

Learn how SCGLR's Sarasota lead, [Community Foundation of Sarasota County](#), is helping to ensure the success of parents in Sarasota County and across the region.

We hope you will join us for the most fulfilling and innovative Suncoast Summer Reading Challenge yet!



Be the change you wish to see! If you are part of an organization providing a summer program, [REGISTER HERE](#) for another unforgettable Suncoast Summer Reading Challenge Blast-Off event happening Saturday, May 22, 2021, from 9:30a-11:00a.

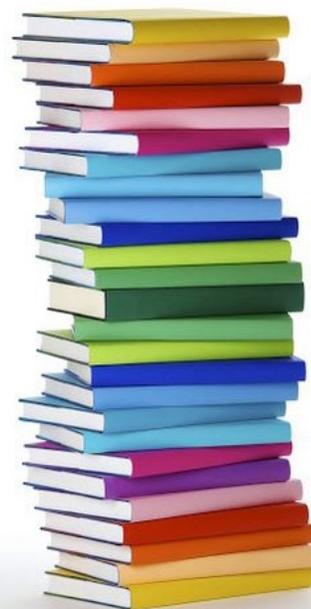
EOD READING DAY WITH FAMILY: FUN FEST RECAP!

On March 2, 64 families from 29 schools in Manatee and Sarasota counties joined Embracing Our Differences, SCGLR, and artist Cedric Hameed on Zoom for a creative poetry experience.

Join Beth Duda and Nicole Light as they talk with possibilarians Ashley Brown, President and CEO, Women's Resource Center □ Mary Tucker, Parent Education Navigator □ and Student/Parent, Lynnette Coney on March 30.

Crucible of Practice: Sarasota County
Tuesday, March 30, 10a-11a

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES



Florida GLR Presents

Dr. Paige Pullen from the Lastinger Center at the University of Florida

Join us for 9 all *new* sessions in our free webinar series on Supporting Reading Instruction!

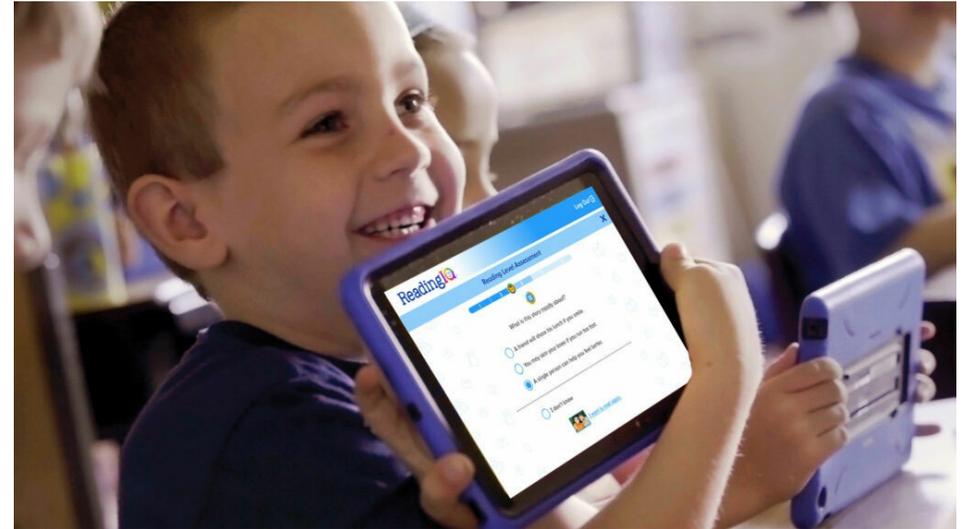
Intended Audience: PK-3rd grade afterschool staff, summer learning staff, reading volunteers, paraprofessionals, etc.

Certificates of participation will be provided at the end of each webinar. Select each date you wish to attend to register.

Florida Grade Level Reading recently announced a series of great literacy focused, free webinars through its partnership with [The University of Florida Lastinger Center](#) and Dr. Paige Pullen

[Click here to discover upcoming webinars, dates, and registration links.](#)

Age of Learning Gives Florida Families FREE Access to ReadingIQ



Age of Learning joined members of the Florida House of Representatives, the Florida Association of District School Superintendents, and other officials in a virtual press conference to unveil the New Worlds Reading Initiative and announce its support through a strategic partnership to advance literacy.

This partnership offers every Florida family FREE access through Dec 31, 2021, to a comprehensive digital library of books at [ReadingIQ.com/NewWorlds](https://www.readingiq.com/NewWorlds).

Florida families can sign up for free [HERE](#).

For more details, read [SCGLR's February newsletter](#).



[EOD Family Engagement Night with Cedric Hameed](#)

Families shared some of their reflections immediately after the event:

"I loved tonight's webinar. It was so family-oriented and brought my young family closer together in a memorable experience in an inclusive activity. We will definitely remember this forever."

"My daughter's reaction to my poem is forever ingrained in my heart and soul."

"It was so beautiful to share our hopes as a family and to hear it mirrored with other families."

As promised, [The Patterson Foundation](#) awarded prizes to the schools that had the greatest number of participants.

- 1st Prize - Ashton Elementary School: A "Reading is the Key to Succeeding" cloth face mask for every student, teacher, and staff member at the school.

student, teacher, and staff member at the school (valued at \$3 each) AND \$1,000.00

- 2nd Prize - Tuttle Elementary School: 100 "Reading is the Key to Succeeding" cloth face masks and \$1,000.00
- 3rd Prize - Louise R. Johnson K-8 International School: 100 "Reading is the Key to Succeeding" cloth face masks and \$500.00

The Bonus...All participating children received *Salt in His Shoes: Michael Jordan in Pursuit of a Dream* for their home libraries thanks to the generosity of The Patterson Foundation.

More family engagement opportunities are on the horizon so stay tuned!

TOGETHER
we're all in this

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