Share This Email Share This Email

SUNCOAST The Campaign for GRADE-LEVEL READING

3rd Grade Reading Success Matters

Your Family's Back-to-School Boost

…and we're off! Families are settling into the new school year, the perfect time to establish routines that support learning, connection, and growth. Here are a few essentials to keep in mind:

- **Set routines together.** Morning and bedtime checklists give kids structure and independence. Involving them in the planning helps build ownership.
- **Cover practical needs.** Double check supplies, transportation plans, and health checkups (physicals, vision, dental). Don't hesitate to reach out to your school for support if needed.
- **Support big feelings.** Excitement and nerves often come hand in hand. Talk about emotions openly, share your own school memories, and practice scenarios like reconnecting with friends.
- **Build a love of learning.** Read together daily in any form — books, magazines, graphic novels — and make regular library visits. Explore free resources like VROOM for brain-building activities.
- **Strengthen connections.** Stay in touch with teachers and staff, and look for ways to engage through volunteer opportunities and school-family events.

Celebrating Reading Rockstars

Have you seen SCGLR's end-of-summer THIS KID IS COOL! video? It's full of some of the coolest kids in town, highlighting enthusiastic participants from THIS BOOK IS COOL! and the Suncoast Summer Reading Challenge. Watch and see if you can spot a reading rockstar!

Explore The New Civic Path Book Circles

With support from The Patterson Foundation, The New Civic Path Book Circles are underway and continue through October. These small, nonpartisan discussions offer community members the opportunity to explore Rich Harwood's The New Civic Path and connect around shared aspirations.

In the latest episode of Connecting Communities: A Beyond the Blog Podcast, host Leah Verier-Dunn chats with Beth Duda about the launch of the book circles. They highlight past successes, the addition of trained facilitators, and the meaningful connections participants make, showing how book circles can strengthen our community.

Facilitated by The Patterson Foundation, each circle meets three times in person or virtually. The commitment is small, but the potential impact is big: intentional listening, collaboration, and connection.

Click here to discover a book circle near you or view virtual options

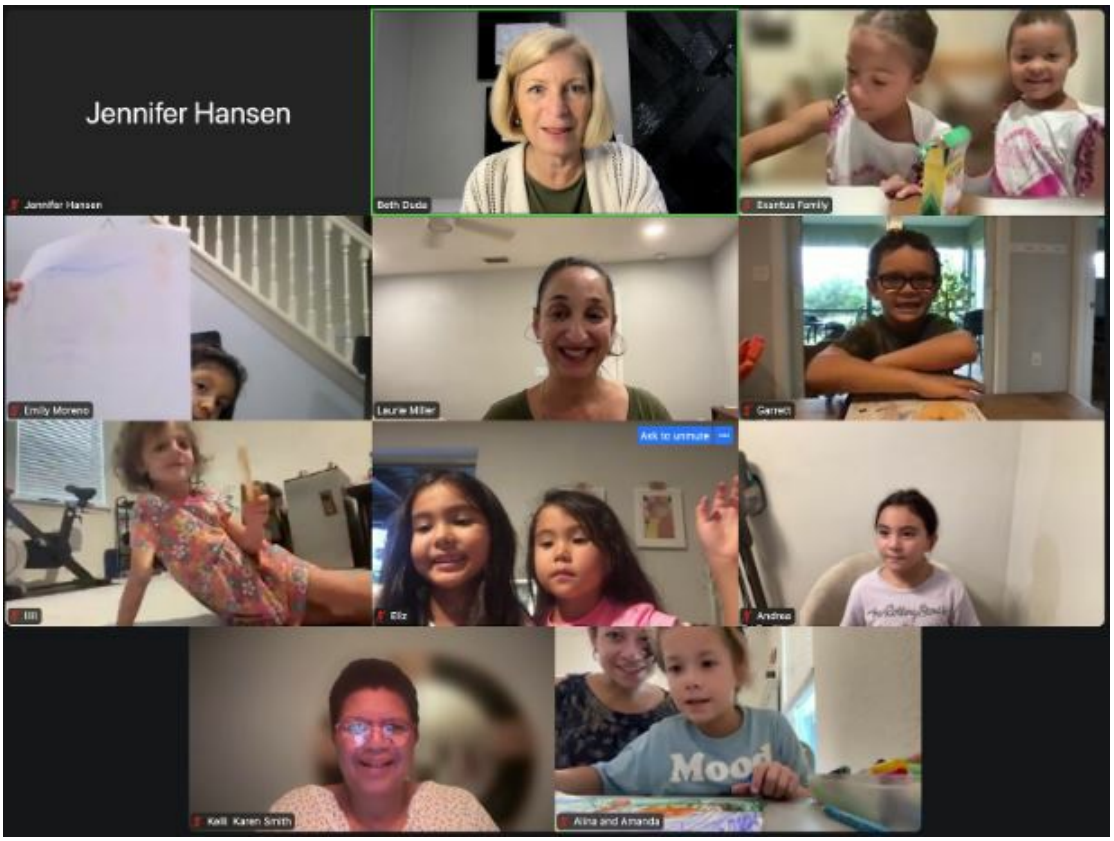
Click here to listen to the podcast

Get Creative with Family Saturdays

The Suncoast Campaign for Grade-Level Reading hosted its final virtual Family Engagement Night of the season on July 24, featuring the heartwarming book Stick and Stone by Beth Ferry, illustrated by Tom Lichtenheld. Families gathered online for an evening of creativity guided by Laurie Miller, Education Director at Art Center Sarasota. Laurie led participants through engaging art and reflection activities that inspired imagination and self-expression. She also shared exciting details about Art Center Sarasota's upcoming centennial celebration and introduced the center's new Family Saturdays program.

Beginning September 6, 2025, Art Center Sarasota [707 N Tamiami Trl, Sarasota, FL 34236] will offer Family Saturdays -- hands-on artmaking sessions every Saturday from 12:00–3:00 PM. Designed for children and their families, each drop-in session includes guided projects inspired by famous artists, exhibitions, or cultural traditions—no registration or experience required.

Led by professional teaching artists and often featuring local cultural partners, the program encourages creativity, exploration, and meaningful family time. All materials are provided—just bring your imagination! Learn more at artsarasota.org.



Calling all Volunteers!

We're building a network of passionate volunteers to support TPF's community initiatives, and we'd love your help. Whether you are drawn to supporting education, expanding digital access, fostering community engagement, or beyond, your time and talents can help create meaningful impact in ways that match your interests and availability.
Why Volunteer? Volunteering with The Patterson Foundation means joining a team that collaborates with care and purpose, embraces new ideas, fosters joyful stewardship, and focuses on shared aspirations to uplift our four-county region.

Want to learn more? Fill out our Volunteer Inquiry Form.

Ready to get started? Complete our Volunteer Registration Form.

Whether you're new or returning, your time and talent can make a real impact. By joining our volunteer list, we'll match you with opportunities that align with your interests, skills, and availability. You decide how and when you'd like to engage —from lending a hand at an event to supporting behind-the-scenes efforts. The more volunteers we engage, the stronger our community becomes.

Let’s Keep Connecting

We know that Kindergarten is a big leap, and we know your little one is going to be ready for takeoff next month! Fill the rest of your summer days with joyful learning. Discover the brain-building moments that are already happening every day in your home. Save this Kindergarten Readiness Guide (Spanish) to your phone or print it to use as a handy resource full of activities and games for parents and children to enjoy together.

 GradeLevelReadingSuncoast.net
 Follow us on Facebook | Instagram | YouTube

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

The Patterson Foundation | 2 N. Tamiami Trail Suite 206 | Sarasota, FL 34236 US

Unsubscribe | Update Profile | Constant Contact Data Notice

Constant Contact

Try email marketing for free today!