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3rd Grade Reading Success Matters

Suncoast Remake Learning Days Returns With Free, Hands-On Learning for Local Families

April is a favorite time of year here at the Suncoast Campaign for Grade-Level Reading, and we bet you can guess why. Suncoast Remake Learning Days, of course!

Saturday, April 18, marks the start of the fifth Suncoast Remake Learning Days festival. Spanning 15 days, events will happen daily across Charlotte, Desoto, Manatee, and Sarasota counties. A FREE 15-day hands-on learning festival where the community becomes an interactive classroom, and families in our region immerse themselves in a world where learning happens everywhere.

There is no shortage of fun with Suncoast Remake Learning Days, but why is something like this so important?

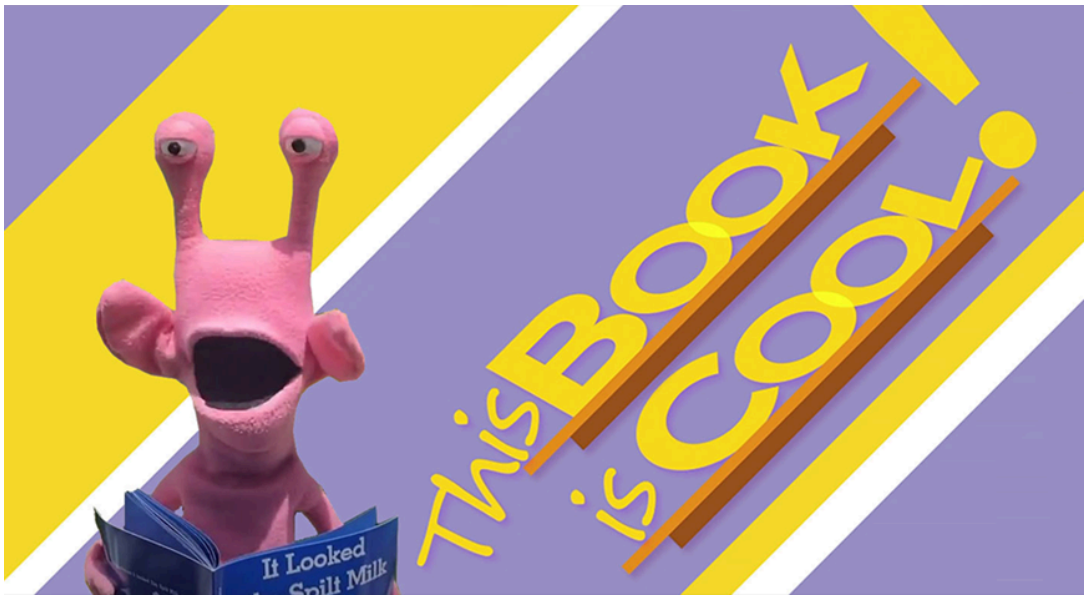
The Campaign for Grade-Level Reading recognizes that parents and families are the secret sauce! As children's first teachers, brain builders, tech navigators, advocates, and coaches, parents and families set the stage for success in the early years and early grades.
Research confirms:

- Nurturing interactions foster healthy brain development and social skills in young children.
- Regular and consistent activities with young children positively affect pre-literacy, literacy, and social-emotional skills.
- Involvement in children's early childhood education and kindergarten transition helps foster positive outcomes.

In this month's Connecting Communities podcast, I sat down with Beth Duda, Director of the Suncoast Campaign for Grade-Level Reading, to discuss all things Suncoast Remake Learning Days. When talking about the importance of the festival, Beth shares nuggets from a conversation with Greg Behr, Executive Director of The Grable Foundation and a leader with Remake Learning, about how a learning festival like Remake Learning Days can ignite and sustain the motivation and momentum of a community.

Beth mentions that, statistically, family and parent engagement are very important across all aspects of learning, with positive effects on standardized testing across the board. For parents and children alike, seeing each other actively engaged in learning can be a motivating factor, helping all discover new things together and learn more about each other.

Listen to or watch the episode to discover how to make the most of this year's festival—and how you can get involved as a host in the future. Explore this year's event guide or download the app (SRLD2026) to start planning your experience.



In other exciting news, THIS BOOK IS COOL! registration is OPEN! This FREE summer adventure is designed to engage the minds of incoming students in grades PreK–3.

THIS BOOK IS COOL! is a series of 100 webisodes to encourage a love of reading. It premiered on June 1, 2020, and since then, thousands of children from across the Suncoast region have qualified to receive free books thanks to the generosity of The Patterson Foundation. Follow this link for specific details about participation.

Participating children receive:

- 20 books for each registered child entering Pre-K through 3rd grade this August
- TBIC! activity guide with engaging projects that correspond to the books
- Access to TBIC! online webisodes
- Reward bracelets and brag-tags to celebrate reading

Register below!

- English Registration Form
- Spanish Registration Form
- Haitian Creole Registration Form
- Download the registration flyer with QR codes here

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