



Resources Available for Families and Educators

Find resources from the Office of Early Learning

Early education is an important topic, and with so many new resources each day, it may seem difficult to stay up-to-date with the latest information. **Florida's Office of Early Learning** offers resources in multiple formats, including **Parents' Pages**, **Family Resources**, **Pinterest**, **Vroom** and more. Visit our newest **Back to School page** for resources to help ease the stress of the first day and get the most knowledge from the rest of the year.



N-E-W-S

Early learning highlights from North, East, West and South Florida

Participate in Early Learning Workshops at the Children First Conference

Expand educational opportunities for all of Florida's children and students

On Saturday, Sept. 24, early education leaders, administrators, providers and others will attend the **ELC of Miami-Dade/Monroe's Children First Conference** for a multitude of workshop topics. Learn about family literacy, school readiness, child development, inclusion, parent engagement and more. The conference focuses on research-based and best practices designed to enhance and improve education opportunities for all young children. **Learn more and register** for the conference taking place at 8600 NW 107th Ave. in Doral from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.



New Project Set to Improve Quality Initiatives in Florida

States and territories are receiving assistance to enrich early learning throughout the nation

As part of the new Early Childhood Training and Technical Assistance System, the Child Care State Capacity Building Center launched the **Impact Project for States and Territories** in March 2016. The Impact Project is designed to support states and territories in developing their capacity to implement their early childhood projects and priorities. The State of Florida was one of nine states and territories selected for the project. Florida will foster a comprehensive early learning system by integrating current quality initiatives by enhancing the Early Learning Performance Funding Project. To learn more, contact **Harriet Dichter**.



Third Annual Race 4 Readiness is Coming Soon

ELC offers interested participants multiple ways to contribute to the event

The **ELC of the Big Bend Region**, invites runners, families and early learners to participate in the third annual Race 4 Readiness on Saturday, Oct. 1, at 3916 Merchants Row in Tallahassee. Thanks to tremendous community support last year, the ELC saw 436 participants at the race and raised more than \$14,000. Interested participants can register to walk or run, recruit a team, host a cheering



Multiyear Initiative Looks to Stress the Importance of Early Childhood Education

The initiative is designed to develop education as a critical investment in children's futures

The **ELC of Pasco and Hernando** introduced Mindy May, National Trainer and Project Director of the **Brazelton Touchpoints Center-Boston Children's Hospital**, as the first step in an anticipated multiyear support of the coalition's efforts to confirm the importance of early childhood education. The "**2017 and Beyond: Years of the Young Child in Pasco and Hernando Counties**" approach will prepare the community to support a culture in which all residents understand the importance of early education.



Ninth Annual Conference Will Enhance Professional Skills for Educators

Participants to receive key instructional knowledge from nationally recognized speakers

The **Ninth Annual Early Learning Conference**, hosted by the **ELC of Pasco and Hernando**, is one of the coalition's largest and most anticipated training events offered to the public. Early educators from across the state will receive instructional and business strategies from nationally recognized speakers to enhance their professional skills and practical knowledge. [Learn more and register](#) for the conference taking place Saturday, Oct. 15, from 8 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. at 13651 Hays Road in Spring Hill.



Prevent the Zika Virus from Spreading

Florida residents are encouraged to learn more about the Zika virus

Zika information sessions are continuing with the **Early Learning Coalition of Miami-Dade/Monroe**. In collaboration with The Healthy Start Coalition of Miami-Dade, the one-hour session will inform participants about the virus, its symptoms, prevention tips and more. The next session takes place Thursday, Aug. 25, from 10 to 11 a.m. [Register](#) for the free session and start protecting yourself and your family against mosquitoes today.



Guiding Stars of Duval Announced on Morning News Show

ELC encourages child care providers to hold themselves to higher standards

Recently, CEO and President of the **ELC of Duval**, Susan Main, appeared on the **WJXT Channel 4 Morning Show** to speak about the **Guiding Stars of Duval**. The quality rating system for child care providers in Duval County encourages child care centers and family child care homes to volunteer for the program. Participants commit to meeting the basic requirements for licensing in the State of Florida and agree to hold themselves accountable to higher standards by providing quality education and helping children prepare for school. Learn more, find resources and discover a list of participating programs for both [families](#) and [providers](#).



Tampa Bay Times Publishes ELC

Executive's Guest Column

Column explains coalition's approach to quality improvement

The executive director of the **ELC of Pasco and Hernando**, Jim Farrelly, wrote about how quality rating systems, like the coalition's **Sunshine Stars**, help parents choose quality early learning programs and centers for their children. The column appeared in the **Tampa Bay Times** and was picked up this week in the U.S. Department of Education's early learning newsletter.



Contact: Communications, Office of Early Learning
250 Marriott Drive, Tallahassee, FL 32399
866-357-3239

