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Early Learning
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Parents' Pages

Read November's issue of *Parents' Pages* [here](#).

N-E-W-S

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

Coalition Gives Back to Needy Families

The "Grow Up Great Children's Closet" provides access to free clothing for needy families

Special thanks to all who donated items to the **Early Learning Coalition of Duval's** children's clothing closet. The **Clothing Closet**, located at 5216 North Pearl Street, is open the first Friday of each month from 9 to 11 a.m. No registration is required. It is first-come, first-served and all items are **free** to needy families.

Questions? Contact Darlene Mahla at dmahla@elcduval.org or 904-208-4044, ext. 225.



Therapy Dogs Visit Preschools

Program started to bring service dogs into preschools for education and interaction

The **ELC of Flagler & Volusia** launched a Therapy Dog Visitation program in September for local early learning programs. Thanks to a partnership with Dogtona Beach Pet Resort, Master Dog Trainer Linda Conrad visits area preschools to teach children safe ways to interact with dogs they do not know. The ELC plans to schedule monthly Therapy Dog Visitation with area providers.



Gov. Scott Proclaims November as Florida Adoption Month

The Florida Department of Children and Families (DCF) launches campaign "30 Days of Amazing Children"

In honor of National Adoption Month, Governor Rick Scott proclaimed November as Florida Adoption Month. DCF will support statewide efforts to connect hundreds of Florida children with loving families during the "30 Days of Amazing Children" campaign. DCF will highlight two amazing children who



More than \$390,000 Awarded to Orange County Child Care Providers

Providers completed the Performance Funding Project to qualify for the bonus



Last month, 20 Orange County child care providers received more than \$390,000 from the State of Florida, Office of Early Learning and the **ELC of Orange County** for successfully completing the Performance Funding Project. This project is a voluntary statewide initiative that gives eligible care and education providers the opportunity to earn additional funds for improving school readiness outcomes. Providers had to show improvement in scores using the Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS) to qualify for funding.

ELC of Flagler & Volusia Presents Adventures in Reading

Adventures in Reading is an agency-wide, literacy outreach for children and families

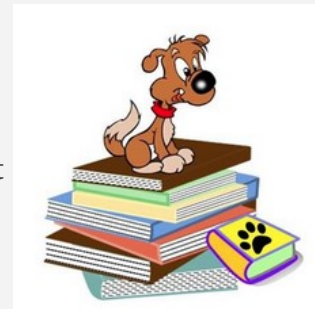
The "Adventures in Reading" literacy outreach program occurs monthly for children and families. A book is paired with an enhancement activity, such as a craft, an activity sheet or items to go along with the story to bring it more to life. Staff are encouraged to sign up to read to children that come in the lobby throughout the day and engage in activities.



Coalition Donates Books to Humane Society for Reading Program

The ELC of Marion County partners with the Humane Society of Marion County for a bi-weekly reading event

Back in September, the **Humane Society of Marion County** launched the "Doggone Good Reading Program," where children ages 6 to 12 are invited to read to a dog on select Saturday mornings at 11 a.m. The **ELC of Marion County** provides children's books for the program, which children can take home to keep. Participants must register in advance for the event **online** under the volunteer tab.



Inaugural Orange County Read-In Event In Need of Volunteers

The ELC of Orange County is looking for volunteers to read to VPK classes

On Wednesday, Nov. 30, the **ELC of Orange County** will host their Inaugural Orange County Read-In from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. in area early learning centers. They are in need of volunteers ages 18 and older to read to VPK classes for the event. To volunteer, contact the coalition's volunteer coordinator, Jerry Brady, by email at jbrady@elcoc.org or call 407-841-6607 ext. 147.



Polk Collaborative Partners Conference Rescheduled for January

The conference was initially scheduled for Oct. 8, but was cancelled due to Hurricane Matthew

The **ELC of Polk County** is teaming up with the Campus KidCare Coalition of Polk County, Polk State College, Polk County Schools Preschool Programs, and the United Way of Central Florida on Saturday, Jan. 28, 2017, to present the Polk Collaborative Partners



Conference. The conference will take place at Polk State College's Winter Haven Campus from 7:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. and will focus on quality education and care for children. All previous registrations and payments will be applied to the new date. If you have additional questions related to conference registration and/or payments, please contact Nancy Morgan at Polk County Schools Preschool Programs at 863-648-3044.

Contact: Communications, Office of Early Learning
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