



## EARLY LEARNING UPDATE

### PERFORMANCE FUNDING PILOT MOVES FORWARD

Early learning coalitions and school readiness child care providers selected to participate in the Early Learning Performance Funding Pilot Project in one of two groups—pilot or comparison—are entering the implementation phase of the project. The 2014 Florida Legislature created the project to evaluate the impact of specific teacher training emphasizing teacher-child interactions on improved child outcomes for children in school readiness. Providers in both the pilot and comparison groups receive compensation for being part of the project. The project uses the Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS) training as a basis for enhancing teacher-child interactions and includes observations before and after training. A team of national researchers led by Christopher Lonigan, Ph.D., of the Florida Center for Reading Research at Florida State University, is conducting the evaluation.



NOVEMBER 2014



Parenting a newborn? Be flexible. Toddler? Be consistent. Read more in the **Parents' Pages newsletter** on the early learning website.

### JUST THE FACTS

More than 290,000 children in Florida have participated in VPK or school readiness programs through September of this fiscal year. Find details about state, coalition and program participation in OEL's online **Fact Book**.

### NOVEMBER IS PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT MONTH...



...and Florida parents, grandparents and legal guardians with children enrolled in school readiness or VPK programs can win a family four-pack of tickets to LEGOLAND or Wet 'n Wild. Just create a two-minute or shorter video showing how you stay involved and engaged in your child's education. Videos don't have to be professional, but be creative as you share your message. Visit <http://www.fldoe.org/family/title1/> for video contest guidelines and media release forms. You can tweet or post videos (or video links) to enter. Deadline? Mon., Nov. 17, 2014.

## N-E-W-S EARLY LEARNING HIGHLIGHTS FROM NORTH, EAST, WEST AND SOUTH FLORIDA

### The **ELC of North Florida**

held its second annual ELC days at Sykes Farms in Elkton Oct. 6-7. Eighteen pre-schools with 357 children explored two literacy corn mazes based on *Spookley the Square Pumpkin* and *Jack and the Cornstalk*, hay rides through the pumpkin patch, a petting zoo, and more.



*Read for the Record Day* was Oct. 21 and it was a big hit with the early learning community in Florida.

**Broward County's** early childhood education initiatives included taking part in the event. Tweets throughout the day prompted interest and participants. The young bakers above were holding this year's book *Bunny Cakes*.



In Palm Beach County, the **ELC of Palm Beach County's** program assurance specialist reads to children from Bright Horizons (*below*).



### The **ELC of Southwest Florida**

forwarded a thank-you note from a parent grateful for the help provided her family. The card was signed by all of the family members.



### The **ELC of Flagler & Volusia**

is proud of the Word and Praise Christian Learning Center of Daytona Beach's participation in the QRIS family engagement standard. A parent group meeting and open house provided child development resources, involved parent and child in classroom scavenger hunt, and garnered parent volunteers.



Sign greeting visitors to DOE in Tallahassee in November.

## THE GOVERNOR'S CORNER by Governor Rick Scott

Florida's public servants have been working hard to improve our great state, and we are excited to see their hard work pave the way for Florida families and private-sector businesses to succeed. Recently, we announced three manufacturing companies that are creating opportunities in Florida; the expansions of Just In Time Machining, GE Oil & Gas, and Embraer will create at least 1,100 new jobs for Floridians. Last year we eliminated the sales tax on manufacturing equipment to ensure Florida businesses can meet their full potential when competing against other states and countries. These exciting wins wouldn't be possible without the support of our public servants.

In total, Florida businesses have created more than 651,000 private-sector jobs since December 2010. Our hard work has done a great job turning around Florida's economy, but there is more to do to create opportunities for generations to come. With the help of our public servants, we can give our families and our future generations the opportunities to get a great job and live the American Dream right here in Florida. Let's keep working to build an opportunity economy where all Floridians can achieve their dreams.

