



### Celebrate 10 Years of Florida VPK Success

Look for updates and information on our VPK Birthday Bash

Ten years of VPK means 10 years of children ready to take on kindergarten. This much success is a great reason to celebrate. Go "like" OEL's [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) pages so you can receive weekly facts and updates about how we'll be celebrating VPK's 10<sup>th</sup> Birthday. You can also "like" our special [VPK Birthday Facebook page](#) to discover ways you can be involved.



**N-E-W-S**

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

#### Early Head Start Program Teams Up with Girl Scouts of Southeast Florida

**Baby Drive** taught local Girl Scouts the importance of giving back to the community

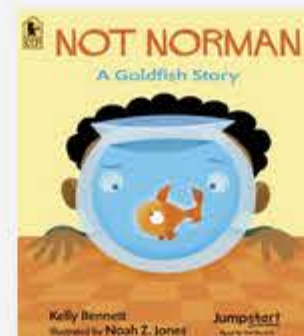
The Early Head Start program of the [Early Learning Coalition of Palm Beach County](#) was honored to be named one of the recipients of the Girl Scouts [Baby Drive](#) recently. Members of the troop collected items, such as diapers and baby wipes, from a variety of organizations throughout the county in October.



#### Palm Beach County ELC Proud to Participate in "Read for the Record" Event

The Literacy Coalition thanks all participating providers

As part of a global campaign to create interest among young readers and high-quality early learning, the Literacy Coalition of Palm Beach County hosted a "Read for the Record" event thanks to participation from the [Palm Beach ELC](#) and providers. An estimated 800 volunteers participated and read to more than 14,000 children in 300 schools and child care centers.



#### ELC of Pasco Hernando Nominated for "Be More" Award

General public votes on Warren Averett's people's choice award

The [ELC of Pasco Hernando](#) has been nominated for the "Be More Humble" award through the WEDU PBS station. Visitors to the voting page can vote each day in various categories until Dec. 4, 2015, at noon. The ELC focuses on influencing successful outcomes in early education through positive impact and support.



#### Race 4 Readiness Proves to be Great Success

All treats, no tricks at ELC of the Big Bend's 2nd Annual Race Oct. 31

Children and family members of various ages took part in the [ELC of the Big Bend](#)'s event, with many sporting "Race 4 Readiness" t-shirts. Other racers wore costumes in celebration of Halloween, including pumpkin t-shirts and a small lion participant. Check out the [results](#) of the 5K and 1 Mile races.



#### "Give Miami Day" is Thursday, Nov. 19, 2015

Area residents invited to join 24-hour-long annual giving event

In 2014, "Give Miami Day" raised \$5.2 million for 520 local nonprofits. The [ELC of Miami-Dade/Monroe](#) encourages Miami-area residents to take part in the event with them this year to help raise money and awareness for nonprofits and early learning.



#### Join Them This Weekend at the Miami International Book Fair

The ELC of Miami-Dade/Monroe is hosting the event Nov. 20-22, 2015

The Miami International Book Fair is a fun event for all ages. Join the [ELC of Miami-Dade/Monroe](#) at the Tot-Lot tent for interactive reading, games and books. [Learn more](#) about the authors, programs, exhibitions and events.



#### Children Find Their Way in a Crop Maze with the ELC of North Florida

Amazing Grace Crop Maze was first early literacy fall event

The [ELC of North Florida](#) event included a literacy program based on "Spookley the Square Pumpkin" by Joe Troiano and hay rides through pumpkin patches for preschool children. Children were also treated to a crop-maze science adventure and various mini games.



#### ELC to Participate in Two Upcoming Parades

Join them as they celebrate the approaching holiday season

The [ELC of Pasco Hernando](#) invites community members in the Zephyrhills or Brooksville areas to come out and enjoy two [holiday parades](#) in early December. Join them Dec. 5 at 6 p.m. for the Zephyrhills Holiday Parade or Dec. 12 at 10 a.m. for the Brooksville Holiday Parade.



#### Save the Date to Donate

Look out for "Giving Tuesday" on Dec. 1

The [ELC of Orange County](#) invites the public to participate in "Giving Tuesday" on Dec. 1 in an effort to reduce the wait list and give the gift of early education to 10 deserving children. The ELC provides quality early education to more than 20,000 pre-kindergarten students each year, but there are still many children on the wait list.



#### Annual Early Learning Hoedown Supports Children

Jamie Davis Band, line dancing and cash bar prove successful

Recently, the [ELC of Alachua County](#) hosted their annual [Early Learning Hoedown](#) at the Rembert Farm. Live music had participants dancing the night away and proceeds from the event went to assist children learn and grow in school. The ELC thanks all sponsors, donors and community partners for making this year's event a great success.

