

EL focus

June 6, 2025



SR & VPK Contracts, VPK APPS, VPK FAST Admin Training, T2K Access Cards Reminder
Providers, please read the **NEW** and updated information below pertaining to **VPK & SR program providers!** For general questions regarding this information, please contact our Provider Relations Department at (941) 757-2900 ext. 2300 for assistance.

[Learn More](#)

Summer Reading & Learning

Learn how to make summer reading an adventure for young children, Father's Day activities to help your child learn and grow, exploring science outdoors, water-safety awareness, fun family water activities, and more in the June issue of DEL's Parents' Pages!

[Learn More](#)



Parents' Pages

The Official Newsletter of the Division of Early Learning

JUNE 2025
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JOIN US IN PERSON AT THE ELC OR VIRTUALLY!

NEW! ELC Provider Meetings

Join us in person or virtually on **June 10th at 1:00pm** for the ELC's first monthly provider meeting for an opportunity to connect, share ideas, and stay informed on updates that support your work with children and families.

[Learn More](#)

New Virtual Session!

Join the discussion on **Tuesday, June 17th at 1:00pm** and connect individually with an Early Learning Specialist to ask any questions/get clarification about your CLASS assessment score. RSVP through the link below, or contact mcujas@elc-manatee.org for more information.



June Tuesday Tune-Up

Do you have questions about challenging behavior and early childhood development? Save the date and join us on **June 17th from 6:30pm-7:30pm via Zoom** for an open forum to connect with our Child Development Team. Register today to join the discussion!

[Learn More](#)

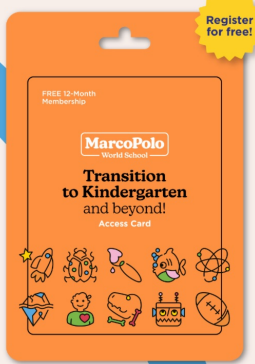


The ABC's of Safe Sleep

Join us on **Tuesday, June 24th** to learn how you can help prevent infant deaths from unsafe sleep environments. Review Manatee County data and key safety tips, and discuss real-life scenarios to help you support your co-workers and families.

[Register Here](#)





Transition to Kindergarten and beyond!

Families can begin using their Access Cards!



MarcoPolo T2K Access Cards
Please submit your tracking sheets, and remind families that they can now begin using their MarcoPolo Access Cards. The MarcoPolo T2K Access cards give families FREE access to valuable tools and engaging activities to help their children build skills for a confident start to kindergarten.

[Learn More](#)

Nemours Reading BrightStart!

Do you have students who are struggling with early literacy skills? The ELC's Nemours Reading BrightStart! (NRBS!) Program offers coaching, support, and materials to assist teachers in implementing literacy instruction using a variety of multisensory strategies to help target individual learning preferences.

[Learn More](#)

A young child in an orange shirt is focused on reading a book. The background is a dark blue graphic with white text and icons.

AgC
Supports young children at risk of reading failure

Understands that child health and learning are intricately linked, and that reading failure is a major child health issue.

Teachers are provided with books and materials to use in their classroom

Uses multisensory strategies to target individual learning preferences

LENA GROW™ FRAME THEIR LEARNING with STEAM My Math Academy®



Enroll Your Center Today!
The ELC is offering some exciting NEW initiatives for providers designed to help promote quality teacher-child interactions and improve children's language, literacy, social-emotional development, kindergarten readiness, and brain growth.

[Learn More](#)

Pre-Apprenticeship Program Classes begin in August!

Do you enjoy working with kids? The ELC's Early Education Pre-Apprentice Program offered through MTC can help launch your career in early childhood education! All costs are covered by the ELC, and job placement is available upon completion.

[Learn More](#)

A teacher is sitting at a table with two young children, they are all looking at a book together.

Early Childhood Pre-Apprenticeship Program
Launch your career in early education – at no cost!

FREE Tuition 15 Week Program Leave Career-Ready



Handle With Care Training

'Handle with Care' is an initiative aimed at helping children succeed in school by alerting school staff with a simple notice when a student experiences a traumatic event involving law enforcement or Child Protection Services (CPS). Click on the link below to register today!

[Register Here](#)

2025 ReadingPals Conference & Celebration

Join us for our statewide virtual conference and celebration on **June 25th via Zoom**, as we conclude our 13th year of ReadingPals! You won't want to miss our keynote, Jason Yeatman, PhD of Stanford University, who will offer a cutting-edge exploration of the neurobiology of literacy.

[Register Here](#)



JOIN US

JUNE 25TH **12:30-1:45PM EST** **VIA ZOOM**



ONE GOAL SUMMER CONFERENCE

BUILDING THE FUTURE TOGETHER

"PUTTING FAMILIES AND CHILDREN FIRST"

JULY 16 17 18



Putting Families & Children First

Register today and **join us** for the 2025 One Goal Summer Conference **July 16th-18th** in **Tampa!** Select from 85 informative sessions providing tips, tools, and activities you can use daily! Shop the latest in early childhood materials, and network with other leaders of state agencies and organizations!

[Learn More](#)



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SCHOOL READINESS CONTRACTS

Current School Readiness contracts will end on June 30th, and new contracts will begin on July 1st, 2025. Please keep an eye on your email for important communications from your Provider Relations Specialist. **Please complete and submit your SR Contract no later than Friday, June 13th.**

VPK CONTRACTS

VPK Contracts are currently being initiated. Keep an eye on your email for important communications from your Provider Relations Specialist. **All VPK APPS and VPK Contracts must be completed and signed prior to your VPK program starting. Please Note: Your VPK Contract will not be signed until your VPK APP has been reviewed and certified.** We will initiate your VPK APP once your contracts have been submitted.

VPK APP

VPK APPS will be populated with the information from the 2024-2025 APP. The Attendance Policy and VPK Calendar need to be updated annually. Please remember to check instructor documents to verify they are active and not expired.

VPK FAST ADMINISTRATOR TRAINING

VPK FAST Administrator Training: This annual training has moved to Renaissance's new [Educator Academy](#) platform. Create your account for the Educator Academy by following the steps in this document: [Renaissance Educator Academy Enrollment Guidance](#).

DEL is extending the expiration date of the 2024-2025 training certificate until June 30, 2025 Summer 2025 VPK FAST Administrators can administer the FAST Star Early Literacy assessment to summer VPK students if the FAST Administrators possess either an unexpired 2024-2025 test administrator training certificate or an updated test administrator training certificate awarded upon completion of the new Educator Academy course.

VPK FAST Star Early Literacy Test Administrators Certificate of Completion, signed copies of the Test Administration and Security Agreement, and Test Administrator Prohibited Activities Agreement is required to start your 2025-2026 VPK Program. Please email these documents **DIRECTLY TO YOUR** Provider Relations Specialist.

BEYOND THE BENCHMARK

Beginning in the 1990s, when the term "school ready" first began appearing in the research literature, and now, with an increasing number of states enacting preschool standards, policymakers are seeking information about young children's knowledge and skills as they enter kindergarten. By 2017, 31 states have funded pre-kindergarten programs with benchmarks that connect to PreK-12 standards and will be used to guide instruction in language and emergent literacy. Educators want an early picture of children's skills so that problems can be identified and addressed as soon as possible. Half the states now mandate kindergarten assessments. Renaissance® is ready to assist states and their educators with an early picture of a child's literacy readiness for kindergarten.

Learn More

MARCOPOLO T2K ACCESS CARDS REMINDER

1. If you haven't already and have received Transition to Kindergarten and beyond Access Cards, please submit your MarcoPolo distribution tracking sheets to rspivey@elc-manatee.org.
2. Please remind families that they can now start using their MarcoPolo Access Cards. Feel free to use the wording below to help you spread the word.

The MarcoPolo Transition to Kindergarten program helps reduce summer learning loss for your child. The program has started, and your child can get started on reinforcing lessons surrounding letters, numbers, and social & emotional development!

What is Transition to Kindergarten and Beyond?

*A digital program in the MarcoPolo World School app offered for FREE to you and your child during this summer and through the upcoming school year

*You will be emailed activity packs and tips on how to support your child's learning at home.

*What do I do with the Access Card? - Go to www.MarcoPoloWorldSchool.com/readyforschool to enter the access code on the back of your card

Thank you for the incredible work you do to support young learners. We are grateful for your continued partnership in helping children and families make a smooth and successful transition to kindergarten.