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ELC focus

November 7, 2025



MANATEE CONFERENCE ON YOUNG CHILDREN (MCCY) 2026 THE POWER OF YOU



SATURDAY
FEBRUARY 28, 2026



8:30AM-3:10PM

MANATEE TECHNICAL
COLLEGE
BRADENTON, FL



**EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION OPENS NOVEMBER 18TH!
\$30/PERSON (REGULAR \$35/PERSON)**

Learn More



Attention VPK & SR Providers!
Please read the **NEW** updated information below regarding VPK and SR program providers! For general questions regarding this information, please contact our Provider Relations Department at (941) 757-2900 ext. 2300.

[Learn More](#)

Provider Update Meeting

You're invited to join us in person or virtually on **November 18th at 1:00 pm** to connect with our Child Development Team. Discuss the completion of ASQs, learn about the follow-up process, ask questions, and stay informed on updates that support your work with children and families.

[Learn More](#)



Provider Update Meetings

Fairy Tale Follies 2025

Join us on **December 11, 2025**, for a **FREE performance for your classroom!** 10:00 am showtime. Give your students the gift of theatre and watch their favorite characters come to life live on stage! **Seats are limited, reserve your tickets today!**

[Learn More](#)



Actively Play WITH Your Child

Play allows children to create and explore a world they can master, conquer their fears, practice adult roles, increase their confidence, and build resiliency to face future challenges. Connecting creatively and playing WITH your child helps to build enduring relationships...

[Learn More](#)

NOVEMBER 2025
NOVIEMBRE

Play WITH me!
Juegue CONMIGO!

Actively Play WITH Your Child.
Be Creative, Sing, Dance, and Be Silly!

Juegue activamente CON su hijo.
¡Sea creativo, cante, baile y sea tonto!

Children need multiple outlets to express their emotions, share ideas, use language, and solve problems. When children are engaged in play, they are happy and are more motivated to learn new skills. Play allows them to create and explore a world they can master, conquer their fears, practice adult roles, increase their confidence, and build resiliency to face future challenges. Playing WITH your child allows you to fully interact with your child, understand the world through their point of view, connect creatively, and help build enduring relationships.

Los niños necesitan múltiples salidas para expresar sus emociones, compartir ideas, utilizar el lenguaje y resolver problemas. Cuando los niños juegan, están felices y más motivados para aprender nuevas habilidades. El juego les permite crear y explorar un mundo que pueden dominar, conquistar sus miedos, practicar roles adultos, aumentar su confianza y desarrollar resiliencia para enfrentar desafíos futuros. Jugar CON su hijo le permite interactuar completamente con él, comprender el mundo a través de su punto de vista, conectarse creativamente y ayudar a construir relaciones duraderas.



Tiny Tummies Preschool Meals

FELT is looking to expand their Tiny Tummies Preschool Meals program, an initiative focused on preschool children (ages 3–5) who may be experiencing food insecurity at home. If you would like to explore possible partnerships for weekend meal distributions for your program, please complete and submit the form below.

[Learn More](#)

30th Annual Christmas Market

Give online November 9th-16th. Donations to the ELC will be matched up to the first \$300! Or, join us in person at Kirkwood's Christmas Market on Saturday, November 15th to connect with various local charities making a difference. Learn more about their missions, volunteering, and how your contributions support their work.

[Learn More](#)



UPCOMING TRAININGS

**WEDNESDAY
NOV 12**

Understanding Emotional Regulation: What We Can Do to Help Our Youngest Learners

Join us for a collaborative session to define and understand what emotional regulation means, discuss teaching strategies to help improve emotional regulation with our young learners, and participate in an informative Q&A session. **RSVP to chowell@elc-manatee.org by November 10th!**

**SATURDAY
NOV 15**

Adult & Pediatric First Aid/CPR/AED

Are you certified? Join us at the ELC of Manatee County and earn your Adult and Pediatric First Aid/CPR/AED certification! Learn the appropriate techniques for applying standard first aid procedures and cardiopulmonary resuscitation with and without AEDs. **Register by November 11th. Space is limited to 10 participants! [Register](#)**

**OPEN
NOV 2025**

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). **[Register](#)**





PROVIDERS WITH A 13TH HOLIDAY TO THE SR CONTRACT

Providers who include a 13th holiday in their School Readiness (SR) contract must follow the requirements outlined below.

Payment Requirements

- The training must be completed in **one designated staff training day** to qualify for reimbursement.
- The training must last for **at least 50% of the provider's approved daily schedule**
 - Providers operating more than 10 hours per day must hold a **minimum 5-hour training day**.
 - Providers offering multiple School Readiness (SR) schedules must provide training for **50% of the longest approved daily schedule**.
- The training content must be **meaningful**, support the **learning environment** and the **work of SR child care personnel** and align with at least one of the following:
 - *Florida Early Learning and Developmental Standards*
 - *Any of the Florida Standards and Key Competencies listed in Form OEL-SR 735*
 - *Department of Children and Families (DCF) training*

Required Documentation

To verify compliance, providers must maintain and submit:

- A **detailed agenda** showing all topics and timeframes, and
- A **sign-in sheet** demonstrating attendance by at least **75% of SR child care personnel**

VPK ASSESSMENT PM2 WINDOW

Most providers have PM2 window opening the end of November. **Please keep an eye on your emails. Your caseload specialist will email you your PM2 window dates. Please do not start assessments prior to hearing from your specialist. Early/late PM2 assessments will not count towards your Performance Metric Designation.**

PROVIDER PROFILE CALENDAR & VPK APP

Providers, Please double check your calendars in your profile and VPK APP for the months of November and December. November starts the holiday season of closures and it's easier to modify your calendars before attendance is due.

MY FLORIDA SCHOOLS PORTAL

The Florida Department of Education has launched the [My Florida Schools Portal](#), a new resource designed to help families explore and connect with early learning and education options that best meet their child's needs. The portal includes listings for early learning providers, traditional public schools, public charter schools, and private schools.

Please create or update your profile to ensure families have accurate and helpful information when making important decisions about their child's education. This is a valuable opportunity for free publicity and increased visibility to families in your area.

To get started, visit <https://onboarding.wonderschool.com/> and create an account.

If you have any questions or encounter issues, please email MyFloridaSchools@fldoe.org for support.

Thank you for your continued commitment to Florida's families.