



STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

MOLLY M. SPEARMAN
STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION

MEMORANDUM

TO: District Superintendents
District Early Childhood Coordinators
District Family Engagement Liaisons

FROM: David M. Mathis, Ed.D.
Deputy Superintendent, Division of College and Career Ready

DATE: August 30, 2022

RE: Office of Early Learning and Literacy Learning Engagement Opportunities for Families - Fall 2022

The South Carolina Department of Education's (SCDE) Office of Early Learning and Literacy (OELL) is pleased to announce some exciting opportunities for South Carolina families of early learners. This memo outlines the details for these opportunities.

The SCDE OELL learning engagement coaches (LECs) for families provide an outreach program for families and communities to assist with resources and materials for supporting school readiness. The LECs focus on working with families in South Carolina public schools, including charter schools, non-public schools, and home school families in the following areas:

- Improve communication between families, teachers, and schools to support remote learning;
- Provide training for families on how to help their children at home with literacy and learning skills; and
- Provide online resources and modules that support early learning and literacy skills.

Upcoming regional family engagement sessions are planned to meet the unique needs of each region and local education agencies. The LECs partnered with local libraries and schools to provide on-site opportunities for the families of early learners. All family engagement sessions integrate early literacy and social-emotional skills. Please find details regarding the regional session below.

Leap into Literacy

Leap into Literacy will assist families navigate the world of academic vocabulary and narrative language. Families will focus on sequencing story events through hands on activities while also discussing emotions such as fear and courage.

Session Date and Time	Site	Registration Link
September 14, 2022 9:30 a.m.–11:30 a.m.	Greenville Library- Pelham Road Branch 1508 Pelham Road Greenville, SC 29615	Register here .
September 17, 2022 11:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m.	Orangeburg County Library 1645 Russell Street Orangeburg, SC 29115	Register here .
September 21, 2022 11:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.	Lexington County Library-Main 5440 Augusta Road West Columbia, SC 29072	Register here .

Exploring Emotions and Supporting Social Foundations at Home

In this session, LECs will use the South Carolina Early Learning Standards for social foundations and share strategies that families can use at home to support a child's development. Families will leave with new skills, a book, and a list of resources for learning at home.

Session Date and Time	Site	Registration Link
September 28, 2022 10:30 a.m.–12:00 p.m.	Dorchester County Library - St. George - Jennie J McMahan Branch 506 North Parler Avenue St. George, SC 29477	Register here .
October 18, 2022 11:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.	Horry County Memorial Library Socastee Branch 141 SC-707 Myrtle Beach, SC 29588	Register here .

Rooted in Early Reading Skills

This session will strengthen families understanding of letter sounds and blending, the root of reading. Families will practice building words with their young learner while also fostering independence and positive behaviors.

Session Date and Time	Site	Registration Link
November 3, 2022 9:30 a.m.–12:00 p.m.	Spartanburg County Library 151 S Church Street Spartanburg, SC 29306	Register here .
November 4, 2022 10:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m.	Barnwell County Library 40 Burr Street Barnwell, SC 29812	Register here .

Session Date and Time	Site	Registration Link
November 10, 2022 11:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.	Newberry County Library 1100 Friend Street Newberry, SC 29108	Register here .

The ABC's of Literacy Sessions

There are six areas of growth and development that research says are involved in helping a child progress ages birth thru 60 months. These six areas are defined in the South Carolina Early Learning Standards. The LECs will introduce families to the South Carolina Early Learning Standards for families that is called [Ready, Set, Kindergarten!](#) and the [Profile of the Ready Kindergartener](#). Families will learn strategies to use at home to support their child's development in language and social foundations.

Session Date and Time	Site	Registration Link
November 2, 2022 10:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.	Hampton County Library 12 Locust Street East Hampton, SC 29924	Register here .

The ABC's of Literacy Bi-Lingual (Spanish) Sessions

There are six areas of growth and development that research says are involved in helping a child progress ages birth thru 60 months. These six areas are defined in the South Carolina Early Learning Standards. The LECs will introduce families to the South Carolina Early Learning Standards for families that is called [Ready, Set, Kindergarten!](#) and the [Profile of the Ready Kindergartener](#). Families will learn strategies to use at home to support their child's development in language and social foundations. The following sessions will be provided in Spanish.

Session Date and Time	Site	Registration Link
September 17, 2022 11:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m.	Orangeburg County Library 1645 Russell Street Orangeburg, SC 29115	Register here .
September 20, 2022 10:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.	Florence County Library 509 S Dargan Street Florence, SC 29506	Register here .
September 26, 2022 10:00 a.m. and 5:30 p.m.	Lee County Library 200 North Main Street Bishopville, SC 29010	Register here .

For more information or to schedule sessions please complete this [link](#). For questions about the LECs or the family engagement sessions please contact Wendy Burgess at wburgess@ed.sc.gov or 803-734-5858.