



STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

MEMORANDUM

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

FROM: Dr. Abbey Duggins
Director, Office of Early Learning and Literacy

DATE: August 1, 2023

RE: Office of Early Learning and Literacy Learning Engagement Opportunities for Families Fall 2023

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. Please find details regarding the regional session below. In addition, there are opportunities for practitioners to request sessions to learn more about working with Multilingual (ML) families.

Counting and Collaborating

LECs will support families in working with early learners at home. Families will explore various ways to integrate math into their daily routine through literature and problem-solving. Families will leave this session with new skills, a book, and a take-home learning activity.

Session Date and Time	Site	Registration Link
August 1, 2023 9:30 am- 10:30 am	Spartanburg County Library Main 151 S. Church Street Spartanburg, SC 29306	Click here to register
August 15, 2023 10:30 am- 11:00 am	York County Library Main 138 East Black Street Rock Hill, SC 29730	Click here to register

Mastering Math: Inch by Inch

LECs will support families in working with early learners at home. Families will help their students connect math to literacy while investigating measurement and data. Families will leave this session with new skills, a book, and a take-home learning activity.

Session Date and Time	Site	Registration Link
October 4, 2023 10:30am – 11:00am	Greenville County Library Main 25 Heritage Green Place Greenville, SC 29601	Click here to register
October 5, 2023 10:30am- 11:00am	Richland Library-Ballentine 1200 Dutch Fork Road Irmo, SC 29063	Click here to register

The Building Blocks of Math

LECs will use the South Carolina Early Learning Standards for mathematical thinking to share strategies that families can use at home to support their young child's development. Families will leave this session with new skills, a book, and a list of resources for learning at home. Please note that one of these sessions is a Bilingual opportunity for families, and the session will be provided in Spanish.

Session Date and Time	Site	Registration Link
August 9, 2023 10:00 am	Upstate Children's Museum of Spartanburg 130 Magnolia St. Spartanburg, SC 29306	Click here to register
November 8, 2023 11:30 am	Lexington County Library 5440 Augusta Rd. Lexington SC, 29073	Click here to register

The Power of Play

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](#). This session will focus on approaches to learning and inquiry to share strategies that families can use at home to support their young child's development. This session will help families understand how to maximize play time for learning. Families will leave this session with new skills, a book, and a list of resources for learning at home. Please note that one of these sessions is a Bilingual opportunity for families, and the session will be provided in Spanish.

Session Date and Time	Site	Registration Link
September 13, 2023 11:30 am	Lexington Public Library 5440 Augusta Rd. Lexington SC, 29073	Click here to register
October 18, 2023 10:30 am	Lee County Public Library 200 N Main St. Bishopville, SC 29010	Click here to register

Educational Enlaces

Educational Enlaces is a microcredential opportunity for educators interested in engaging and developing relationship and knowledge surrounding ML early literacy development. These sessions can run 4-6 weeks in length and demonstrate how classroom literacy development can be connected to home language practices to support and strengthen the development of ML Students. If your districts would like to request these sessions, please submit a technical support request [here](#).

Language Simulation

The goal of the Language Simulation is to provide PK-12 educators and administrators additional professional development opportunities as it relates to interacting and engaging with diverse families specifically as it relates to language and culture. This session can be a three hour session or a six hour session depending on district needs. If your districts would like to request these sessions, please submit a technical support request [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.