



COLORADO

Department of Education



Colorado State Library Growing Readers Together



Oceans of GRT Possibilities
with Melody Garcia & Kate Brunner



Your Colorado Early Literacy Support Team



Kate Brunner



Melody Garcia



Joyce Johnson



Program Background & Goals

Growing Readers Together & Early Childhood in Colorado

- Up to **57% of children under 6** are cared for informally by family members, friends, & neighbors (FFN caregivers)
- GRT prioritizes & supports library service to FFN caregivers
- **GOAL:** To increase FFN's awareness of library resources and services through outreach, community partnerships, and relationship building.



Growing Readers Together in 2022



Buell Foundation Direct Grants

- Currently under review by Buell - decision by December
- Direct grants to libraries working with informal caregivers of young children
- User-friendly application & reporting requirements
- Contact Joyce at johnson_joyce@cde.state.co.us for more details



Play, Learn, & Grow!



- In-person & online workshop programs - including kit materials for participants
- Play, Learn, & Grow video and materials - available in English, coming soon in Spanish!
- Customizable to your community
- Contact Kate if you're on the west side of the state
- And Melody if you're on the east side of the state



Professional Development & Consulting

- Reimagining School Readiness trainings, cont.
- Quick Bites series (topic suggestions welcome!)
- Additional early learning professional development opportunities
- Staff trainings
- Consultations



Online and Print Materials

- Summer social media campaign (more details from Melody in a moment)
- Literacy calendars, brochures, The PLAYbook, etc. for distribution
- CSL Resource Kits for checkout
- Physical materials can be sent via courier
- Contact any of us to explore the options



Early Literacy Messages Promote Your Library Programs



Growing Readers Together

Published by Melody Garcia June 7, 2021

How many ways can you make waves? Try this water activity in the tub or bowl with your young scientist. When you ask questions as they play, discoveries are made! Find more ways to engage young children through your local library's summer reading program.

There are Oceans of Possibilities to Play, Learn, and Grow at your library



Like



Comment



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Early Literacy Messages to Promote Play, Learn, and Grow



Growing Readers Together

Published by Melody Garcia June 7, 2021

Your child is a natural scientist! From birth we are exploring and discovering how the world works. The toddler who plays in Colorado's creeks and lakes today, may grow into a scientist who protects the world's oceans. Learn more about how to Explore & Play like scientists at bit.ly/PLGexplore



Discover
Oceans of
Possibilities
to Play, Learn,
and Grow

<http://bit.ly/PLGexplore>



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Share Directly or Customize

Shared access to graphics and customizable text.
Please tag us @growingreaderstogether

Social Media Posts ☆ 📷 ☁

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A1 Content Focus

	A	B	C	D
1	Content Focus		Character Count	Links
2	Play, Learn, and Grow	We all love the children in our care. We want them to be healthy and happy and grow each day. Fortunately, that's naturally what children do! These videos from Growing Readers Together offer new ways to play and learn together.	229	Watch now at bit.ly/PLGvideos
3	Play, Learn, and Grow	The time you spend with the children in your care MATTERS. Whether you are reading, dancing, or exploring the world, the way you talk and play with them makes a difference in how they grow, learn, and develop.	209	Learn more at bit.ly/PLGfull
4	Brian Building	Did you know that babies and toddlers are natural brain builders? At birth, babies already have 100 BILLION neurons, or brain cells and these neurons are building connections every moment of the day. These connections are made by playing, talking, moving, exploring, and reading together with you!	297	See how at bit.ly/PLGintro
		The most important factor in developing healthy bodies and minds is the responsive and attentive		

+ ☰ Sheet1 ▾



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Thank You for Joining Us!

November 16 at 12pm

Serving Family, Friend & Neighbor Caregivers *with Melody Garcia*

November 30 at 12pm

Reflective Practice for Early Literacy Staff *with Kate Brunner*

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