



## **Proclamation**

*Board of County Commissioners  
Manatee County, Florida*

**WHEREAS**, parental education and literacy level is one of the most impacting influences for children under 3 years of age; and

**WHEREAS**, low-income children are exposed to 30 million fewer words than their higher-income peers before age 3; and

**WHEREAS**, parents and early childhood professionals play a critical role in the development of a child's early literacy skills; and

**WHEREAS**, positive early language and literacy development can give children a window to the world, helping to ensure that each child meets their potential; and

**WHEREAS**, the most successful way to improve the reading achievement of low-income children is to increase their access to print; and

**WHEREAS**, children's academic successes at the ages of 9 and 10 can be attributed to the amount of "talk" they hear from birth through age 2; and

**WHEREAS**, by the age of 2, children who have been read to regularly display greater language comprehension, larger vocabularies, and higher cognitive skills than their peers; and

**WHEREAS**, the Early Learning Coalition of Manatee County, the Tampa Bay Rays, and Bradenton Kiwanis have partnered with the community to read to 3,200 Manatee County preschool children and give them a book.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED** by the Board of County Commissioners of Manatee County, Florida, that April 23-27, 2018, shall be known, designated, and set aside as

### ***EVERY CHILD A READER WEEK***

in Manatee County, Florida, and the Board calls on all citizens to assure that every child has a reading experience during that week.

**ADOPTED** with a quorum present and voting this 24<sup>th</sup> day of April 2018.

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
MANATEE COUNTY, FLORIDA**

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*Priscilla Trace, Chairman*

**ATTEST:** *Angelina Colonnese*  
*Clerk of the Circuit Court*

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