

MEDIA ADVISORY – June 9, 2016

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Read Together 20 Minutes Every Day™

Renowned Author Dana Suskind, M.D. to Present at Early Learning Conference in Pasco *Best Practices Sessions for Education, Medical and Child Care Professionals*

KENNEWICK, Wash. The Children's Reading Foundation national headquarters today announces its annual Early Learning Conference dates and professional learning sessions. This year's conference will be held July 21 and 22 at the Red Lion in Pasco, Wash.

Dana Suskind, M.D., author of ***Thirty Million Words: Building a Child's Brain***, will deliver the keynote on recent science about the importance of early language exposure on the developing child and how to best put it into practice. Dr. Suskind is a professor of surgery at the University of Chicago, director of the Pediatric Cochlear Implant Program, and founder and director of the Thirty Million Words® Initiative. The first 300 attendees will receive a complimentary copy of Suskind's book.

Washington Senator Sharon Brown (8th—WA) will provide the welcome. Conference attendees will also learn play with a purpose and parent engagement principles to prepare children from birth to age 5 for success in school; ideas and resources on how to make learning part of daily activities; and the difference in reading to a child versus with a child and how to put those techniques into practice.

The conference is approved for continuing education clock and STARS hours. Washington-based educators and child care professionals who attend the conference may apply to earn these continuing education credits.

More information and registration at <https://readingfoundation.org/register>.

About The Children's Reading Foundation: The national nonprofit was founded in 1996 with the vision that every child learns to read at grade level by the end of third grade, thereby reaching his or her full potential in school and life. The foundation delivers national programs focused on reading skills and school readiness for children birth to age 8. The Children's Reading Foundation helps establish local chapters in communities across the country. The headquarters are in Kennewick, Wash. Learn more at www.ReadingFoundation.org.

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