



What's New

Thrive in 5 Awarded \$1.5M Grant from W.K. Kellogg Foundation

Thrive in 5 Community Meetings about Community School Readiness Wiring - August 5, 13, 18, 19, and 26

Born Learning Trail Launch - August 12

Opportunities for Providers

Autism Professional Development Institute at Wheelock College, August 18-20

Opportunities for Children & Families

Countdown to Kindergarten's:

10th Annual **Citywide Kindergarten Celebration** -September 1

Kindergarten Days Parties

Boston Public Health Commissions' 5th Annual **School Book Bag Giveaway & Resource**

WHAT'S NEW

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Funder applauds Mayor Menino and United Way for effective plan to prevent the achievement gap in Boston's next generation of students.

The W.K. Kellogg Foundation awarded Thrive in 5 a \$1.5 million grant over two years to support implementation of Boston's School Readiness Roadmap. Kellogg is the first national funder to invest in Thrive in 5. The new **funding will support two broad goals:**

- **Building neighborhood capacity** to support parents and to support school readiness for all children with a special focus on those most at risk.
- **Ensuring continuous quality improvement** for Boston's early childhood programming.

> [Read more about the Kellogg grant.](#)

Community Meetings about Community School Readiness Wiring

All are welcome. Help spread the word.

Thrive in 5 is currently in the process of developing a Request for Proposals (RFP) to select hub agencies to implement Community School Readiness Wiring (CSRW). Community organizations, parents, and other interested parties are invited to the following community meetings to **learn more about CSRW and share ideas for the RFP.**

- **Roslindale - August 5, 6:30 - 8 pm** at South Side Head Start (19 Corinth Street, Roslindale, MA 02131)
- **East Boston - August 13, 10 - 11:30 am** at East Boston Social Centers (68 Central

Fair - August 15

ParkARTS - Summer
Schedule

New England
Aquarium's Community
Open House - August 2,
16, and 30

Square, East Boston, MA 02128)

- **Mattapan - August 18, 3 - 4:30 pm** at Mattapan Public Library (1350 Blue Hill Avenue, Mattapan, MA, 02126)
- **Allston-Brighton - August 19, 11 am - 12:30 pm** at Brighton Marine Health Center (Main Building, 77 Warren Street, Brighton, MA 02135)
- **Charlestown - August 26, 10 - 11:30 am** at Kennedy Center Children's Programs (23A Moulton Street, Charlestown, MA 02129)

> [Learn more about CSRW and these community meetings.](#)

Born Learning Trail Launch - August 12, 11:00 a.m.

Join us for music, fun, and Arthur!

On August 12, at 11:00 a.m., bring your children ages 0-5 to a wonderful morning on Children's Wharf in Boston (next to Boston Children's Museum, 300 Congress Street). **Tour the city's first ever Born Learning Trail. Enjoy food and activities and shake, wiggle and giggle to live music** by Cheryl Ann McNeil. A welcome and words from Mayor Thomas Menino will be followed by a special visit from Arthur, the world famous aardvark! This event is sponsored by United Way of Massachusetts Bay and Merrimack Valley, Boston Children's Museum, the City of Boston, and Thrive in 5.

> [Get more information about this free event and the Born Learning trail.](#)

OPPORTUNITIES FOR PROVIDERS

Autism Professional Development Institute
August 18-20 at Wheelock College

A Framework for Relating to Autism as an ASSET (Autism Spectrum Supports, Education, & Training) is a 3-day professional development institute at Wheelock College that **provides students with a framework for understanding and rethinking autism**, while developing competencies in educating and serving children with autism and related developmental differences. The institute is the first of a series through ASSET, a collaboration

of Wheelock College's Center for Scholarship and Research and Youth Advocate Programs, Inc.

[> Learn more about this institute.](#)

OPPORTUNITIES FOR CHILDREN & FAMILIES -

Find these free/low-cost opportunities and more on [Talk Read Play's Events Calendar](#).

Countdown to Kindergarten Presents:

10th Annual Citywide Kindergarten Celebration - September 1, 4:30 p.m.

Get ready for kindergarten!

Incoming Boston Public School kindergarteners and their families or providers are invited to join Countdown to Kindergarten for the 10th Annual Citywide Kindergarten Celebration on September 1, from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the Boston Children's Museum (300 Congress Street).

- Tour the Museum's exhibits
- Meet other kindergarten families
- Climb aboard real school buses
- Meet Mayor Menino and Superintendent Johnson
- Get answers to your last minute school questions
- Learn about community resources
- Take advantage of free dental and eye screenings
- Enjoy free refreshments and goodies

[> Get more information.](#)

[> Volunteer.](#)

Kindergarten Days Parties

Countdown to Kindergarten is hosting a party in a neighborhood near you.

New Boston Public Schools kindergarteners are invited to attend, with their parents or providers, Kindergarten Days parties **hosted throughout Boston's neighborhoods August 17 - September 11.**

[> View the schedule.](#)

Need to Prepare School-Age Children for

School?

Attend the 5th Annual School Book Bag Giveaway & Resource Fair.

The Boston Public Health Commission's Connecting Families to School invites you to their 5th annual School Book Bag Giveaway & Resource Fair on August 15, from 12:00 – 4:00 p.m. at Perkins Community Center (155 Talbot Avenue, Dorchester). Boston students who attend will receive a **free book bag** with children's books, pencils, pens, **and other school supplies**. Come enjoy the raffles, prizes, and music!

[> Learn more.](#)

[> Host a resource table or activity.](#)

[> Volunteer.](#)

ParkARTS

Creative opportunities for young children.

Boston Parks & Recreation's ParkARTS provides **free arts activities and events** for young children and their families **in Boston's parks** throughout the summer. Opportunities include, Rocket into Reading @ the Park, ReadBoston's Storymobile, Titus Sparrow Park Children's Summer Performances, and Arts & Crafts at the Frog Pond.

[> Check out the ParkARTS guide for more information.](#)

New England Aquarium's Community Open House

Bring friends and family!

You're invited to New England Aquarium's Community Open House. Come see **the aquarium and watch an IMAX film for free.**

August 2 – Latino night
August 16 – Chinese night
August 30 – Caribbean night

6:30 – 9:00 PM
New England Aquarium
1 Central Wharf Boston, MA 02110

[> Learn more and register.](#)

Sponsored by:



Thomas M. Menino
Mayor of Boston



United Way
of Massachusetts Bay
and Merrimack Valley

Do you have opportunities for providers or young children and families that you want to share in the Thrive in 5 newsletter?

[> Contact us.](#)

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