



A Bit Better

News From First 5 Santa Cruz County

Building & Strengthening Network Connections Coming Up on May 6

Santa Cruz County ACEs Network

Learning Session

La Red de ACEs del Condado de Santa Cruz

Sesión de Aprendizaje

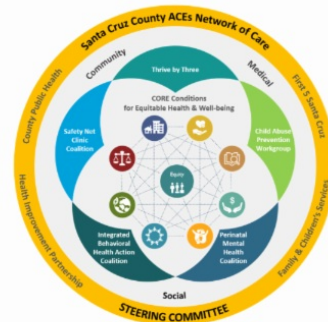
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Building & Strengthening Network Connections



Creando y fortaleciendo las conexiones de redes de ACEs



Join us for the fifth session of the Santa Cruz County (SCC) ACEs Network of Care Learning Series, **Building & Strengthening Network Connections**, co-hosted by First 5 Santa Cruz County and CORE Investments Santa Cruz County. Attend this virtual, bilingual session to:

- Understand the vision and goals of California's Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) Aware initiative and the roles and activities of local partners;
- Learn about the **California Surgeon General's Roadmap for Resilience**, the importance of screening for ACEs and toxic stress in health care settings, and the role of health, social, and community "networks of care" in responding to ACEs;

- Hear from a panel of health care, early childhood, and community leaders about their perspectives on ACEs, toxic stress, screening for ACEs, Positive Childhood Experiences, centering racial equity, and centering the voices of community leaders;
- Help define what a trauma-informed, resilience-building “network of care” should look like in Santa Cruz County.

This session will be presented in English and Spanish with simultaneous interpretation.

Register Today!

Our local ACEs Aware grant activities were highlighted in the March ACEs Aware Blog. Read more about our local work as well as efforts in action across the state of California [here!](#)

Please join us for a Día de los Libros

STORYTIME

to celebrate early literacy for children of all backgrounds!

With
Special
Guests:



Jennifer Siebel Newsom
First Partner of California



Hudson Yang & Jeff Yang
ABC's Fresh Off the Boat
Journalist



Nadine Burke Harris
California Surgeon General

Activities, stories & more on Facebook Live at bit.ly/Dia-Storytime



Please join us for a special Día de los Libros story time event on Facebook live on **Friday, April 30, at 10 a.m. PT!**

Click here to join the event: <http://bit.ly/Dia-Storytime>

This online event will feature a live story time, activities for kids, and special guests, including First Partner of California Jennifer Siebel Newsom, California Surgeon General Nadine Burke Harris, and

celebrity guests Hudson Yang (ABC's Fresh Off the Boat) and his father, journalist Jeff Yang. This special story time event is in celebration of Día de los Libros, a nationally recognized initiative that emphasizes the importance of literacy for children from all backgrounds. Please help spread the word using these flyers in **English** and **Spanish**.

To learn more about Dia de los Libros visit the new website:

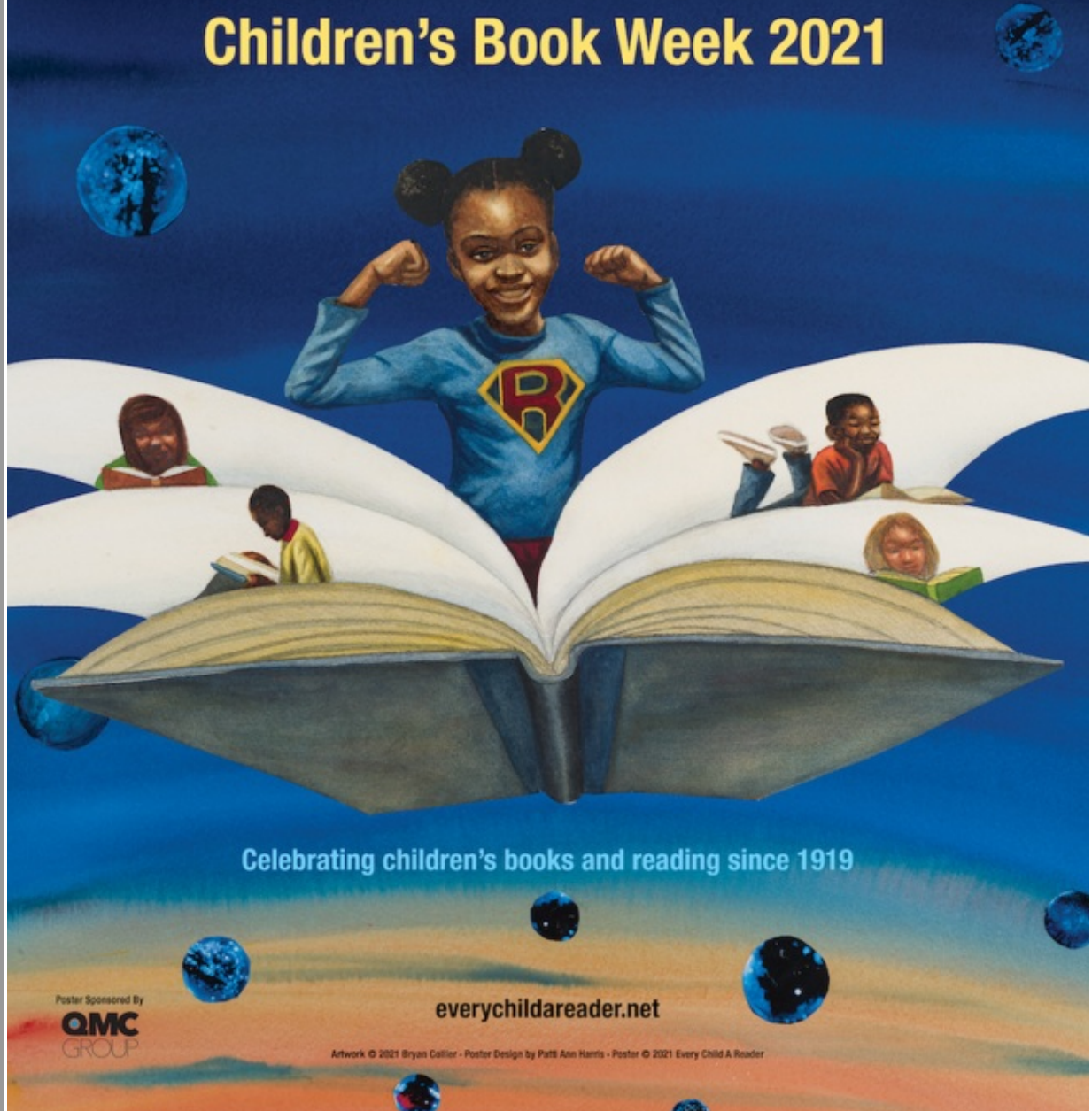
<https://www.diadeloslibros.com/>

Children's Book Week is May 3rd-9th

Established in 1919, Children's Book Week is a time to celebrate children, reading and community connections. Children's Book Week 2021 is right around the corner! To learn more about local activities visit the **Santa Cruz Public Library Page** and to access information and resources visit **Every Child a Reader's website**.

Reading is a Superpower

Children's Book Week 2021



Help Working Families Put Money Back in their Pockets

We need your help to let working families know about the California Earned Income Tax Credit (CalEITC) and Young Child Tax Credit. These credits put thousands of dollars in the pockets of families, helping them move out of poverty and up the economic ladder.

Who qualifies for the CalEITC?

- Any worker with an income of \$30,000 or less.
- Any worker who files taxes with an Individual Tax Identification Number (ITIN) or Social Security Number (SSN).
- Self-employed (form 1099) and cash earners.
- Workers with children under age six who qualify for the CalEITC may also file for the Young Child Tax Credit—and receive up to an additional \$1,000.

The CalEITC and Young Child Tax Credits exist in addition to the federal EITC. The average combined tax refund is \$3,000, but some families could receive up to \$8,053. Workers can file online for free, or schedule an appointment for help with filing, at <http://www.myfreetaxes.org/>

The **new tax deadline is May 17, 2021**. This is the first year ITIN filers can access the credit, so we are especially trying to spread the word to immigrant families. For more materials to help get the word out, please visit www.first5association.org/CalEITC

Thank you for your help!

Child Care Providers Share Why They are Getting Vaccinated in New Video Series

“I’m getting vaccinated so I can invite families back into the classroom,” says preschool provider Desiray Taylor. Over the past year, child care providers have put their lives on the line for the children and families they serve. Now, all individuals ages 16 and older in California are eligible to get the COVID-19 vaccine, including essential workers like early care and education providers. It’s normal to be nervous about a new vaccine, but all of the vaccinations available are safe and effective at preventing serious illness—and getting vaccinated can help you and your community return to normal life. Child care providers from around the state, like Desiray, share why they got vaccinated in a new series of videos from **First 5 Association** and **First 5 California**. They share reasons like protecting their community, keeping their students and families safe, and helping to end the pandemic.

Click [here to watch the videos](#) and hear their stories.



Community Announcements

Local Pediatric Dental Appointments Available

There are pediatric dental appointment openings at local clinics for children 0 to 3. Please check out this [flyer](#) for more information about the importance of bringing young children in to have regular dental checkups.

Local Assistance Available to Help with Health Insurance and CalFresh Applications

Having access to health insurance and food for our families is of vital importance. If you, a family member, friend or neighbor need help completing or renewing an application to county or state health insurance programs, Certified Application Assistors can answer your questions and offer free application assistance. Call an Application Assistor directly at any of the agencies listed on this [flyer](#) for more information.

Community Resources

Parenting and Caregiver Resources

- First 5 Santa Cruz County- [Triple P parenting support](#)
- Watsonville Public Library - [Storytime Kits](#)
- Community Foundation Santa Cruz County: [April Family Resource Calender](#)

- Santa Cruz County Office of Education website focused on **Distance Learning**
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- First 5 Association - **Resources for Families, Children and Communities**
- First 5 California's **Parenting Website**
- Resources from **Sesame Street in Communities**
- California Surgeon General's Playbook: **Stress Relief for Caregivers and Kids during COVID-19**
- From the National Institute of Mental Health - Flyers on Stress and Anxiety in **English** and **Spanish**

If you are in need of child care,
please call the Child Development Resource Center



COVID-19 Related Community Resources

- Santa Cruz County Office of Education
 - For information about vaccine appointments for adults go to **sccoe.link/COEvax** and for students ages 16 and older go to **http://sccoe.link/studentvax**
- County of Santa Cruz Health Services Agency:
 - **Vaccination Information**
 - **COVID -19 Resources and Information Website**

- **Testing Sites**

- Abriendo Puertas Shares Multi-Lingual COVID-19 Resources for Families: **Website**
- Mental Health Tips & Local Resources for COVID-19 – **ENGLISH & SPANISH**
- California Coronavirus (COVID-19) Response:
 - **COVID -19 Resources and Information Website**



CALL

TEXT

VISIT

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ENVÍE

VISITE

2-1-1
OR (800-273-6222)

Send your zip-code
to 898-211

211santacruzcounty.org

2-1-1
O (800-273-6222)

Su código postal
por texto a 898-211

211santacruzcounty.org

This newsletter is a collaborative effort of First 5 Santa Cruz County staff.



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