

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Leaf the Bookworm Visits Garden Elementary to Help Support the Literacy Empowers All Families Program

Who: Literacy Empowers All Families (LEAF)

**What:** Leaf the Bookworm Supports Literacy at Garden Elementary

The LEAF program mascot, Leaf the Bookworm visited Garden Elementary on March 23 to help support the Partners in Print workshops. The Sarasota County School Board is holding these workshops for kindergarten and first grade parents to empower parents to help their children become confident and successful readers. Parents receive activities and books to take home for their children.

Where: Garden Elementary School

About LEAF: The Community Foundation of Sarasota County along with Sarasota early learning and education communities recognized the importance of early intervention and came together to establish the Literacy Empowers All Families (LEAF) program. The comprehensive literacy initiative is funded by the Community Foundation of Sarasota County and is supported by a number of community partners including the Sarasota County School Board, Early Learning Coalition of Sarasota County, Sarasota County Library System and Children First. This multi-year commitment to reading and learning for children, parents and educators "connects the dots" from birth through middle school and unites early child care providers, the libraries, and the Sarasota County school district in a unified approach to serving at-risk families.

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**Image Attached:** Leaf the Bookworm visits Garden Elementary School. Pictured left to right with Leaf are teachers Donna Dunbar, Kathy Rule, Julia Capron and Stacy Bellanca.