

SPARK YOUR SMARTS

SPARK YOUR SMARTS IS A FREE ONE HOUR WEBINAR FOR ALL PARENTS AND CHILDREN IN GEORGETOWN COUNTY ON THURSDAY, MARCH 11 AT 7:00 P.M.

Dr. Kimberly P. Johnson will be demonstrating how parents can be everyday C.O.A.C.H.E.S. Dr. Johnson's Zoom Calls are accessible by everyone in her audience. The sessions are always interactive, fun, engaging and will definitely shake away a little pandemic angst.

The webinar is sponsored by the Georgetown County School District in partnership with Miss Ruby's Kid's.

Dr. Kimberly P. Johnson is a Literacy Advocate, Educational Consultant and Children's Author. She has achieved many post graduate degrees in education and behavior. She received her Doctorate in Curriculum, Teaching, and Leadership from Northeastern University in Boston, MA. Kimberly is a creative thinker and has a passion for teaching and helping others.

During her "unconventional" webinar Dr. Johnson said she will be talking about how, "Literacy and reading go hand and hand. You must play with words to bring them to life. Words alone cannot be isolated." She will also talk about, "how to take ordinary things to make them come to life in the learning arena."

Dr. Johnson said her webinar will be relatable for older children and their parents as well. She commented, "For older children reading opens the door to more curiosity about themselves and the world. These interests should be encouraged. Parents need to have probing conversations with their children." The conversations should be organic and open ended. Any type of caregiver can suggest different types of reading on personal interests that can be explored together.

Genia Smith, Executive Director for Innovations and Special Programs at Georgetown County School District, is excited to bring reading to life for our families! She said, "GCSD embraces independent reading for all students. We ensure time for students to read, access to books that represent a wide range of characters and experiences and support our teachers as they work with our students daily. Georgetown County School District knows that students must have choice in their selection of reading text, which will motivate, engage, and reach all levels of readers. We are excited for the opportunity to extend an exploration through literacy with our awesome partnership with Miss Ruby's Kids! "

Ruby West, Board Chairman of Miss Ruby's Kids says about the workshop, "COVID has really thrown all of us parents for a loop. Many of us have forgotten about how important daily reading is for our children's future. We are so proud to partner with Georgetown County Schools to put on this webinar to reignite the love of reading in our county. Happily, Miss Ruby's Kids works with parents and children across the county in their homes on a daily basis, so we know firsthand

the challenges they're facing right now. We hope the Spark Your Smarts webinar will be the pep-rally for reading our community needs during this incredibly challenging time for all."

Miss Ruby's Kids is a non-profit organization. We use many volunteers and are committed to bridging the education achievement gap in Georgetown County. Every kid deserves an equal start. Miss Ruby's programs include: Parent Child +, Family In-Home Child Care, and Education Mentors thru 12th grade. The latest program is Miss Ruby's Little Libraries which brings culturally relevant books right into local neighborhoods. There will be 10 libraries placed across the county. They look like newspaper stands and are bright yellow to make them more recognizable. When the weather gets better, they should get a lot of use!

For more information about Miss Ruby's Kids please go to their website at:

www.missrubyskids.net

They are always looking for volunteers, books, and donations.

REGISTRATION FOR THE WEBINAR IS AVAILABLE AT THE FOLLOWING WEBSITES:

[REGISTRATION PAGE](#)

WWW.MISSRUBYSKIDS.NET

WWW.GCSD.K12.SC.US

YOU MUST REGISTER IN ADVANCE TO RECEIVE THE ZOOM LINK.

All kids and parents are welcome! This is an hour where permission is granted to put down the books, loosen up, and watch this together!