A love of books and reading offers the foundation for literacy skills that set children up for future success. Parents reading to their children from birth improves a child’s future reading ability.

Dolly Parton believes that if you can read, you can do anything, dream anything, and be anything. Through her Imagination Library program, she wants to ensure all children have books at home, regardless of the environment in which they live.

“The single most significant factor influencing a child’s early educational success is an introduction to books and being read to at home prior to beginning school.”

National Commission on Reading

As a parent or caregiver, reading with your child is the most important activity that you can do to help set them up for future success.

Through the Imagination Library, Dolly wants children to be excited about books and to feel the magic that books create. Moreover, she could insure that every child would have books, regardless of their family’s income. For more than 20 years, tens of millions of Imagination Library books have been sent to children around the world.

We partner with local communities to provide one free, specially-selected, age-appropriate, high-quality book each month to children from birth to age five. These books are personalized with your child’s name and mailed directly to your home to create a gifting experience that makes books exciting and shows the child someone is thinking of them.

Visit the ImaginationLibrary.com website to access proven and trusted resources for parents and caregivers including tips for reading to children and family engagement activities.
Engaging Parents & Caregivers

Imagination Library has lots of experience with caregivers, children, and reading. We encourage good reading habits for parents, caregivers, and their children. When your child receives their Imagination Library books, we ask you to do the following:

1. Begin reading to your child immediately
2. Read to your child at least five days per week
3. Read books multiple times

Snuggle, ask questions, notice letters, make sounds, have fun!

Dolly Parton’s Imagination Library books are specially-selected, age-appropriate, high-quality books that are mailed to registered children at home each month from birth to age five. And best of all, it is a free gift to the family!

“My son LOVES books. Every morning the first thing he does is go get one of his books to read, then again after dinner, and actually throughout the day! Thank you for this wonderful gift, we love reading with him! He’s just 17-months and off to such a great start.

Brantford, ON

“My little one enjoys her new book every month. She loves all of Dolly’s books, pointing and laughing at the pictures. She is 11-months old, and it’s always an exciting day when we get a book in the mail!

Ft. McMurray, AB

“We just wanted to thank you, Dolly and the Foundation for making reading so much fun for us. My children can’t wait to flip the pages and hear mommy talking about the pictures. Thanks to Dolly, reading has become our special time together.

Cole Harbour, NS

The Imagination Library Blue Ribbon Selection Committee consists of a nationally recognized group of professionals hand selected to lend their expert recommendations and guidance when tasked with choosing the perfect set of books for hundreds of thousands of children.

Parents and caregivers may visit the Parent Resource section of ImaginationLibrary.com to access reading tips and guides by age, activities, and more.