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Brought to you by Read to Them

Happy Fall, Richmond!

October 2025

Welcome to Imagination Library's monthly e-newsletter. Below, you will find helpful information designed to keep you informed and connected to our community's ongoing work to promote literacy. We are thrilled to have you as part of our growing family of readers!

Visit our website by clicking here.

In the News

Imagination Library Joins Forces with Give 804

Over the summer, the Richmond Ed Fund launched a bold literacy initiative called Give 804. This campaign endeavors to "raise resources to ensure every Richmond student can read on grade level by the third-grade." Give 804 is a promising, community-wide investment that invites all of Richmond to help ensure that every student in Richmond Public Schools has access to books in the home. Their goal is to raise 10,000 books by the end of September, with multiple bookstores, local businesses, and RPS schools serving as drop-off sites for new or gently used book donations.

Earlier this month, Imagination Library spent the last days of summer with Give 804 at a Flying Squirrels game and at a Richmond Kickers game. Price of admission for both events was a donated book that will be used to stock classrooms and home libraries across the city of Richmond.

Want to get involved? You can actually sign up to be a reading buddy! Reading buddies will read with Richmond students at least twice a month. This is a simple, personal way to boost confidence in our youngest learners, build connections with local children, and nurture their developing reading skills. Click here to fill out a brief form and get started.

Imagination Library is hopeful that combining our drive to ensure Richmond's children are ready for kindergarten with this powerful initiative by Give 804, we can enrich a new generation of readers with the power of stories.

For more information about the Give 804 initiative, click here.

Encourage Curiosity

Your October 2025 Reading Tip

When reading with your child, it's important to embrace their curiosity. Try to answer any questions they may have: about the topic of the book, about new words, about the illustrations. Anything that keeps their curiosity stoked and their excitement for reading going!

Upcoming Community Partner Events

Click here to view our full list of community partner events in October.

Have a community event you would like us to include? Email us!

For even more community events for the whole family, be sure to pick up a free copy of Richmond Family Magazine, available at over 850 spots all over RVA, including these locations.

Look in the We Love Our Local Libraries section below for events at your local library!

Community Partner Spotlight

Autism Society Central Virginia

Building Community from the Start: ASCV's Support for Preschool Families

At the Autism Society of Central Virginia (ASCV), our mission is to support, empower, and build connections to improve the lives of all in our local autism community. For more than 40 years, we've been a trusted source of advocacy, education, and support—serving autistic individuals, their families and friends, and the professionals who walk alongside them.

We believe that connection and support should start early. That's why we offer a variety of programs designed specifically for families of preschool-aged children. Whether families are seeking a diagnosis, recently diagnosed, or a few years into their autism journey, these offerings create meaningful opportunities for learning, social play, and caregiver connection in welcoming, inclusive environments.

ASCV hosts monthly preschool meetups at local favorites like the Children's Museum of Richmond, Sunshine Play Café, PARK365, and more, providing a space for young children to explore and engage while caregivers connect with others who understand their journey.

Preschoolers can also participate in fitness classes at River City Inclusive Gym and Music and Development classes with Little Sunshine Music Studio. Caregivers can join us for virtual support groups, casual coffee meetups and parent nights out—with dedicated events for maternal and paternal caregivers, and even grandparents.

As your child grows, we will continue to walk beside you. The ASCV offers programs across the lifespan, from early childhood through adulthood. Whether you're looking for resources, community, or just a place to belong, we're honored to support you every step of the way.

👉 Learn more and register for upcoming programs at https://ascv.org/program-registration/

We Love Our Local Libraries!

Libraries offer a variety of resources and tools - usually for FREE! Not a member of your local library? Sign up wherever you are today.

This section of our newsletter shows examples of library offerings, brought to you by Richmond Public Libraries.

Click here to find a complete list of upcoming events hosted by our friends at Richmond Public Libraries!

Sing With Your Child This Month!

The Basics VIRGINIA

Count around town.

When reading with your child, it's important to embrace their curiosity. Try to answer any questions they may have: about the topic of the book, about new words, about the illustrations. Anything that keeps their curiosity stoked and their excitement for reading going!

Visit this principle from the Basics here.

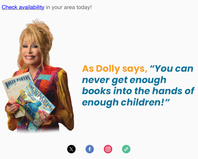
To learn more about how you can Count, Group, and Compare, click here.

Early childhood organizations all around Central Virginia have joined The Basics movement, a strategy for whole communities to support vibrant learning and brain development among infants, toddlers and preschoolers. It's simple, and powerful, starting at birth. The Basics are five science-based parenting and caregiving principles that support social, emotional, and cognitive development. Each month Read to Them will highlight tips and strategies that will assist you in creating a sturdy foundation for school readiness for our youngest citizens.

Visit theBasicsVirginia.org for more information.

Current Number of Local Imagination Library Readers...

Check availability in your area today!



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