Let's Read This Winter, Richmond!

February 2026

Welcome to Imagination Library's monthly e-newsletter. Every month, 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

Graduation Celebrations at the Main Library

We celebrated our newest Imagination Library graduates at Main Library! Families came to the library on a rainy day in January to celebrate their children getting ready for their next big adventure - kindergarten. Families gathered for a morning filled with crafts, cupcakes, and lots of smiles. Each child picked out a book to take home, and they had a special opportunity to decorate a cupcake to go with our very own Dolly. This event was a lovely moment to recognize their growing readers and all the milestones they've reached. We look forward to celebrating our next graduation celebration in March at Broad Rock Library. We hopefull thank-you to the wonderful Main Library team for helping make this celebration so special.

Upcoming Community Partner Events

February 4th
Bilingual Book Babies/Bebés Bilingues, Broad Rock Library, 10-10:30am (birth-18 months)

February 5th
STEAM Team: Electric Structures, Ginter Park Library, 12-1pm (birth-18 years)

February 6th
First Fridays, Virginia Museum of History and Culture, 5-8pm (All ages)

February 7th
Ice Cream for Breakfast, Main Library, 10-11am (birth-10 years)

February 9th
Play Connections, Main Library, 10-11:15am (birth-5 years)
Baby ArtePlay! Belmont Library, 10:30-11:15am (ages 2-36 months)
Toddler Time - Happy Hearts, Maymont, 10-11am (Children 4 years) $15
Valentine's Day Cards, Ginter Park Library, 90 day (birth-10 years)
Richmond Community Dog, Main Library, 6-8pm (All ages)

February 10th
Craft Corner: Love Bug, Main Library, 4-5pm (birth-10 years)

February 12th
Tunes & Tacos: "Arthur", Main Library, 10-11am (birth-5 years)
Toddler & Preschooler Yoga, Belmont Library, 10:30-11:30am (birth-5 years)

February 14th
Lovebug Scavenger Hunt, Ginter Park Library, 90 day (birth-10 years)
Sensory Sensuals, Main Library, 10-11:30am (birth-5 years)

February 16th
Out of School Day Camp, The Patrick Henry Center, Maymont, 9am-3pm (Kindergarten-3rd grade) $
Toddler Time - Happy Hearts, Maymont, 10-11am (Children 4 years) $15

February 18th
Bilingual Book Babies/Bebés Bilingues, Broad Rock Library, 10-10:30am (birth-18 months)
Black History Month Storytime, East End Library, 10-11am (birth-5 years)

February 20th
Baby ArtePlay, Main Library, 10:30-11:30am (ages 3-36 months)

February 21st
Gently Used Toy Swap, Belmont Library, 11am-1pm (birth-5 years)

February 23rd
Play Connections, Main Library, 10-11:15am (birth-5 years)
Baby ArtePlay! Belmont Library, 11:30-12:15am (ages 3-36 months)
Pajama Storytime, Westover Hills Library, 7-7:30pm (birth-10 years)
Toddler Time - Happy Hearts, Maymont, 10-11am (Children 4 years) $15

February 25th
Craft Corner: Peacock Crowns, Main Library, 4-5pm (birth-10 years)

February 27th
Make and Paint Friday - Downtown, Children's Museum of Richmond, 1:30-3:30pm (best for ages 3-8 years)

February 28th
Baby Prime! East End Library, 10:30-11:30am, (birth-5 years)
World Wildlife Day & Fifth Environmental Film Festival, Maymont, 10am-4pm (All ages) $

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 Parents' Magazine, available at over 600 spots all over RVA, including Shaw Sculptors.

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

Have FUN!

Your February 2026 Reading Tip

When you are reading aloud to your child, the biggest thing to remember? Have fun! Around Reading aloud is not meant to be a chore - it's about nourishing your child's relationship with books through quality time and togetherness with the people they love most dearly. Stories are fun, and sharing them with your child is meant to be fun, too.

Community Partner Spotlight

READ RVA

Learn more about READ RVA here!

RPS Preschool and Kindergarten Enrollment

Richmond Public Schools Preschool applications and Kindergarten Registration for 2026-27 school year will open on Saturday, February 14. RPS offers free, high-quality early childhood education for eligible 3- and 4-year-olds living in the City of Richmond.

Families can apply to Head Start (HS) and the Virginia Preschool Initiative (VPI). Both preschool programs provide comprehensive support for young learners and their families. All RPS Preschool students have access to:

- Certified teachers
- Social-emotional learning
- Music and art classes
- Special education services
- Research-based curriculum
- Healthy meals
- Transportation
- Health screenings
- Family resources and support

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 whenever you are today.

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

Dolly's next stop: Broad Rock Library! Dolly joines Summer, Broad Rock's Children's Librarian, for a fun photo op! Broad Rock Library is a wonderful location for families to visit, with a beautiful children's area and a large collection of Spanish-language books for children and adults. The library also offers engaging, family-focused programs throughout the week, including Storytime, Tunes & Tacos, Bilingual Book Babies, Baby ArtePlay, Baby Prime, and Bilingual Book Babies, held every Wednesday from 10:30-10:45am. These programs provide meaningful support for early literacy, language development, and academic success for families in the community.

All Richmond Public Library locations offer programs and classes, event calendars, and a variety of resources for all ages. Visit your local library! For upcoming events at Broad Rock Library, check out the calendar here.

Learn With Your Child This Month!

Your February 2026 Focus on The Basics Tip

Learn how they see the world.

As you are reading with your child, they are also constantly learning. On the surface, they are learning about the world around them, exploring new ideas and scale, your child is likely discovering new places, activities, and historical figures. When you're out and about, ask your child, "What do you know about this place/person/idea?" Use the book you are reading with them (and how easy it is to expand their knowledge of the world around them.

Visit this principle from The Basics here.

To learn more about how you can Talk, Sing, Point, visit here.

Early childhood organizations all around Central Virginia have joined The Basics Virginia to promote the five essential parenting practices that support learning and brain development among infants, toddlers and preschoolers. Fun, simple, and powerful, starting at birth, The Basics are five science-based parenting and caregiving practices that can be woven into your child's everyday routine. 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

To check the availability of Imagination Library in your area, click here.

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