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Let's Read All Summer, Richmond!

July 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



Summer Fun with the Robinson Theater!

In June, Imagination Library joined the [Robinson Theater](#) for their 17th Annual Block Party. This was such a fun-filled night of family-oriented activities with bouncy houses, music, dancing, fire trucks, and so much more. We were thrilled to help kick off summer with the Richmond community – and didn't let a little rain put a damper on our fun! The block party allowed local nonprofits, businesses, and partners to come together and share resources with our neighbors. A number of our friends at fellow community partners were in attendance, including RPS PreK + Kindergarten Enrollment, the Lit Limo, Greater Richmond SCAN, and the East End Library, among others.

Pack a Book

Your July 2025 Reading Tip



With summer in full swing, you and your family are likely heading off on vacation for a few days. Before you head out, though, consider making a quick stop by the library! Whether you're driving or flying, there is sure to be downtime that can be enhanced by sharing a story together: waiting for a flight to board, for dinner to arrive, or even if you're relaxing on the beach. Consider bringing books that take place where you're traveling or even books about modes of transportation!

Upcoming Community Partner Events

- July 1**
 - Tutus & Ties - Downtown**, Children's Museum of Richmond - Downtown, 2:00-2:30pm, free
- July 3**
 - Make and Play Co-Labs in the Art Studio - Downtown**, Children's Museum of Richmond - Downtown, 3:30-4:30pm, \$
- July 18**
 - SPARC SummerStars Tour Presents: Nickelodeon's The SpongeBob Musical Youth Edition**, Robinson Theater, 11:00am-2:00pm, free

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

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](#).

Weekend Events, Giveaways, and More
Delivered Straight to Your Inbox

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Community Partner Spotlight

Be SMART

Be SMART is a 501c3 launched by Everytown for Gun Safety Support Fund in 2015 and is an educational campaign to educate adults about the importance of secure storage of firearms to help keep children and communities safer. Be SMART's goal is to reduce the risk of suicide, shootings on school grounds, and all unintentional shootings that result from unsecured guns accessed by children. It is non-partisan and apolitical.

SMART is an acronym and stands for:
Secure all firearms in homes and vehicles
Model responsible behavior around firearms
Ask about the presence of unsecured firearms in other homes
Recognize the role of firearms in suicide
Tell your peers to Be SMART

More information can be found at: www.besmartforkids.org

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](#).

Have a GREAT summer with Richmond Public Library!

[Click here](#) to find a complete list of upcoming events hosted by our friends at Richmond Public Libraries!

Is your reader eager to get their hands on more books?
Visit your local library!
Sign up for a library card to keep the reading momentum!

Have a Routine With Your Child This Month!



Have a routine.

The most essential part of forming a habit is being consistent. By having a set time of day that you read together, you're sure to incorporate reading aloud into your daily routine. Before bed, bathtime, or directly after dinner are some great times to read, but it's important to choose a time of day that works best for your family. Remember: as you build this habit, try to give yourself some grace and don't be too hard on yourself if there's days where you're not able to read together.

Visit this principle from the Basics [here](#).

To learn more about how you can Read and Discuss Stories, 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. Fun, 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!

As Dolly says, "You can never get enough books into the hands of enough children!"

