

View this email in your browser



Fall in love with reading!

October 2024

Welcome to Imagination Library RVA'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! You can also visit us at www.ImaginationLibraryRVA.org.

Set Reasonable Goals

Your October 2024 reading tip



You don't have to spend eight hours a day reading aloud to your child to make an impact. Start with a small, reasonable timeframe that can easily be folded into your routine. If you're reading a board book, try 5 minutes; if you're reading a picture book, shoot for 10 minutes; if you're reading a chapter from a novel, aim for around 15 minutes. However, try to be patient – your child may get restless or have questions about the book which can lengthen this time.

Though it does not seem like a lot of time, you'll be surprised by how many stories can stack up within these short segments.

Upcoming Community Partner Events

- October 1**
 - Tutus & Ties on Tuesdays, Children's Museum of Richmond Downtown, 2:00 - 2:30pm, \$
- October 20**
 - Read Aloud to a Child Week begins (through the 26th)
- October 25**
 - Science After Dark: Spooky Science, Science Museum of Virginia, 5:00pm-8:00pm, \$
 - Squirrel-O-Ween, The Diamond, 5:30pm - 8:30pm, free

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](#).

Reading Aloud to Build Connections

You know reading aloud is beneficial. Come learn why.



Join Sara Hudson from Read to Them to explore how reading aloud enhances literacy, fosters emotional connection, and supports children in becoming better students and friends. Learn tips and tricks to make the most of your read-aloud time.


"The single most important activity for building the knowledge required for eventual success in reading is reading aloud to children."
- Jim Trelease, The Read-Aloud Handbook

October 28, 2024, noon until 1:00
Libbie Mill Library,
2100 Libbie Lake East St, Henrico

The event will also be livestreamed on Better2gether RVA's Facebook page.

To RSVP, please go to Better2gether RVA's Facebook page.

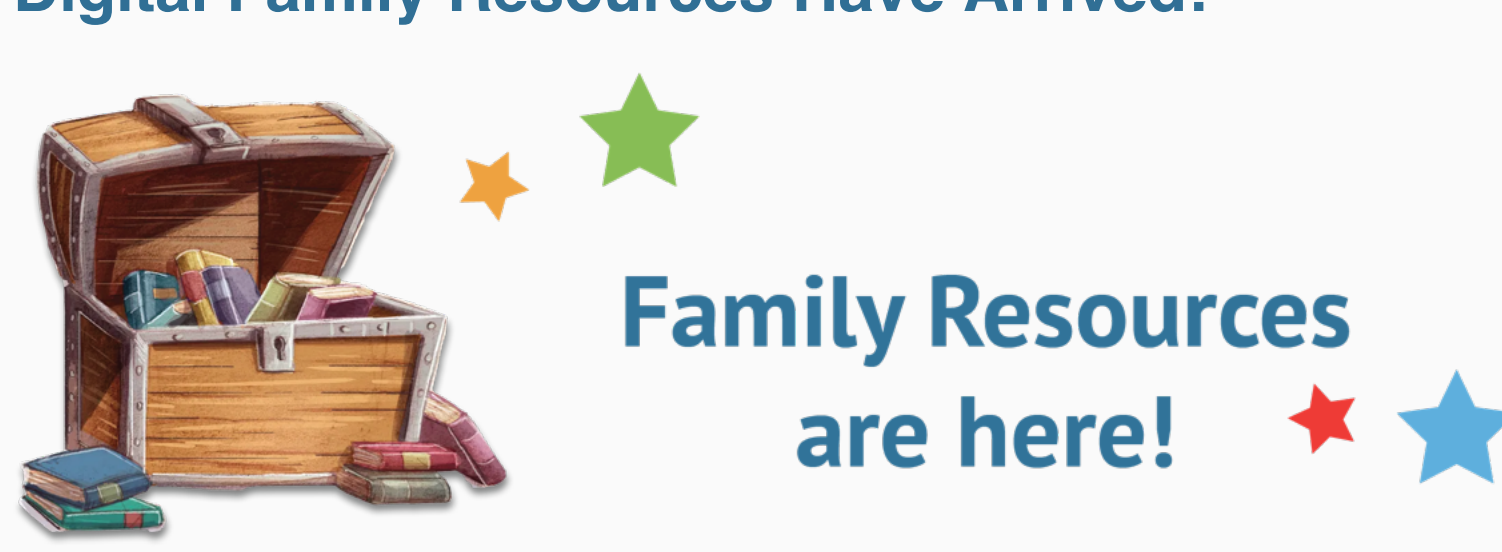
For more information, email sara.hudson@readtothem.org



Sponsored by: Better2gether, Richmond Hope Therapy Center, Read to Them & Imagination Library RVA



Digital Family Resources Have Arrived!



At Imagination Library RVA, we are dedicated to helping families foster a positive relationship with reading and to laying a foundation that ensures children maintain a lifelong love of books. In just one step to see this vision become a reality, we are thrilled to announce the release of a Family Resources page!

This new feature provides families with a wealth of valuable information to enhance their reading experience. The page includes the following:

- Reading Tips** - Our team has compiled a number of tips for families to use before, during, and after reading aloud. We also understand that there is a wide variety of read aloud experience among families; these tips have been carefully crafted to suit readers of all experience levels.
- Benefits** - From the academic to the social and emotional wellness, we highlight the many areas that reading aloud can impact and improve.
- Printables** - Our set of downloadable printables provide further information and fun, at-home activities to make each family's reading experience even richer.
- Videos** - Authors, librarians, and literacy advocates from our rich community share real-life examples of the power of reading aloud!

[You can start exploring the page now!](#)

We are excited to launch this new feature, and hope that it will be a valuable resource for the families we serve. Please reach out to kimberly@imaginationlibraryrva.org if you have any questions about the page or suggestions for further resources you'd like us to provide.

Partner Spotlight



SCORE
"Everyone can thrive in a community with equitable opportunities."

SCORE in Communities is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization in Virginia. SCORE is an acronym for **S**erving and **C**reating **O**pportunities **R**edefined with **E**quity.

Wishes: All students will receive a dynamic, relevant, and unparalleled education that guarantees choices and opportunities today and in the future.

Mission: To narrow and close achievement and opportunity gaps, provide equitable opportunities, and serve as a backbone for collective impact to increase systemic change in underserved communities.

Programs:
 Readers & Achievers – Book by Book
 Community Screenings & Discussions – **"The Right to Read"**
 Parent & Caretaker Empowerment & Engagement Events

www.scoreincommunities.org



We Love Our Local 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!



Bilingual (English/Spanish) Story Time

Story time is fun for all families, no matter what language you speak in your home. One way to support children who are becoming bilingual is for caregivers to read aloud in their home language. To support Spanish-speaking families in our community, the Richmond Public Library system has lots of children's books available in Spanish for you to check out. The children's librarian can help you find just what you need.

The Broad Rock branch also offers bilingual story times so English and Spanish-speaking families can enjoy stories together. Children's librarian Summer tells you all about it.

[Watch the English video here.](#)

[Mira el video en español aquí.](#)

Broad Rock's children's area is filled with books for kids of all ages, in English and in Spanish. The sun-filled space is waiting for your family to come visit.



Here are some of Summer's favorite bilingual books for preschoolers:

- The Very Hungry Caterpillar/La Oruga Muy Hambrienta* by Eric Carle
- Maria Had a Little Llama/María tenía una llamita* by Angela Dominguez
- Bravo! Poems about Amazing Hispanics/Bravo! Poemas sobre hispanos extraordinarios* by Margarita Engle, illustrated by Rafael López
- Close/Cerca* by Juan Felipe Herrera
- De Colores* by Patty Rodriguez and Ariana Stein, illustrated by Citali Reyes

Don't Forget to Lend Your Child a Helping Hand!

Your October 2024 "Focus on the Basics" Tip



Cheer Them On

Though you'll be the one reading aloud, try encouraging your child while you read. For instance, have them sound out new vocabulary words or point out the colors within an illustration. With smaller children, you can improve their fine motor skills by encouraging them to help hold the book as you read. No matter what age, give them a big smile and a sweet smooch when they succeed.

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

To learn more about how you can Maximize Love, Manage Stress, click [here](#).


Early childhood organizations all around the City of Richmond 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 RVA Readers...

Celebrating 3,622 Sign-ups!

Sign up your child ages 0-5 living in the City of Richmond for FREE BOOKS through the mail today!



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

Brought to you by



readtothem.org



Copyright © 2024 Read to Them. All rights reserved.

Want to change how you receive these emails? You can update your preferences or unsubscribe from this list

