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Celebrate Summer with Imagination Library RVA!

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



Imagination Library RVA News



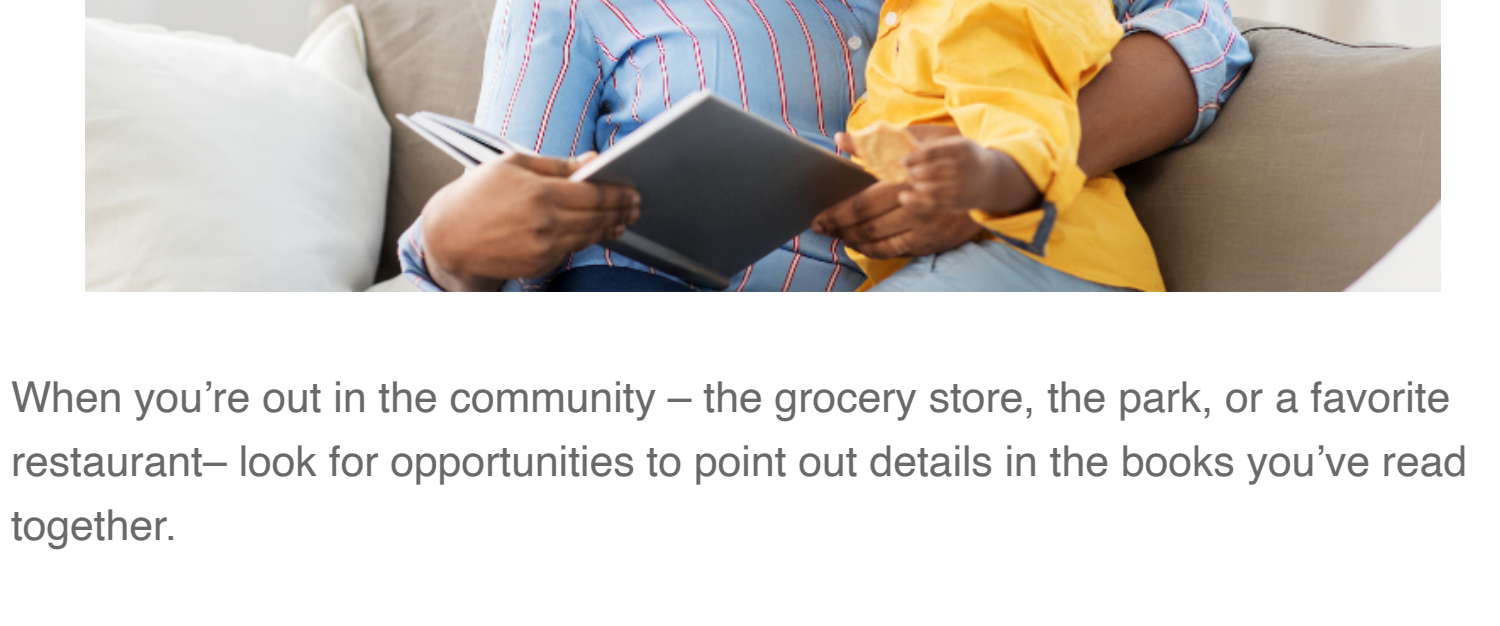
Read to Them Executive Director Christa Donohue and Imagination Library RVA Project Manager Kimberly Fehrs celebrated literacy at the Kendra Scott Short Pump location.

ILRVA Joins Forces with Kendra Scott

Over Mother's Day weekend, Imagination Library RVA partnered with Kendra Scott, the renowned jewelry brand. This is the second give-back initiative between our organizations – following Giving Tuesday of 2023 – where all proceeds benefit young readers in the City of Richmond. We cannot thank Kendra Scott enough for not only partnering with us, but for directly assisting our efforts in putting books in the hands of children across the city.

Help the story live on in your child's mind - long after you've finished the book.

Your June 2024 reading tip



When you're out in the community – the grocery store, the park, or a favorite restaurant– look for opportunities to point out details in the books, or you've read together.

You'll be surprised by all the threads connecting you with the world around you. For instance, if you've read a book about animals, point out familiar animals in your neighborhood; from birds in the trees to people walking their dogs. If you've read a book about lemonade, pay attention to lemonade at the grocery store or even the lemons that can become lemonade. If you've read about trucks, try inviting your child to notice the different kinds of trucks on your morning commute.

Pretty soon, your child will notice and make these connections on their own. All you have to do is show them the way!

Upcoming Community Partner Events

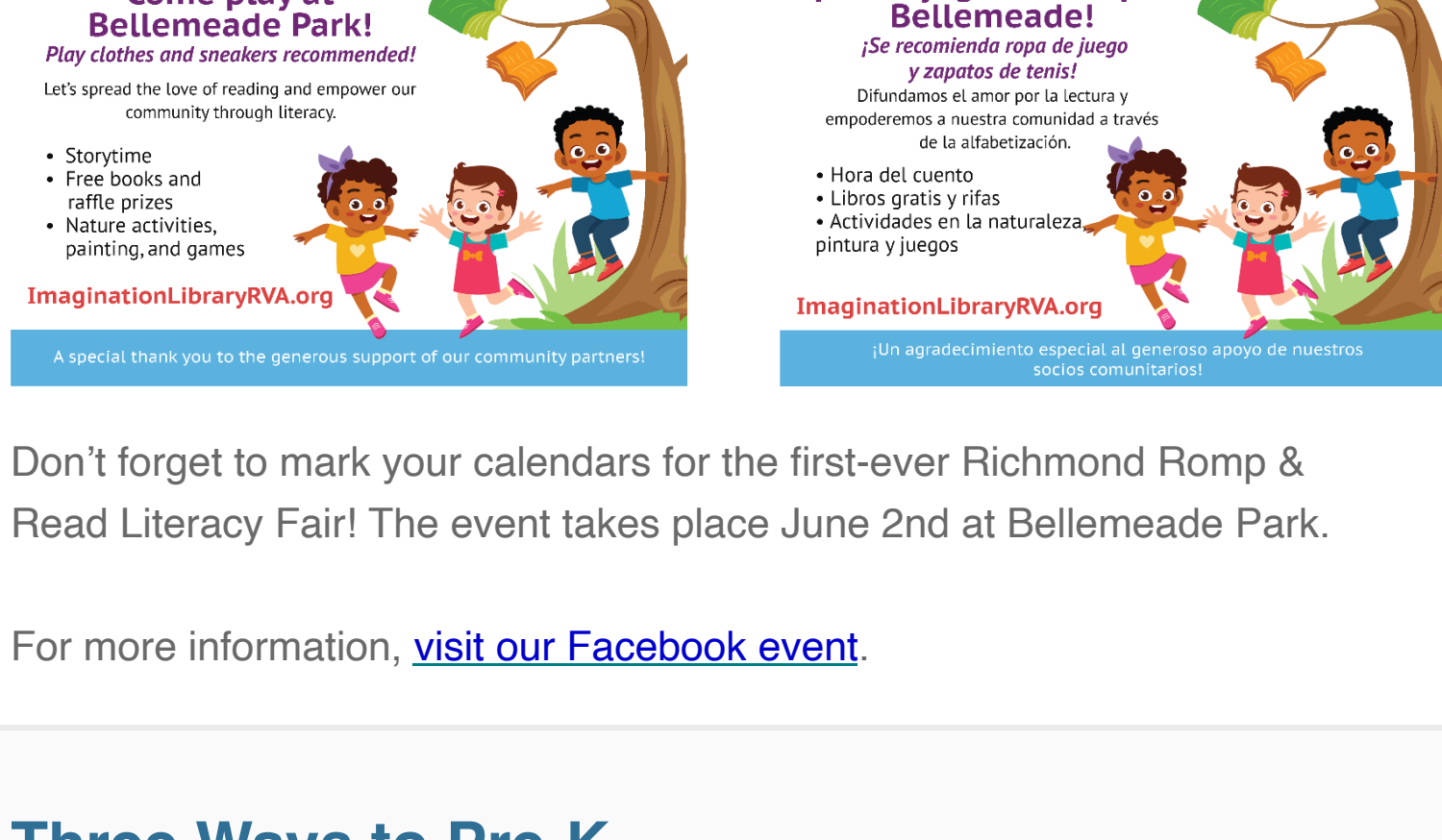
- June 2**
 - Richmond Romp & Read Literacy Fair, Bellemeade Park, 3:00 - 5:00pm, free. [See flyer for details.](#)
 - Richmond Flying Squirrels - Kids Club Grandparents' Day, The Diamond, 12:30 - 5:00pm, free for Kids Club members ([signup for free here!](#))
- June 7**
 - CultureFest Fridays, Children's Museum of Richmond Downtown, 3:30 - 4:30pm, \$
- June 9**
 - Richmond Flying Squirrels - Youth Replica Jersey Giveaway, The Diamond, 12:30 - 5:00pm, kids get in free
- June 20**
 - Bilingual Storyline - French, Children's Museum of Richmond Downtown, 10:30 - 11:30am, free with museum admission
- June 30**
 - Richmond Flying Squirrels - Blasty Character Appearance, The Diamond, 12:30 - 5:00pm, kids get in 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](#).

Join us for Richmond's Romp & Read Fair!

Click the flyer to enlarge.



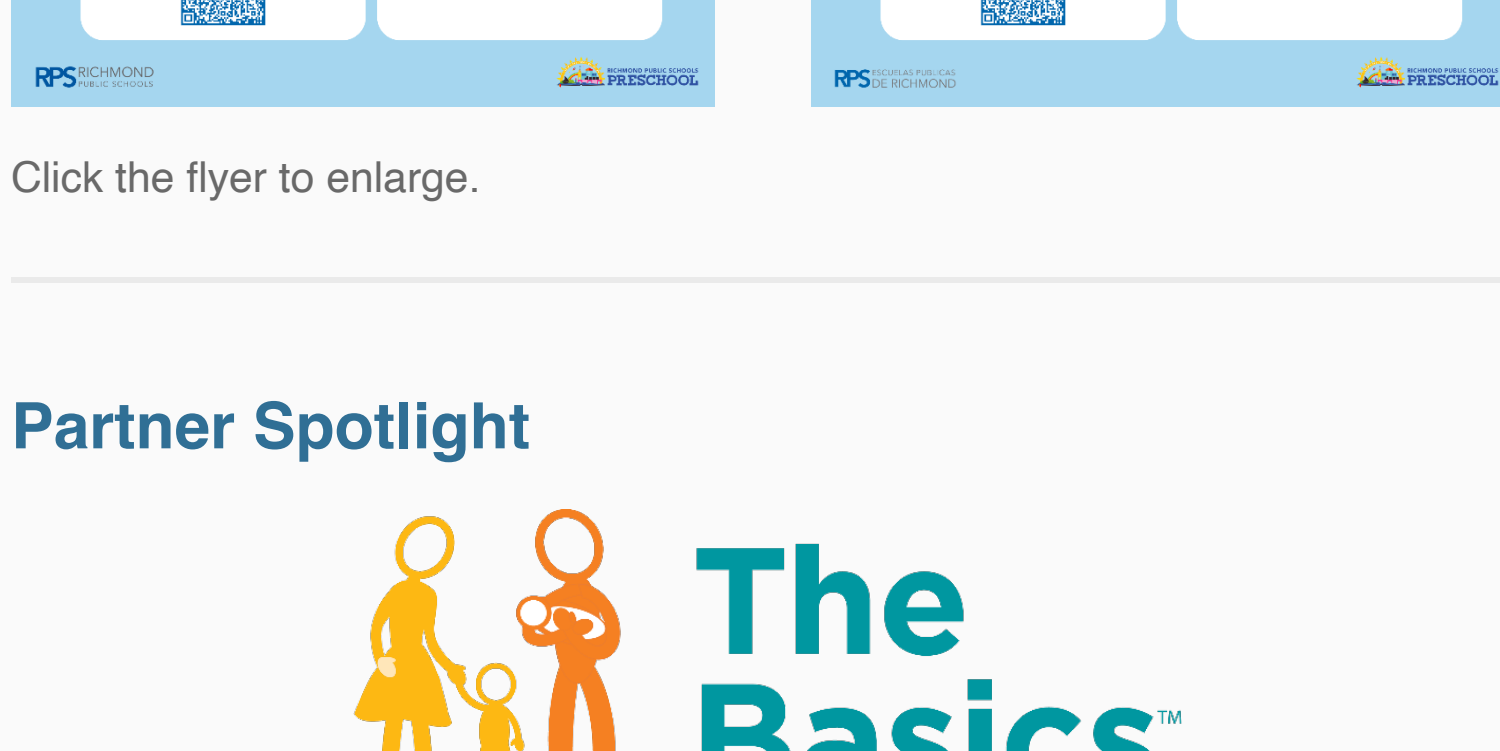
Don't forget to mark your calendars for the first-ever Richmond Romp & Read Literacy Fair! The event takes place June 2nd at Bellemeade Park.

For more information, [visit our Facebook event](#)

Three Ways to Pre-K

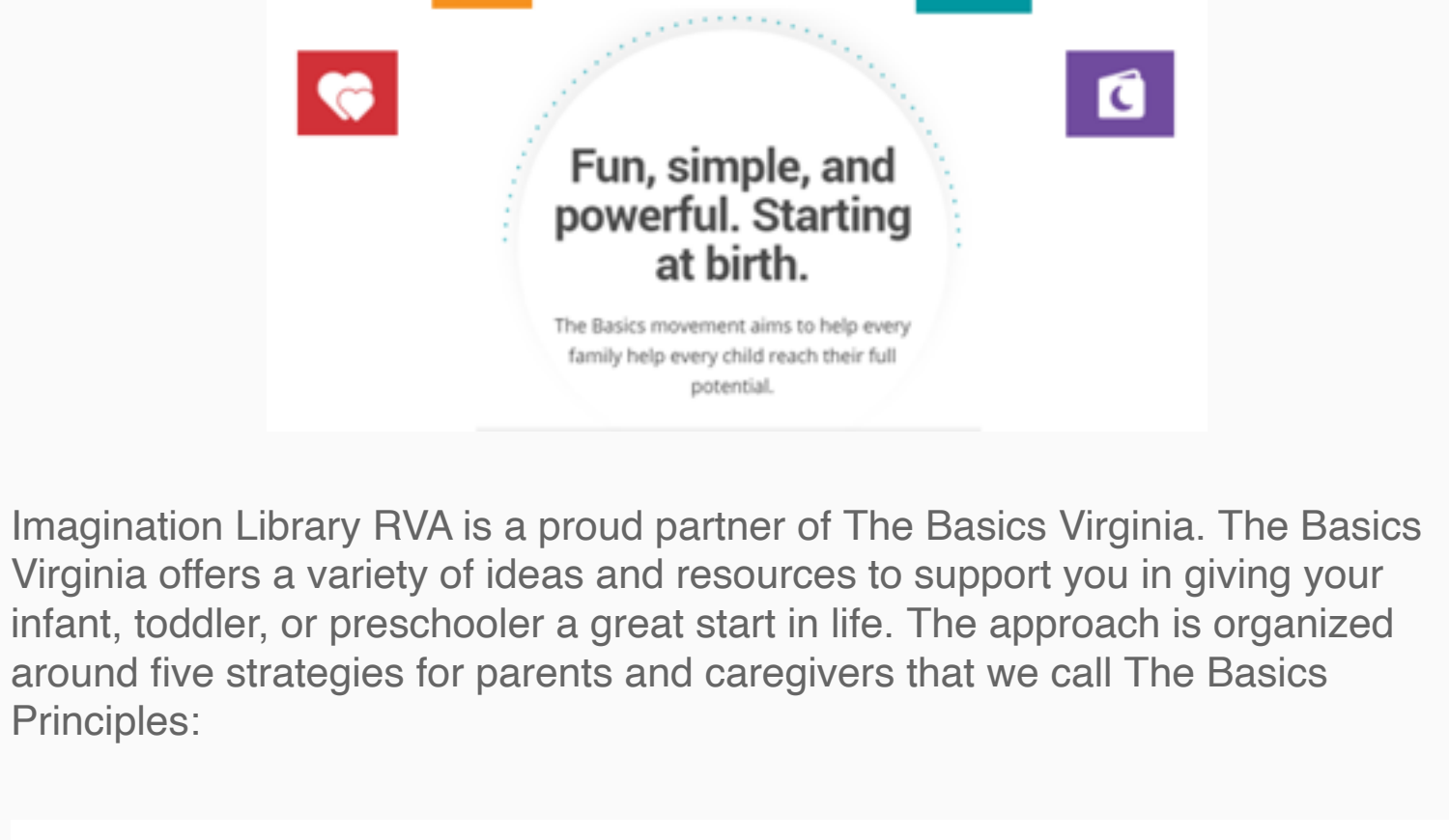
Richmond Public Schools are thrilled to offer preschool for eligible 3 and 4-year olds living in Richmond, along with three convenient ways to apply. Don't delay - spaces fill up quickly, and we don't want your child to miss out on this valuable opportunity!

To begin your child's preschool registration, just visit their [website](#).

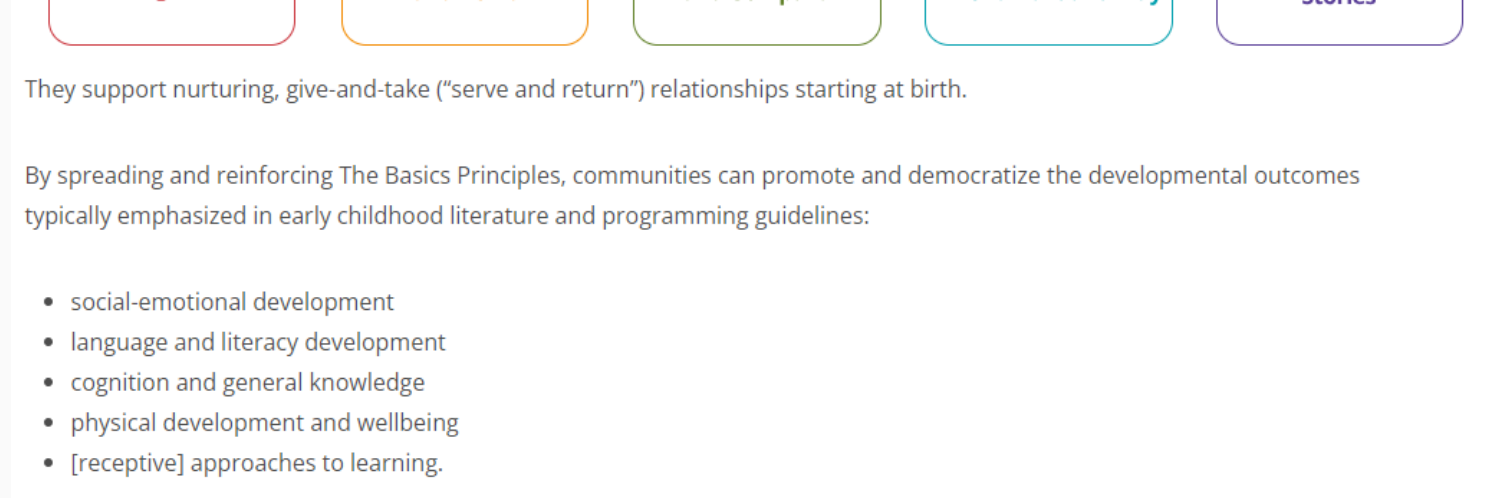


Click the flyer to enlarge.

Partner Spotlight



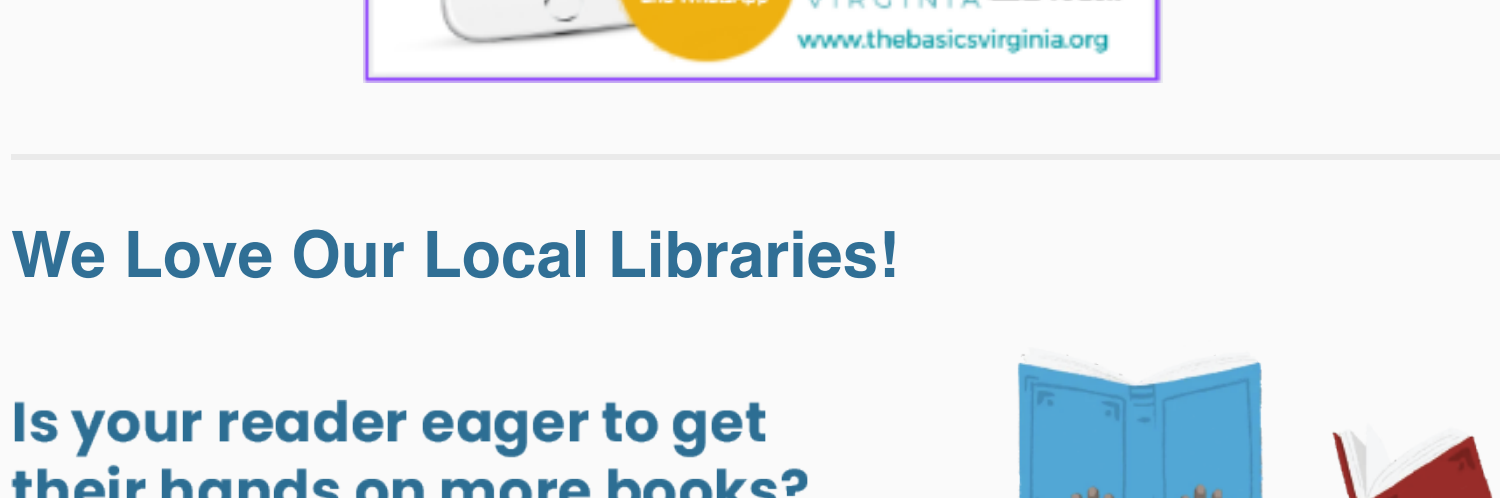
Imagination Library RVA is a proud partner of The Basics Virginia. The Basics Virginia offers a variety of ideas and resources to support you in giving your infant, toddler, or preschooler a great start in life. The approach is organized around five strategies for parents and caregivers that we call The Basics Principles.



The support-nurturing, give-and-take ("give and return") relationships starting at birth. By spreading and reinforcing The Basics Principles, communities can promote and demonstrate the developmental outcomes typically emphasized in early childhood literature and programming guidelines:

- social-emotional development
- language and literacy development
- cognition and general knowledge
- physical development and wellbeing
- (pre)optimal approaches to learning

You can learn more about the Basics Virginia at www.theBasicsVirginia.org/

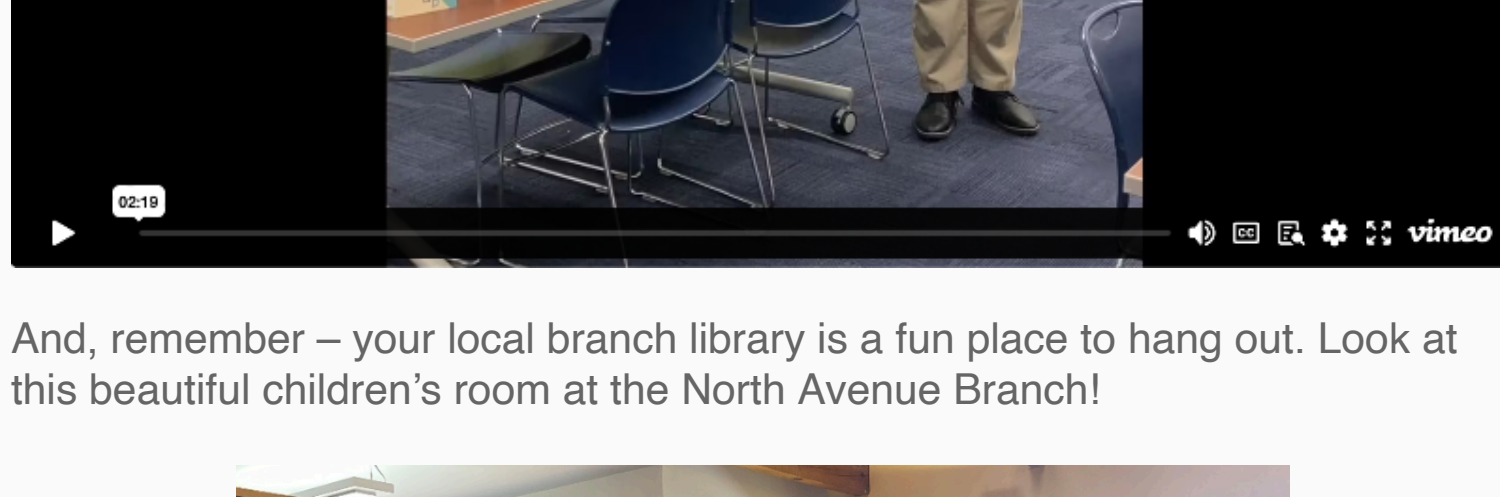


We Love Our Local Libraries!

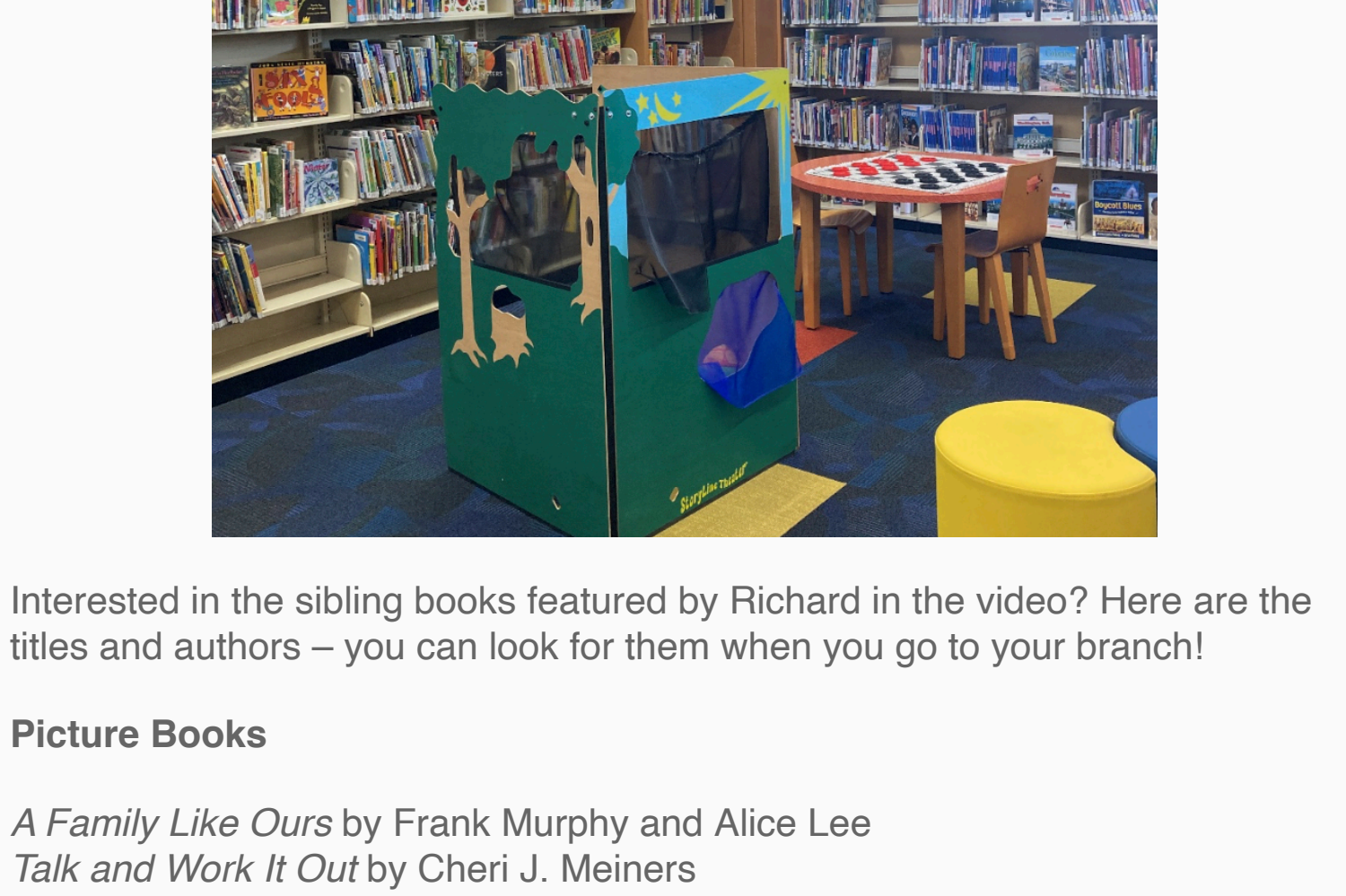
Is your reader eager to get their hands on more books? Visit your local library! Sign up for a library card to keep the reading momentum!

We love big kids, too! Dolly Parton's Imagination Library is a program for children from birth to five years old. Of course, we all want children to continue to enjoy books and the library well beyond their fifth birthday, including the older siblings of our ILRVA families. Great news! Richmond Public Library has great programs for older children including Homework Help, Lego Club, Comic Club, and even opportunities to read to a dog! To find these programs, go to the Library Calendar. You can get there from the library homepage – www.rplva.org – by clicking Events and then Calendar of Events. You can find activities for older kids by clicking "Children (K-5)" on the Audience pull-down menu.

Richmond Public Library also has lots of books about siblings, from welcoming a new sibling to magical adventures of siblings. Here's Richard from the North Avenue Branch with some sibling fun.



And, remember – your local branch library is a fun place to hang out. Look at this beautiful children's room at the North Avenue Branch!



Interested in the sibling books featured by Richard in the video? Here are the titles and authors – you can look for them when you go to your branch!

Picture Books

- A Family Like Ours* by Frank Murphy and Alice Lee
- Talk and Work It Out* by Cheri J. Meiners
- When Alden Became a Brother* by Kyle Lukoff
- My Brother is an Avocado* by Tracy Dartton
- My Rotten Redheaded Older Brother* by Patricia Polacco
- Cinderella – A Big Sister Fairy Tale* by Ashley Franklin and Ebony Glenn
- My Big Brother* by Miriam Cohen
- What Sisters Do Best* by Laura Numeroff

Books for Older Kids and Teens

- Ramona's World* by Beverly Cleary
- The Book of Sisters* by Olivia Meikle and Katie Nelson
- War Girls* by Tochi Onyebuchi
- Maximum Ride: The Angel Experiment* by James Patterson
- When My Sister Started Kissing* by Helen Frost

Books for Adults

- Siblings* by Nick Kelsh and Anna Quindlen

Ask Your Child Questions as You Read Aloud This Month

Your June 2024 "Focus on the Basics" Tip



Ask Questions

As you read with your child, ask them questions about the book. This can range from prompts that start with, "Who...? What...? Why...?" For instance, you could ask: "What color is the puppy?" By encouraging your toddler to think, you are then able to show just how you value their ideas and nurture their sense of curiosity.

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

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

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!"

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