

Why Begin So Early?

Children cherish the personalized books they receive each month through Dolly Parton's Imagination Library. When parents and caregivers read to their children, it also exposes them to a larger, more diverse vocabulary and greater variety of sentence structures than just talking to them. Children develop a concept of print, alphabetic knowledge, phonological awareness and memory – all essential skills leading to school readiness and future academic success.

“Reading aloud to children at a young age can positively impact their brain development: When preschool children listen to stories, it activates the areas of their brains that are associated with processing images and narrative comprehension.”

Pediatrics – Journal of the American Academy of Pediatrics

Reading together is the single most important way to help children get ready to read. Parents can support their child's education and cognitive development by sharing books as part of their everyday routine. Establishing these critical connections and communication pathways helps families prepare young children prior to entering school. Simple tasks such as looking at pictures in the books and reading aloud together not only supports literacy growth, but also builds a special bond and supports a child's social and emotional development.

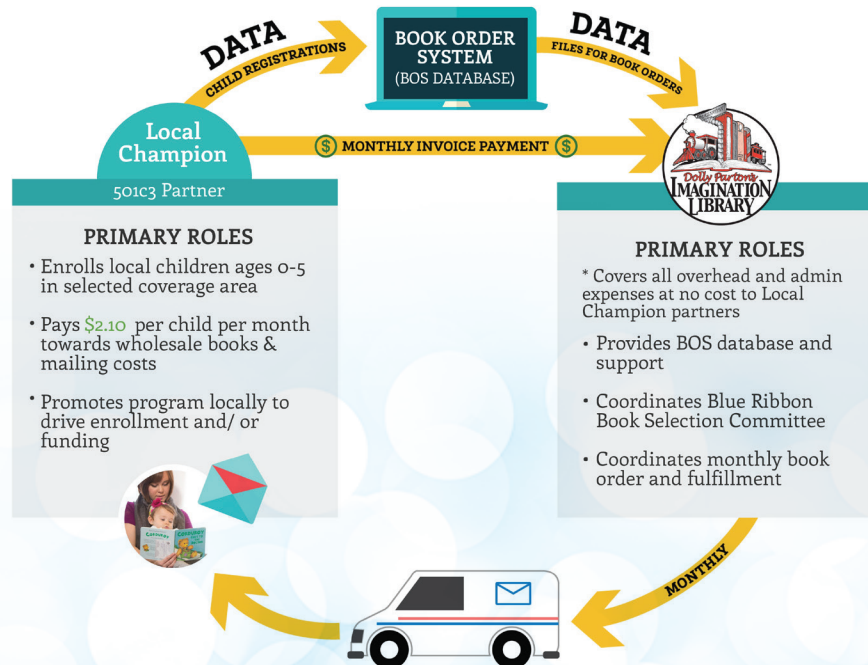
To learn more about Dolly Parton's Imagination Library, visit www.imaginationlibrary.com and connect with a Regional Director who covers your area.

The Dollywood Foundation
111 Dollywood Lane
Pigeon Forge, TN 37863
865-428- 9606

How Does It Work?

Each month, from the day the child is born until their 5th birthday, a carefully selected book arrives in the mail. Kids across the globe have shared the excitement of running to the mailbox to retrieve their book. More often than not, the child wants the book read to them now—not tonight, not tomorrow, not later...right now!

Each book is selected by a committee composed of parents, teachers, child development specialists, librarians, publishers, and others specializing in early childhood literacy. Special attention is given to age-appropriateness and the development of such positive themes as promotion of self-esteem and confidence, regard for diversity, and appreciation of art.



Dolly Parton's Imagination Library is one of 11 Rotary International service partners.

Rotary's service partnership with Dolly Parton's Imagination Library provides an opportunity to collaborate in support of Rotary International's focus on basic education and literacy. Together, we can foster a lifelong long love of reading in children from an early age by mailing one high quality, age appropriate book to their home each month.

- Local Champion may be a business, school district, solo, etc; Need 501(c)3 non-profit partner to get non-profit mailing list.
- Books arrive at child's home with name on the mailing label.
- Program is free to families birth to age 5 children living in participating coverage areas.

“This program is one of the most important ways I know to improve the educational opportunities for children in your community!”