

Dear Families,

Thank you for allowing me to share information about the Imagination Library. Dolly Parton's Imagination Library mails kids one free book each month until their 5th birthday. Any child in Ohio between birth to age 5, regardless of their zip code, can enroll in the program at no cost to your family.

Newborns receive board books, while toddlers receive books with more complex story lines. The Imagination Library is a diverse collection of books, selected by a panel of literacy experts each year. This year, the collection includes a few books written and illustrated by Ohioans, including *There's a Hole in the Log at the Bottom of the Lake* by Loren Long.

This month, we have more than 325,000 Ohio kids enrolled, about 45% of eligible kids across the state! My goal is to have 50% of eligible kids enrolled by the end of this summer. Families can help us meet this goal by enrolling their children under the age of 5 in the Imagination Library.

- Enrollment takes less than 5 minutes and can be done by visiting: OhioImaginationLibrary.org.
- After enrolling, a child will be mailed their first book 6-8 weeks later. After that first book arrives, the child will receive one book every month until their 5th birthday.
- If a child moves, the address can be updated on our website.
- Each sibling under the age of 5 is eligible to be enrolled for their own monthly book.

These are more than just books. Having a child be a part of the Imagination Library will: spark creativity; build curiosity; develop language and fine motor skills; allow caregivers another bonding opportunity; and develop a basic knowledge of books. Kids who enter kindergarten without the basic knowledge of books with skills like reading from front to back, or an understanding that print has meaning, are at a disadvantage. Unfortunately, that disadvantage continues to get worse over time.

Mike and I want to see every child enter kindergarten with a good, strong start. We know that these books are making a difference in each child's life. They are preparing kids for kindergarten and giving families another opportunity to read and learn together.

Thank you for your support in promoting childhood literacy throughout our great state.

Fran DeWine
First Lady of Ohio

Additional Resources:

[Ohio Governor's Imagination Library Enrollment Page](#)

[Enrollment by County, and Local Imagination Library Partners](#)

[Dolly Parton's Imagination Library Leads to Higher Kindergarten Readiness in Cleveland, Study Finds \(Cleveland.com\)](#)

[2022 Imagination Library Book List](#)

